



THE HARRY S. TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION



WWW.TRUMAN.GOV

TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND ADVICE

CAMPUS DEADLINE: 30 NOVEMBER 2009

APPLICATION A completed application consists of the following:

- ◆ Application Form including a 500-word Public Policy Proposal
- ◆ College Transcript/s
- ◆ Three letters of recommendation (1 must be from an individual who can attest to your leadership potential and abilities; 1 attests to your commitment to a career in public service; and 1 addresses your intellect and prospects for continuing academic success)

IMPORTANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- ◆ **You MUST obtain a REGISTRATION ID in order to access the application. Contact Dean Goldberg (goldbeja@lafayette.edu) to register. Until you receive the ID, you may access a sample of the application at <http://drop.io/TrumanApplication#>.**
- ◆ Do not submit the application online at this time. Instead, save your application to yourself and send a copy of it to Dean Goldberg as an email attachment.
- ◆ **Letters of recommendation** must be submitted to Dean Goldberg for the purposes of the Campus Selection Committee. These letters should be emailed to goldbeja@lafayette.edu at this time and will be used by the Campus Selection Committee.
- ◆ **Do NOT submit letters of recommendation on-line to the Truman Foundation at this time.** If you are one of our nominated candidates, you will be provided with LOR submission instructions. LOR should be submitted electronically as email attachments to Dean Goldberg until further notice.

APPLICATION ADVICE

- ◆ The Truman Scholarship Website (www.truman.gov) contains a wealth of information and advice including samples of strong and not so strong responses to the various essay questions and policy memo.
- ◆ The [Advice & Guidance](#) section of the Truman website provides examples of unsatisfactory and satisfactory responses to Items 7, 8, 9, 11 & 14 as well as sample Policy Memos.

FINALIST PROFILE

Successful candidates

- ◆ Show sustained service to the **campus community** ["Resume" Item 2], to the **community at large** ["Resume" Item 3], and possibly some **government** involvement ["Resume" Item 4]. One or more service activities should relate to the candidate's intended career.
- ◆ Demonstrate **leadership** to achieve some goal or objective [Short Answer Item 7]. *The Letter of Recommendation on Leadership must confirm this experience.*
- ◆ Make a clear connection among responses to Short Answer Items 9 through 13 and the Policy Proposal.
- ◆ Identify specific graduate/professional school programs and show some understanding of the proposed graduate/professional program in Short Answer Item 11.
- ◆ Describe in Short Answer Items 12 and 13 a credible career trajectory (with relevance to public service) that is consistent with the response in Short Answers Item 9 and 11.
- ◆ Contain an interesting or intriguing response in Short Answer Item 14 (Personal Information) that also explains motivations for career interests unless covered previously.
- ◆ Avoid poor writing or sloppy presentation.

FREQUENT REASONS FOR NOT ADVANCING IN THE TRUMAN COMPETITION

- ◆ Lack of a substantial and sustained record of service.
- ◆ No aspiration to a position that, in time, will enable the candidate to affect policies or change programs. For example, the Truman Scholarship Finalists Selection Committee is more interested in advancing students whose long-term aspirations are to be high-level school administrators than teachers OR public health service managers than solo practitioners.

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Submit application materials electronically as email attachments to **Dean Goldberg, Associate Dean of the College**, at goldbeja@lafayette.edu

QUESTIONS: Please contact Dean Goldberg (330.5080, x5521, goldbeja@lafayette.edu)