

2026 TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP

OSU INFORMATION & INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATION

OSU Deadline: October 13, 2025

(National deadline – February 3, 2026)

The Truman Scholarship has a value of up to \$30,000 and was created by Congress for **those who intend to pursue careers in public service**, defined by the Truman Scholarship Foundation as:

Employment in government at any level, uniformed services, public-interest organizations, nongovernmental research and/or educational organizations, public and private schools, and public-service oriented non-profit organizations such as those whose primary purposes are to help needy or disadvantaged persons or to protect the environment.

Common graduate degrees of Truman Scholars include master's degrees, doctorates, or professional degrees such as a law degree, a Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Health, Master of Social Work, Master of Education, Master of Public Policy, or Master of International Affairs.

The OSU Truman Scholarship Committee will select *up to four* nominees and *up to three* additional transfer student nominees to compete for the Harry S. Truman Scholarship. These materials serve as your *application for one of OSU's institutional nominations*.

Award

Up to \$30,000 for graduate or professional school

Eligibility

- Junior standing (expected graduation date of December 2026 or May 2027)
- 3.50 minimum cumulative GPA
- United States citizen or U. S. national
- Academic excellence, extensive leadership experience, and record of public and/or community service

To Apply

Submit the information requested on the back of this page electronically to the Director of Scholar Development (jessica.sullins@okstate.edu) by **October 13, 2025**.

OSU institutional finalists will be notified regarding the interview portion of the competition shortly after the deadline. Interviews will be scheduled for late October.

See website for more information: <http://www.truman.gov>

OSU INSTITUTIONAL APPLICATION: TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP

- 1) Personal details: Name, address, phone, email, legal state of residence, transfer status, expected graduation date, and undergraduate degree.
- 2) Attach a resume (no more than two pages) in which you give information on your educational background, honors, awards, activities, jobs, etc. Please make separate divisions for high school and college.
- 3) Describe in one paragraph a specific example of your leadership abilities.
- 4) Describe in one paragraph your most satisfying public service activity (different from #3).
- 5) What are the three most satisfying or helpful courses you have taken in preparation for your career? Explain briefly, using one or two sentences for each course.
- 6) Describe the graduate education program you intend to pursue if you should receive a Truman Scholarship.
- 7) What do you hope to do, and what position do you hope to have, immediately upon completing your graduate studies? Five to seven years later?
- 8) Essay: In approximately 500 words, analyze a significant public policy issue or problem that is in your intended area of public service. Present your analysis in the form of a memo to the government official who you feel has the most direct authority to resolve the issue (eg. President, Cabinet Office, Governor, Chair of a legislative committee). Your memo should define the issue, lay out your proposed solution, identify major obstacles to the implementation of your solution, and recommend a specific course of action. Provide statistical data, if necessary, to put the issue in context and support your recommendations.

Additional application components to be submitted electronically to the Director of Scholar Development:

- Two letters of recommendation from a faculty member, department head, supervisor, or academic advisor. For confidentiality purposes, please request that your letters be submitted directly to the email below.
- A copy of your fall schedule (to help arrange interviews for institutional finalists)
- An official or unofficial college transcript

All application materials should be submitted electronically to:

Jessica Sullins, Director of Scholar Development & Undergraduate Research
Jessica.sullins@okstate.edu

Application Deadline: Monday, October 13, 2025