

Discover Diplomacy: America's Diplomats in a Changing World

The John C. Whitehead Student Conference

October 26, 2016

U.S. Department of State, Washington DC

Scholarship Details, Selection Criteria and Award Process

Scholarship Details:

- Scholarship includes:
 - Transportation to Washington DC based on student location (economy airfare, train, mileage with POV, or bus, no car rental)
 - Airport transfers included
 - Lodging at State Plaza Hotel on October 25 and 26
 - Shared rooms
 - If student prefers their own room they will be required to cover the cost difference
 - Partial M&IE to cover meals not included in the conference day
 - Conference itself
 - Panel presentations
 - Simulation participation
 - Access to networking sessions
 - Reception
- Cost sharing opportunity: lodging subsidy if transportation is provided
- Full funding: If a university is interested in fully funding one or more students, please inform the USDC via vaggas@state.gov by the conference registration deadline (information on registration TBC). Funded students will be considered Scholarship Recipients and invited to all opportunities planned for those students.

Selection Criteria:

- Preference is undergraduate juniors and seniors
- Interest in foreign affairs issues and government service
- Commitment to travel to Washington DC for three days (arrival on October 25, conference on Oct. 26, departure Oct. 27)
- Commitment to participate in all sessions of one-day conference
- Selected by a Diplomat in Residence
- A member of an underrepresented community as defined by the Office of Human Resources/Recruitment, Examination and Employment (HR/REE)

Selection and Award Process:

1. The U.S. Diplomacy Center will send the DIRs a letter and application form for nominating students for a scholarship to attend the conference.
2. DIRs are encouraged to send these materials to faculty and career centers throughout the geographic region they represent.
3. DIRs will receive applications from institutions based in their region. (**September 9 deadline**)
4. DIRs will select and send to USDC no more than five candidates to be considered for scholarship.
 - a. Each DIR will be guaranteed at least one of those nominees will be granted a full scholarship.
 - b. Institutional cost sharing - a DIR may send two students if an institution offers to cost share the participation. The institution must completely fund student transportation and the Diplomacy Center will provide lodging.
 - c. Students nominated from the DC metro area will not be provided lodging but will be reimbursed for local travel.
5. DIRs will ensure each of the nominated students has a complete application package:
 - a. A completed application form
 - b. An application essay of up to 500 words that responds to one of the following two prompts:
 - i. How would attending this conference benefit your understanding of diplomacy?
 - ii. How do you see yourself contributing to diplomacy now and in the future?
 - c. A one paragraph recommendation from the DIR or university faculty
 - d. Student biography (please include career goals and a headshot of the student to be used in social media and educational materials)
6. Nominations from DIRs are due to USDC by **September 16**.
7. The USDC will convene a Scholarship Selection Panel to include one representative from the Diplomacy Center Foundation, one from the Department of State Office of Civil Rights, and one from the Department's HR/Recruiting Office.
8. If you as a DIR would like to attend the conference please email vaggas@state.gov