

Harry S. Truman Scholarship Program

Background:

The Truman Scholarship is the “premier graduate fellowship in the United States for those pursuing careers as public service leaders.” The program selects 55-65 Truman Scholars each year.

Benefits:

The program provides generous financial support (up to \$30,000 in scholarships) for Truman Scholars pursuing graduate or professional education. Truman Scholars also enjoy additional perks in the form of employment and internship opportunities with the federal government and additional scholarships through select graduate programs.

Primary selection criteria:

In addition to being a junior-level, full-time undergraduate student pursuing graduate school, the program’s site emphasizes four criteria (1 and 2 are the most important areas):

1. Extensive record of campus and community service;
2. Commitment to a career in government or the nonprofit and advocacy sectors;
3. Communication skills and a high probability of becoming a "change agent"; and
4. Strong academic record with likely acceptance to the graduate school of the candidate's choice.

Application materials and process:

There are multiple stages in this process, and it starts with applying to be VSU’s nominee for this award (instructions available via the website listed under the Deadline section). If you are selected to be VSU’s nominee, then your complete application will include these items:

- Completed application
- 3 Recommendation letters
- Nomination letter from VSU
- List of activities and awards earned
- Policy Proposal (500 word max.)
- Completed narrative responses
- College transcripts

VSU application deadline:

Materials must be submitted to VSU’s Truman Scholar website.

The web address is:

<https://www.valdosta.edu/colleges/honors/forms/truman-scholarship-proposal.php>

For more information contact VSU’s Faculty Representative:

VSU’s Truman Scholar Faculty Representative is Dr. Joseph Robbins (Political Science Department). Please contact Dr. Robbins via email (jwrobbins@valdosta.edu) or phone (229-333.5771) for more information.