Application Requirements

Prior to applying, you must email PlusOne@miami.edu in order to gain access to the Plus One introductory video and application. Students must watch this video prior to applying to the Plus One. There will also be three Plus One Q&A sessions. Students can attend these sessions only after watching the video in order to clarify any concerns about the scholarship. Session times will be provided upon registering for the video.

Application Requirements:
1. An essay that explains your reason for seeking the scholarship. The essay should focus on your intellectual growth and offer a coherent, cogent, and compelling argument for enriching your learning. Your proposed Plus One program should exhibit educational and cultural purpose and focus and should reflect deliberation and consultation with faculty advisors.
2. The courses that constitute your Plus One Program and the semester in which you will take them. These should contain a substantial number of upper division courses. You must consult with the appropriate departments to confirm that courses will be offered during your proposed time frame. Your application must show that, barring exceptional circumstances, the Plus One courses will be offered when you plan to take them.
3. A resume
4. An unofficial transcript.
5. The courses you have yet to take to complete your major and cognates, and when you plan to take them.
6. The courses you have yet to take to complete other requirements for certificates or pre-professional tracks, and when you plan to take them.
7. Two letters of recommendation. One must be from the primary advisor who has worked with you to develop your Plus One Program and should directly address the merits of your proposal. This must be a faculty member. A second letter must be from a faculty member who has taught you. Recommendation letters must be submitted electronically to PlusOne@miami.edu by 5:00 pm on October 1 for Fall applications and March 1 for Spring applications. Please include student’s name and “Plus One Recommendation” in the email subject line.

For questions about the Plus One Scholarship, please contact Assistant Provost, Michelle Gonzalez Maldonado, (mmaldonado@miami.edu).

The deadline to apply is October 1 by 5 p.m. EST in the Fall Semester and March 1 by 5 p.m. EST in the Spring Semester. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
Plus One Scholarship
Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is eligible for the Plus One?

   Students must have completed 30 credits at UM in order to apply for the Plus One. In your application you must demonstrate that you can complete all of your degree requirements (major, minor, cognates, certificate, professional, and other credentialing requirements) without the Plus One program. Students can only apply for the Plus One Scholarship one time.

2. When can I apply for the Plus One?

   Students cannot apply for the Plus One during their last semester at the University of Miami. Students must have at least one semester of coursework still to satisfy their degree requirements. Your application must be submitted before the start of your final semester of coursework. We strongly encourage students to apply in their junior year. International Students should check with the Office of International Student and Scholar Services prior to applying in order to determine the impact of the Plus One on their visa status. If you receive the Plus One you are committing to the course plan in your application and must receive permission from the Plus One committee in order to change it.

3. What is the purpose of the Plus One?

   The Plus One Scholarship is purely for enrichment. The Scholarship gives you time to deepen and expand your education, to study something new, to pursue learning for its own sake.

4. How do I know if my application is coherent?

   Your application requires a letter of recommendation from a Plus One advisor. This individual will not only write a letter exploring the merits of your application but also help you craft your proposal. This individual must be a faculty member. Professional Advisors can no longer write letters of recommendation.

5. How do I develop my course plan?
Students should consult with their Plus One advisor in order to develop their course plan. In addition, students must directly contact each department in which they hope to take courses in order to guarantee these courses will be offered during the proposed Plus One period. Please do not rely on the Bulletin as course offerings vary. In addition, students must check prerequisites of the courses in their proposal to make sure that they are able to take their proposed classes. Students cannot be enrolled in Graduate courses during their Plus One semester or year. Students will be required to take the courses listed under their Plus One course plan. Revisions can only be made in exceptional cases (i.e., a department cancels a course that it previously indicated it would offer). In order to substitute a Plus One course, students must provide email confirmation from the department indicating that they were told the course was being offered at the time of application and that the course is now cancelled.

6. What if I have a study abroad component to my Plus One?

Students who have a study abroad component to their Plus One must meet with a representative from the Study Abroad office prior to submitting their application. While we recognize that often students do not know the exact courses they will be taking abroad, this meeting can help give students a better sense of their course plan abroad. Students cannot go abroad during their Plus One funded time and instead must go abroad in what would be their senior or junior years. Students must be on campus taking courses the semester or year they are funded by the Plus One. Receiving the Plus One scholarship does not guarantee admission into your proposed abroad program. Students must go through the selection process outlined by the Study Abroad office.

7. Who should write my letters of recommendation?

Your faculty letter of recommendation should be written by a faculty member who has taught you and can address your academic performance. The second letter is written by your Plus One advisor. This individual must also be a faculty member. Professional Advisors can no longer write letters of recommendation.

8. When do I begin taking my Plus One courses?

Students will begin taking their Plus One courses prior to their Plus One funded year. Plus One courses must be integrated into your curriculum. Students must always be taking degree-seeking credit in order to receive the Plus One. For example, a junior who applies for a year-long Plus One Scholarship that includes additional coursework will write a course plan that
integrates Plus One courses with degree seeking courses. Each semester she or he will take a mixture of Plus One courses and degree seeking credits in what would be her or his senior and Plus one years. Another example is a first semester senior who applies for a semester long study abroad program. That student would have to go abroad in what would be the second semester of their senior year. During their Plus One funded semester she or he would have to be back on campus finishing her or his degree. Students should not create course plans that include all of their Plus One courses during the time they are funded by the Plus One.

9. How does the Plus One impact my transcript and graduation? Plus One courses will appear on your transcript and be factored into your cumulative gpa. In addition, your Major title will be changed with the term “with enrichment” to indicate the Plus One Scholarship. For example a History major’s transcript will read “History with Enrichment.” The designator of “with enrichment” will not appear on your diploma. Plus One scholars may participate in the commencements that reflect both their year of admission and their year of completion. If you would like to attend commencement with your class, even though you will not officially graduate until you complete your Plus One, you can apply for commencement as an Early Participant and put “Plus One Scholarship” as the reason. Plus One courses are factored into your gpa and you will receive your diploma at the end of your Plus One term.