Truman Scholarship

Disciplines: Public Service & Government
Purpose: Leadership training, funding toward up to 3 years of graduate study
Open to: Juniors

- **Eligibility:** U.S. Citizen
- **Campus Deadline:** November 1
- **Website:** http://www.truman.gov

**General Information**
The mission of the Truman Scholarship Foundation is:

- to find and recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education or elsewhere in the public service; and
- to provide them with financial support for graduate study, leadership training, and fellowship with other students who are committed to making a difference through public service.

The Truman Scholarship provides up to $30,000 in funding to students pursuing graduate degrees in public service fields. Students must be college juniors at the time of selection. The Foundation also provides assistance with career counseling, internship placement, graduate school admissions, and professional development. Scholars are invited to participate in a number of programs: Truman Scholar Leadership Week, The Summer Institute, and The Truman-Albright Fellows Program.

**Scholar Profile**
If you can put a check beside each of the following statements, you should be a strong candidate for a Truman Scholarship. If more than two do not apply, the Truman Scholarship is probably not right for you.

**CAREER AND GRADUATE STUDY INTERESTS**
- I hope to be a "change agent," in time, improving the ways that government agencies, nonprofit organizations, or educational institutions serve the public.
- There are conditions in our society or the environment which trouble me.
- I want to work in government, education, the nonprofit sector, or the public interest/advocacy sector to improve these conditions.
- I am comfortable committing to work in public service for three of the first seven years after I complete a Foundation-funded graduate degree.
- I would like to get a master's degree, a doctorate, or a professional degree such as a law degree or a Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Health, Master of Social Work, Master of Education, Master of Public Policy, or Master of International Affairs.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE AND ACADEMIC RECORD**
- I have participated extensively in two or more of the following sets of activities:
  - Student government and/or campus-based extracurricular activities;
  - Community service-related activities that were not organized by my school or by my fraternity/sorority;
  - Government internships, commissions or boards, advocacy or interest groups, nonpartisan political activities, or military/ROTC;
  - Partisan political activities and campaigns.
- I have been involved with organizations or activities related to my career interests.
- I have demonstrated some of my leadership potential.
- I have sufficiently strong grades and coursework to gain admittance to a first-rate graduate institution.
- I have had one or more courses relating to my career interests.
GENERAL
- I would like to become associated with Truman Scholar "change agents."
- I am capable of analyzing a public issue in my intended career area and presenting my findings in a one-page memo to a government official who could take action.
- I am willing to prepare an outstanding application and policy proposal under the supervision of my Truman Faculty Representative.
- I believe I could hold my own in a challenging interview conducted by a panel of prominent public servants, educators, and former Truman Scholars.
- I could use $30,000 to continue my education.

Application Information
Legal Requirements:
- Applicants must be pursuing a bachelor’s degree with junior-level academic standing; or senior-level standing in their third year of college enrollment. Students who have already completed their bachelor’s degree or are in graduate school are not eligible
- Applicants must be a U.S. Citizen or expect to receive citizenship by the date the Scholarship will be awarded

To begin the application process and/or meet with an adviser contact:

National/International Fellowships and Scholarships Office
www.nifs.msu.edu
nifs@msu.edu
517-884-7650
Bessey Hall, Room 186