



Harvard College
Beinecke Scholarship
2023-2024 Application for Institutional Nomination

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION (from the [Beinecke Scholarship](#) website):

The Beinecke Scholarship Program was established in 1971 by the Board of Directors of The Sperry and Hutchinson Company to honor Edwin, Frederick, and Walter Beinecke. The Board created an endowment to provide substantial scholarships for the graduate education of young men and women of exceptional promise. The program seeks to encourage and enable highly motivated students to pursue opportunities available to them and to be courageous in the selection of a graduate course of study in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Since 1975 the program has selected more than 490 college juniors from more than 100 different undergraduate institutions for support during graduate study at any accredited university.

Each year approximately 100 colleges and universities are invited to nominate a student for a Beinecke Scholarship. Each school invited to participate in the Beinecke Scholarship Program is permitted to make a single nomination each year.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for a Beinecke Scholarship, a student must:

Demonstrate superior standards of intellectual ability, scholastic achievement, and personal promise during their undergraduate career.

- Be a college junior pursuing a bachelor's degree during the 2023-2024 academic year. "Junior" means a student who plans to continue full-time undergraduate study and who expects to receive a baccalaureate degree between December 2024 and August 2025.

- Plan to enter a research- or creative-focused master's or doctoral program in the arts, humanities, or social sciences. NOTE: Students in the social sciences who plan to pursue graduate study in neuroscience or clinical psychology should not apply for a Beinecke Scholarship.

- Be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national from American Samoa or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

- Have a documented history of being eligible to receive need-based financial aid during their undergraduate years, with a slight preference for Pell Grant recipients. Other evidence of meeting this criterion is a student's history of receiving need-based institutional, state, or federal grants in-aid. The nominated student will be required to complete and submit a Financial Aid Data Sheet outlining how the student meets this criterion. During the selection process, the amount of financial need will be one of the factors considered, with preference given to candidates for whom the awarding of a Beinecke Scholarship would significantly increase the likelihood of the student's being able to attend graduate school.

Selection Criteria

There are four primary criteria by which applicants will be evaluated:

- Evidence of academic success and relevant academic background: Does the transcript show evidence of high academic achievement? Does the coursework prepare the candidate for the planned field of study? Is there other evidence of high-level performance (e.g., merit scholarships, academic prizes, artistic creations, research publications)?

- Clarity of research/creative focus: Are the research questions/creative impact and career path well-defined, coherent, and well thought through? Does the candidate's writing give evidence of higher-order thinking skills and the ability to express thoughts clearly and without jargon?

- Knowledge and fit of proposed graduate programs: Has the candidate proposed graduate programs that are appropriately ambitious and a good fit for their scholarly and career plans?

- Quality and breadth of recommendations: Are the recommendations excellent and from people who know the candidate and can make informed comparisons with other students? Can any of the recommendations speak to the relevance of the proposed research/creative work, the suitability of the proposed courses, and the ability of the candidate to undertake and excel at scholarly research/creative work?

Benefits:

Each scholar receives \$5,000 immediately prior to entering graduate school and an additional \$30,000 while attending graduate school. There are no geographic restrictions on the use of the scholarship, and recipients are allowed to supplement the award with other scholarships, assistantships and research grants. Scholars are encouraged to begin graduate study as soon as possible following graduation from college, and must utilize all of the funding within five years of completion of undergraduate studies.

CONTINUE TO THE NEXT PAGE FOR APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS.



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PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND ORGANIZE THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS FOR YOUR APPLICATION:

- **APPLICATION FORM & BEINECKE FINANCIAL AID DATA SHEET**
Complete the forms on the following pages, furnished by the Beinecke Scholarship Program. Do not worry about detaching the application forms from these instructions before submitting.
- **CURRENT RESUME**
Indicate significant activities, achievements, and work experiences that demonstrate your interests and potential achievements. Resume should include short descriptions of your role and any specific ways you've contributed within listed activities.
- **CURRENT UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT**
Download your unofficial transcript from my.harvard.edu.
- **STATEMENT**
In no more than 1,000 words, describe your research or creative interests for graduate study and career aspirations beyond these studies. Your statement should also include a discussion of the most relevant academic, professional, extracurricular, and personal experiences that have influenced or shaped the nominee's interests and plans.
- **THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**
All three letters should ideally be from faculty members. They should comment on the suitability of your plan of study, your intellectual curiosity and potential for advanced graduate study, as well as any relevant personal attributes. Letters should be addressed to "The Beinecke Scholarship Selection Committee" and submitted online by your recommenders, following instructions they will receive once you designate them. (See below.)

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. **LOG IN TO [CARAT](#) USING YOUR HARVARD KEY** and confirm that your profile information is correct.
2. **"APPLY" TO THE APPROPRIATE "FUNDING SOURCE"**
Fill out all required fields.
3. **REQUEST RECOMMENDATIONS (via "References" tab)**
You are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to solicit recommendations at least three weeks ahead of the application deadline. Once you have provided name (Last, First) and contact information for your recommenders, **YOU MUST CLICK "Send Reference Request"** under each recommender's entry in order for CARAT to send the notification to your recommender's email. **"Save and Next" will NOT submit your recommendation requests.**
4. **UPLOAD YOUR DOCUMENTS**
All documents must be submitted concurrently, in PDF format. No supplementary materials will be accepted.
5. **SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION (via "Submission" tab)**
Enter your HUID and click "Submit". The date and time of your submission will be noted, and late applications will not be accepted.

If you or your recommenders have questions about this application or the online submission process, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships at (617) 495-5095 or fellowships@fas.harvard.edu.

■ ■ ■ **DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024 at 11:59pm (ET)** ■ ■ ■



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Guidance for Faculty Recommenders

Dear Faculty,

Thank you for supporting this student in the application process for the Beinecke Scholarship. The Beinecke Scholarship seeks to recognize undergraduate juniors who have high potential and promise to be contributors to the fields of humanities, arts, and social sciences and who intend to further cultivate their interests and contribute original, creative ideas to their field through graduate school and in their later careers. The Scholarship provides funding towards a student's graduate education (master's or PhD programs) and encourages the courageous pursuit of graduate studies that may not be otherwise pursued without financial scholarship support. There are over 135 colleges and universities invited to nominate students to receive 20 Beinecke Scholarships yearly. Each institution is allowed only one nominated student. At this stage, your letter will be considered as supporting the student through the competition for the one nomination spot. That being said, we ask that you still address and frame your letters as if it were to be sent to along to the national competition. For the nomination round, you will still submit your letters, internally, through our application portal, CARAT. URAF will steward the final submission process for application materials and letters to the national scholarship competition for the one nominated student. Finally, we trust your wisdom and experience in reflecting on student's achievements, potential and promise through your letters of recommendation. In any case, we'd like to provide some additional guidance that you may consider; please see below.

Thank you for your time, attention, and your support of this student.

Sincerely,
Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships

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1. Reminders: Formatting and Submission

- Letters should be addressed to "The Beinecke Scholarship Selection Committee", Signed (electronically is also fine), with your full academic title/appointment.
- Please submit your letters via the CARAT system. The student applicant will prompt a request for recommendation email to be sent to you from the CARAT application system. The message will detail how to upload your letter for the student applicant.
- Any problems with submitting your letter? Please don't hesitate to reach out to fellowships@fas.harvard.edu

2. Helpful guidance to letter writers:

In addition to commenting on the student's high academic achievement and promise in courses/research etc. it will also be helpful to discuss (if possible)

- The suitability of the student's graduate plan of study
- Their intellectual curiosity and potential for advanced graduate study and for contributing original thought, ideas to their future fields
- The ability for the student's plan of study/research to have impact beyond their own field, academic scope etc.
- Any relevant personal attributes/strengths that prepare them for graduate study and a commitment to contributing creativity and innovation

THE BEINECKE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A PROGRAM OF THE SPERRY FUND

APPLICATION FORM

(Requested information must be typed on this form using the fields provided)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Undergraduate school: _____

Undergraduate major(s): _____

Undergraduate minor(s): _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ Primary Major GPA _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Anticipated Field of Graduate Study (e.g. History, Sociology): _____

Anticipated Highest Graduate Degree (e.g. PhD, MFA, other): _____

NOTE: The Beinecke Scholarship is not designed to support professional degrees (e.g. JD, MD, MBA, MPP)

Graduate programs of interest (ex: PhD in English at Yale University, MFA in Poetry at University of Iowa):

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Current mailing address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

School email address: _____

Other email address: _____

Home address: _____

Date and place of birth: _____

Language proficiency: _____

Please email this form with the completed application no later than 5pm ET on the last Friday in March to
beineckescholarship@sperryfund.org

THE BEINECKE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A PROGRAM OF THE SPERRY FUND

FINANCIAL AID DATA SHEET

Must be completed, signed, and submitted **by the nominated student**. Data can be found on your Student Aid Report (<https://studentaid.gov/apply-for-aid/fafsa/review-and-correct/sar-student-aid-report>) and in consultation with your financial aid office. Send this form **no later than 5pm ET on the first Monday in April** to the Director of the Beinecke Scholarship Program at BeineckeScholarship@sperryfund.org

Student's Name _____ Last 4 Social Security # _____

Student's School Email Address _____

Nominating Institution _____

Are you receiving need-based financial aid from your college or university during the current academic year?

YES ☐

NO ☐

****NOTE:** If your cost of education is covered by a merit or other non-need-based award, please consult with your financial aid office and complete the following questions as if this award did not exist.

1. Cost of attendance for the current academic year \$ _____

2. Expected family contribution (EFC) \$ _____

****Please provide the number on your federal Student Aid Report; do not report institutional EFC**

3. Work study award \$ _____

4. Need-based institutional grant \$ _____

5. Pell grant \$ _____

6. Other federal or state grant \$ _____

7. Subsidized loan \$ _____

8. Other sources of need-based funds \$ _____

9. Student's total loans outstanding to date \$ _____

Name(s) and occupation(s) of custodial parent(s) or spouse (if applicable):

Spouse (☐) or Custodial Parent (☐): _____

Custodial Parent: _____

Please list siblings (and children, if applicable): provide name, age, and occupation or school attending. For example: Sally Smith (19, University of Oklahoma), Steve Smith (23, accountant)

I certify that I am the nominee for the Beinecke Scholarship from my institution and that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my ability.

Student's Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____