

Truman Scholarship Application Instructions for UM Students

Campus deadline for UM applications: November 8

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.

The Foundation seeks future "change agents" who aspire to leadership positions in federal, state, or local governments or in the not-for-profit and education sectors where they can influence public policies and change public programs. Criteria for selecting Truman Scholars are mainly

- extensive records of public and community service,
- outstanding leadership potential and communication skills.
- commitment to careers in government or elsewhere in the public sector

Application Procedures

Truman Scholarship applicants must be nominated by the University of Miami Fellowship Committee. UM may nominate up to four students. In order to be considered for nomination you must complete the following by the campus deadline: **November 8**.

1. Complete and submit the online application (including the policy proposal). By submitting your application electronically, you will be sending it to the Truman advisor in the Office of Prestigious Awards and Fellowships NOT to the Truman Foundation. To obtain access to the online application you must complete the online form presented by the Office of Prestigious Awards and Fellowships at prestigiousawards@miami.edu so you can access the online application.
2. Submit the following to the Office of Prestigious Awards and Fellowships via e-mail (to prestigiousawards@miami.edu).
 - Three letters of recommendation on or attached to the appropriate letter of recommendation forms.
 - Copy of unofficial transcript (PDF from CaneLink)

The UM Fellowship Committee will read your application materials and **may** interview qualified candidates as they see fit.

Letters of Recommendation

Three letters of recommendation are required by the campus deadline. Unlike other scholarships, letters for the Truman must have a separate theme according to the following evaluation criteria:

1. One letter focusing on your Commitment to a Career in Public Service
2. One letter focusing your Intellect and Prospects for Continuing Academic Success

3. One letter focusing on your Leadership Abilities and Potential (Note the person writing this letter should be familiar with the leadership example you describe in application question #7)

Know who can best comment on these qualities and choose your recommenders accordingly. Print out the appropriate Truman Letter of Recommendation Cover Sheet from your online application. Letters of recommendation should NOT be submitted on-line for the campus deadline. Instead, recommenders should submit their letters to the Office of Prestigious Awards and Fellowships by e-mailing a scanned copy of the letter to prestigiousawards@miami.edu.

After Campus nominations, the selected nominees will work with PAF to revise and resubmit their applications in the online system.

NOTE: If you would like to receive feedback on your application, you must request a meeting and send your materials to the Office of Prestigious Awards and Fellowships (prestigiousawards@miami.edu) at least two weeks prior to the campus deadline.