

# THE RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS

## *Memorandum of Regulations*

### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### GENERAL REGULATIONS:

Rhodes Scholarships are tenable at the University of Oxford, and are normally held for two years, the duration of most masters' degrees and bachelors' degrees for those who already have another bachelor's degree, or for three years, the duration of many doctorates. Scholars may do two one-year taught master's degrees, the second subject to a satisfactory outcome to the first year, but may not receive a third year's funding. At the discretion of the Rhodes Trustees, the Scholarship may be renewed for a third year, for those pursuing a doctorate and whose progress is deemed satisfactory. For those for whom the University requires fees in a fourth year for the completion of a doctorate, and when no other external funding is available, the Trustees, at their discretion, will underwrite University and college fees for that year, but not a maintenance stipend. The Trustees will not pay fourth-year fees in either the Division of the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences or the Division of Medical Sciences as Scholars may enter directly to work for a doctorate in these divisions in three years. Scholars applying for a master's degree in one of these two science divisions should not, therefore, expect to be able to use the Scholarship to go on to a doctorate. Scholars may not apply for the MBA or for the Master in Financial Economics (MFE) in their first year, but may apply for either of these one-year degrees for their second year. The Rhodes Trustees reserve the right to make changes in degree eligibility, funding, and other aspects of the Scholarship program at any time.

Thirty-two Scholarships are assigned annually to the United States of America. States and U.S. territories are grouped into sixteen districts for the purpose of making these appointments. Each District Committee selects not more than two candidates who will represent the states and/or territories within each District as Rhodes Scholars at Oxford. The names of Scholarship winners are announced at the close of the District interviews. No alternates are selected.

Following the selection of successful candidates, the Warden of Rhodes House in Oxford seeks places for the Rhodes Scholars-elect in the departments and faculties and colleges of the University, following the candidates' preferences insofar as possible. Because the departments and colleges make their own admissions, there is no guarantee of a place in a particular department or college. All decisions on places rest in the hands of the University and the colleges. The award of the Scholarship is not confirmed by the Rhodes Trustees until the Scholar-elect has been accepted for admission by a faculty or department and by a college. Rhodes Scholars elected in November will enter the University of Oxford the following October. Scholars are required to be full-time students at Oxford for the duration of their degree programs, and are required to reside in Oxford during term time except where they obtain the permission of the Warden. Deferment of the Scholarship is not allowed, nor may Scholars go off stipend during their Scholarship tenure and return to stipend at a later date.

The value of a Rhodes Scholarship consists of a direct payment to the Scholar's college of all tuition fees (such as matriculation, tuition, and certain other set charges), plus a maintenance stipend (except for those receiving fourth-year fees) of not less than £14,276 per annum paid directly to the Scholar in installments during the term of the Scholarship. The sum provided should be sufficient to enable a Scholar to meet necessary expenses for term time and vacations, but those who can afford to supplement it to a modest extent from their own resources are advised to do so. For those receiving fourth-year fees for doctorates, Oxford living expenses are often available through University teaching positions. The Rhodes Trust will assist successful candidates with their traveling expenses to and from Oxford. Married candidates should bear in mind that the Scholarship stipend is sufficient only for one person, and that the Trust takes no financial responsibility for the support of a Scholar's spouse. Scholars will require a visa for entry to the United Kingdom; the Rhodes Trust does not cover the costs of a passport or a visa.

The tenure of a Rhodes Scholarship is dependent upon the maintenance of a standard of work and conduct, which, in the opinion of the Trustees, justifies the Scholarship. Tenure of other awards in conjunction with a Rhodes Scholarship is not permitted without prior consultation with the Warden of Rhodes House.

#### CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants apply as a representative of one of the fifty states or U.S. territory: either in the state or territory in which they will have received at least two years of college training *and* a bachelor's degree before October 1, 2017, or in the state or territory through which they were legally resident on April 15, 2016. (Applicants are warned that selection committees are instructed to verify legal residence.) Simultaneous application to more than one District Committee in the United States, or to more than one Rhodes constituency, will disqualify an applicant. At the time of application:

1. An applicant must be a citizen of the United States or must have been admitted to the United States as a lawful permanent resident and must have maintained, and be expected to maintain, legal status as a lawful permanent resident continuously for the entirety of the five-year period prior to and including the date of the application deadline. (In 2016, applicants must have an initial date of lawful permanent residence on or before October 1, 2011.)
2. An applicant, by October 1, 2016, must be at least 18 but not yet 24 years of age. (Applicants will be eligible who were born after October 1, 1992 and on or before October 1, 1998.)
3. An applicant must have achieved academic standing sufficiently advanced to assure completion of a bachelor's degree before October 1, 2017.

## BASIS OF SELECTION:

In considering applications, Committees of Selection will have regard to those qualities which Cecil Rhodes expressly listed in order to define the type of Scholar he desired.

Proven intellectual and academic achievement of a high standard is the first quality required of applicants, but applicants will also be required to show integrity of character, interest in and respect for their fellow beings, the ability to lead, and the energy to use their talents to the full.

Participation in organized sports is not essential if applicants are able to demonstrate in other ways the physical vigor which will enable Rhodes Scholars to make an effective contribution to the world around them. Mr. Rhodes clearly expected such a contribution when he expressed the hope that Rhodes Scholars would come to “esteem the performance of public duties as [their] highest aim.” From this statement one may infer that he expected his Scholars to play an influential part in the betterment of society, wherever their careers might take them. It does not necessarily presuppose a career in the public sector. Mr. Rhodes desired that his Scholars be intellectually, morally, and physically capable of leadership in any field.

Much of the distinctiveness of the Rhodes Scholarship arises from this comprehensive set of criteria. Intellectual excellence is obviously required, but not in isolation from other qualities. Mr. Rhodes sought Scholars who were more than “mere bookworms;” he wanted their intellectual talents to be combined with concern for others. Thus, the Committees of Selection assign the highest importance to this blend of character with intellect.

Financial need gives no special claim to a Rhodes Scholarship. Moreover, the Will lays down that “no student shall be qualified or disqualified for election to a Scholarship on account of race or religious opinions.”

The Rhodes Trust and Oxford University require that selection for a Scholarship and admission to the University will be *without regard to gender, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, colour, religion, social background, caste, or disability.*

## METHOD OF APPLYING:

An online application, guided by this Memorandum of Regulations and the Notes of Guidance, and furnishing the material specified, should be made to the Secretary of the appropriate District Committee of Selection, and **in no case will an application be accepted later than October 5, 2016.** A list of Secretaries of District Committees of Selection is contained within this Memorandum.

A preliminary elimination will be made in all Districts on the basis of credentials. Committees of Selection will then invite selected applicants to a personal interview; no Scholar will be selected without such interview. Committees of Selection will meet on November 18 and 19, 2016.

**PLEASE NOTE: Applicants must pay their own expenses in appearing before Committees of Selection.**

The grouping of States and U.S. Territories into Districts is as follows:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Maine Massachusetts Vermont	Connecticut New Hampshire New Jersey	New York	Pennsylvania Rhode Island	Delaware Maryland/DC	Georgia North Carolina South Carolina	Alabama Florida Louisiana Mississippi Puerto Rico U.S. Virgin Islands	Oklahoma Texas
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Indiana Kentucky Virginia	Illinois Ohio	Michigan Minnesota Wisconsin West Virginia	Arkansas Iowa Kansas Missouri Tennessee	Colorado Nebraska New Mexico North Dakota South Dakota Utah Wyoming	Alaska Idaho Montana Oregon Washington	Arizona California-North* Hawaii Nevada	American Samoa California-South* Guam Northern Mariana Islands

\*see page M-4

## STANDING AT OXFORD:

A degree from an accredited college or university normally entitles a U.S. Rhodes Scholar on arrival in Oxford to “Senior Status.” Senior Status carries with it exemption from all examinations at Oxford prior to the “Final Honour Schools” (for the degree of B.A.) which may be taken with such status, and for most but not all B.A. degrees, after two years’ residence. An appropriate undergraduate major is required for admission to a higher degree (beyond that of B.A.). Rhodes Scholars-elect wishing to pursue either a postgraduate degree or a second B.A. degree must communicate with the Warden of Rhodes House who will seek on their behalf acceptance by a faculty or department and by a college. The substantial majority of U. S. Rhodes Scholars now undertake graduate work at Oxford, although the B.A. is optimal for some Scholars.

Two samples of recent written work, approximately 2,000 words each, are required for admission to read for any degree in other than a mathematical or scientific subject. These samples are only required of those elected to a Rhodes Scholarship.

## **COURSES OPEN TO RHODES SCHOLARS:**

Subject to the consent of their colleges and as long as it may be completed within two years with “Senior Status” (normally conferred to Americans with a bachelor’s degree already), Scholars may read for the Oxford Bachelor of Arts in any of the Final Honour Schools. See the online *University of Oxford Undergraduate Prospectus*, available at [www.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate](http://www.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate). With the consent of the relevant departments or faculties and their colleges, Scholars may be admitted, if qualified by previous training, to read for higher degrees offered by the University, including the Bachelor of Philosophy, Master of Philosophy, and Doctor of Philosophy. These graduate degrees are the choice of most Rhodes Scholars, although the B.A. is optimal for some Scholars and should not be viewed as a “lesser” degree in either value or reputation. The MBA and the Master in Financial Economics may only be applied for in a Scholar’s second year. The most complete and current listing of graduate degrees is in the *University of Oxford Graduate Prospectus*, available at [www.ox.ac.uk/graduate](http://www.ox.ac.uk/graduate). Instructions will be given to applicants who are elected to Rhodes Scholarships about the two samples of recent written work which are required for admission to these programs.

**PLEASE NOTE: It is very difficult, and may be impossible, to change degree courses after admission to Oxford.  
Course selection requires careful consideration.**

## **INFORMATION ABOUT OXFORD:**

Applicants should study the academic system of the University of Oxford in order to determine if their plan of study is one which is feasible at Oxford. The best sources of information are the current issues of the *University of Oxford Undergraduate Prospectus* and *Graduate Prospectus*. In addition, the Oxford University *Examination Decrees* is available for a charge from the Oxford University Press, 116 High Street, Oxford OX1 4BZ, England.

Copies of this Memorandum of Regulations and the Notes of Guidance for U.S. applicants may be downloaded and printed for use in the competition in the United States. Additional information, including copies of a brochure, *Oxford and the Rhodes Scholarships*, giving information about the Scholarships and life and study at Oxford, and a document containing frequently asked questions, may also be downloaded and printed. Applicants will also find other useful information at the United States Rhodes Scholarship website, [www.rhodesscholar.org](http://www.rhodesscholar.org), where there are also links to both the Rhodes Trust and Oxford University websites.

For specific questions and details not covered by these materials, please direct inquiries to the American Secretary at [amsec@rhodesscholar.org](mailto:amsec@rhodesscholar.org).

***ELLIOT F. GERSON  
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USA***

***ON BEHALF OF  
THE RHODES TRUST  
RHODES HOUSE  
OXFORD OX1 3RG, ENGLAND  
UNITED KINGDOM***

## 2016 UNITED STATES RHODES DISTRICT SECRETARIES

- District 1**..... BRUNS GRAYSON, ABS Ventures, 950 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451  
..... (Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont)
- District 2**..... GERALD J. CARDINALE, RedBird Capital Partners, LLC, 667 Madison Avenue, 16th Floor,  
New York, NY 10065  
..... (Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey)
- District 3**..... TALI FARHADIAN WEINSTEIN, 907 Fifth Avenue, Apt. 12W, New York, NY 10021  
..... (New York)
- District 4**..... LAURA E. MCGRANE, Department of English, Haverford College, 370 Lancaster Avenue,  
Haverford, PA 19041  
..... (Pennsylvania, Rhode Island)
- District 5**..... LISSA MUSCATINE, Politics & Prose Bookstore, 5015 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008  
..... (Delaware, Maryland/DC)
- District 6**..... LYNN ENTERLINE, Department of English, Vanderbilt University, 331 Benson Hall, 2301 Vanderbilt Place,  
Nashville, TN 37235-1654  
..... (Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina)
- District 7**..... RALPH H. SMITH, The Ralph Smith Group, One Federal Place, 1819 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Suite 1100,  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
..... (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands)
- District 8**..... KEITH P. ELLISON, United States Courthouse, 515 Rusk Street, Suite 3716, Houston, TX 77002-2600  
..... (Oklahoma, Texas)
- District 9** ..... DAVID L. JOHNSON, BioCrossroads, 300 North Meridian Street, Suite 950, Indianapolis, IN 46204  
..... (Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia)
- District 10**..... GARY T. JOHNSON, Chicago History Museum, 1601 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614-6038  
..... (Illinois, Ohio)
- District 11**..... DENNIS J. HUTCHINSON, University of Chicago Law School, 1111 East 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637  
..... (Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, West Virginia)
- District 12**..... GEORGIE BOGE GERAGHTY, 661 Blackthorn Road, Winnetka, IL 60093-2005  
..... (Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Tennessee)
- District 13** ..... VIVIAN S. LEE, University of Utah Health Sciences, Clinical Neurosciences Center 5201, 175 North  
Medical Drive East, Salt Lake City, UT 84132-5901  
..... (Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)
- District 14** ..... ROBERT B. MITCHELL, K&L Gates LLP, 925 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2900, Seattle, WA 98104-1158  
..... (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington)
- District 15** ..... ELIZABETH J. MURPHY, Division of Endocrinology, San Francisco General Hospital,  
1001 Potrero Avenue, Building 30, Room 3501K, San Francisco, CA 94110  
..... (Arizona, California-North [including the counties of Monterey, Kings, Tulare, and Inyo and those counties to the North], Hawaii, Nevada))
- District 16** ..... KAREN L. STEVENSON, United States Courthouse, 312 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012-4701  
..... (American Samoa, California-South [including the counties of San Luis Obispo, Kern, and San Bernadino and those counties to the South],  
Guam, and Northern Mariana Islands)

**NOTE: In compelling circumstances, Rhodes District Secretaries may be reached via email as follows:  
first name.last name@rhodesscholar.org**