



# UCLA Scholarship Resource Center STRATEGIES

SPRING-SUMMER 2016 / VOL. 21 NO. 3

## Yes, You Can Still Win Scholarships for Next Year!

By Mac Harris, SRC Staff

We may have entered the home stretch of the 2015-16 academic year, but plenty of time remains to secure scholarships for yourself for the 2016-17 academic year. Sure, it would have been ideal to start applying back in early fall when the scholarship season generally begins, but the scholarship season does not end until about halfway through the summer.

So, what can you do to make the most of the time remaining and win as many scholarships as possible? First, if you have never visited us at the Scholarship Resource Center main office (233 Covell Commons), do not wait another second! Drop in as soon as you can during business hours (M-F 11-6, no appointment necessary), and our staff experts will get you started.

You may feel a little overwhelmed after you first visit us and realize the vast number of scholarships out there, but brush that off. You do not need to find and apply for every single scholarship out there this very day or week. Instead, just set a goal to find two scholarships due this month where you meet all the eligibility criteria. Be aware that you may have to look at twenty or thirty scholarships before you've found those two, so set

aside about one hour for your search. Whether you actually find those two scholarships in ten minutes or sixty, two is a very good result for an hour of searching. Even one will do – the main thing is to begin applying as soon as possible!

The easiest and quickest way to find those first two is probably signing up for one of the scholarship search engines that you can find under the “Scholarship Search” tab of our website ([www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu](http://www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu)).

Search engine scholarships usually are essay contests with very broad eligibility criteria, so you should be able to find your two very quickly with those. For a search engine that helpfully organizes scholarship results by due date, try [www.unigo.com/scholarships/match](http://www.unigo.com/scholarships/match).

International students, however, are not usually as well served by search engines as US citizens, and if that's the case for you, come to the SRC main office and pick up our resource guide for international students to find those first two scholarships. Even if you aren't an international student, you should look into the various resource guides we have for different student populations. The eligibility criteria won't be as broad as for the search engines, but then again not as many students will apply, either.

So, don't be intimidated. Get excited about winning scholarships, because there is still plenty of time before the end of the season and our expert staff can help you do it!



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*Have you won a scholarship with the help of the SRC?*

*Let us know!*

[src@college.ucla.edu](mailto:src@college.ucla.edu)  
(310) 206-2875

# 2016-17 UCLA College Division of Undergraduate Education Donor Scholarships

## GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

### *Applicants must*

- Demonstrate **FINANCIAL NEED** by completing the **FAFSA** (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>) or **Dream Application** (<https://dream.csac.ca.gov/>)
- Be UCLA undergraduate students enrolled full time within the College of Letters and Science
- Fill out an application online, available at [http://www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu/DUE/Cont\\_Students.html](http://www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu/DUE/Cont_Students.html)
- Provide all supporting documentation, including an **official or unofficial transcript** and a copy of the **PAL (Provisional Award Letter)** or **FAN (Financial Aid Notification)** letter. **DO NOT SUBMIT A DPR.**
- Submit completed applications to UCLA Scholarship Resource Center, 330 De Neve Drive, 233 Covell Commons, Box 957247, Los Angeles, CA 90095-7247.

### DUE MAY 15

**Myrtle Hickey De Luce Scholarship:** preference to graduates of Lincoln, Belmont, John Marshall, or other LAUSD high schools who participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

**Heather L. Kase Endowed Scholarship:** preference to female undergraduates of the Jewish faith who demonstrate financial need and academic potential.

**Louis Levy Endowed Scholarship:** students should have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA, demonstrate financial need, and have graduated from a CA public high school.

**Los Angeles Chapter of the Links Scholarship:** preference to African-American women students who demonstrate financial need and a strong record of community service.

**Bess F. Raab Scholarship:** preference to students with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA; must provide evidence of participation in at least one extracurricular activity at UCLA or in the community.

**Rancho Park Rotary Club Scholarship:** preference to full-time UCLA seniors of Iranian/Persian descent who actively participate in community service and demonstrate strong financial need; minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA.

**John Ringlbauer & Morris Brown UCLA Veteran's Scholarships:** awarded to a full-time UCLA student who is either currently enlisted or is a veteran of the Armed Forces and who honorably served the US. Preference to those who made the greatest commitment or sacrifice during their service.

**Louis and Zephyr Stuart Scholarship:** preference to Armenian students who demonstrate leadership through extracurricular activities at UCLA and in the community; minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

**Jo-Belle Wolf Undergraduate Scholarship:** preference to female students born in the US; minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

### DUE JUNE 30

**Nancy Diane Orford Scholarship:** preference to students with cystic fibrosis or other disabilities.

**Virginia Frey Scholarship:** for first-year students entering UCLA who are graduates of El Monte High School (El Monte, CA).

**National Notary Foundation Scholarship:** preference to students with a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA and

*Continued from page 2...*

CA residents with strong leadership skills (for incoming freshmen only).

**Helen Matthewson Club (HMC) Memorial Scholarship:** for students who demonstrate that they are at least partially self-supporting, in financial need, and full-time continuing or transfer students, California residents, and U.S. citizens.

**Donald R. Shepherd Scholarship:** preference to students from San Diego County with a minimum 3.75 cumulative GPA (for incoming freshmen only).

**Gertrude Pomish Scholarship:** preference to students who actively participate in and demonstrate a strong record of community service (for incoming freshmen only).

**Leah Bettelman:** available to first-year students with high merit and high financial need.

**Ola Zuckerman Class of 1934 Scholarship:** available to entering first-year UCLA students with high merit and financial need.

## SUMMER FINANCIAL AID

# Q & A

### Q: Is it available?

**A:** *Summer aid from UCLA is available to newly-admitted and continuing UCLA students enrolled in UCLA Summer Sessions, the College Summer Institute, Summer Sessions at another UC (cross-campus enrollment) or the UC Summer Travel Program. You can only receive assistance for ONE summer program. Unfortunately, financial aid is no longer available for Non-UC Study Abroad programs.*

### Q: How do I apply for it?

**A:** *In addition to completing the FAFSA, you must also complete the online Summer Financial Aid Application. The application and filing timeline will vary depending on the summer program for which you seek assistance. The UCLA Summer Session application is available on the UCLA Financial Aid Office website beginning April 1 ([http://www.fao.ucla.edu/summer/Summer\\_Info.htm](http://www.fao.ucla.edu/summer/Summer_Info.htm)). The priority deadline for submitting the summer application is April 30 to be considered for all types of aid. If your summer application is filed after April 30, and/or your FAFSA is submitted after March 2, you will be considered as a late applicant and the types of aid available to you will be limited. Please check the UCLA FAO's home page for information about applications and deadlines for other summer programs.*

**Remember, you must apply  
separately for summer financial aid!**

**For more information visit the UCLA Financial  
Aid Office website at <http://www.fao.ucla.edu>**

## Spotlight on 2016-17

# National Merit Scholarships

By Yvette Martínez-Vu, SRC Staff

Most National Merit Scholarships require a UCLA nomination before applying. The dates listed below are UCLA campus deadlines, rather than foundation deadlines. For information about nominations, contact the UCLA Scholarship Resource Center.

**The Marshall Scholarship** finances a degree at a university in the United Kingdom (England, Wales, Scotland, or Northern Ireland). Eligible students must be U.S. citizens with a 3.7 GPA or higher and be prepared to graduate within two years. The program encourages recipients to become ambassadors to the U.K. The award varies by circumstances, but students on average receive about \$47,000 worth of funding to offset the cost of living, residence, tuition fees, and fares to and from the U.S.

**UCLA Deadline: June 30**

**The Rhodes Scholarship** is open to students in any field of study. The scholarship selects students with outstanding scholarly achievements, a commitment to the common good, and who demonstrate potential for leadership. The award includes all college and university fees, a stipend for living expenses, and transportation to and from England. Eligible students must be undergraduate students or have completed a bachelor's degree with a GPA of 3.7 or higher. Students with an interest in graduate study at Oxford University are highly encouraged to apply.

**UCLA Deadline: June 30**

**The Churchill Scholarship** provides funding to students for a year of master's study in science, engineering, and mathematics at the University of Cambridge. The award covers university and college fees, travel, and a living allowance. Applicants must be in their final year of a bachelor's degree, a U.S. citizen, between ages 19-26, and hold a GPA of 3.8 or higher. Students must show exceptional academic achievement and demonstrate a capacity to advance the knowledge of indicated majors.

**UCLA Deadline: October 1**

### *Other Scholarships to Consider:*

**George W. Mitchell Scholarship** for one year of study at a university in Ireland; UCLA deadline: June 30.

**Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship** for students with a Federal Pell Grant to pursue a study abroad

program; due early September.

**Fulbright U.S. Student Program** for research projects and cultural exchange outside the U.S.; due early September.

**Luce Scholars Program** for study in one of 15 Asian countries and regions in East and Southeast Asia, including India and Nepal; due early September.



**Schwarzman Scholars Program** for study of public policy, international relations, economics, or business in Beijing, China; due early September.

**Critical Language Scholarship** for overseas critical language instruction in one of 13 designated languages; due early October.

**NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program** for seniors pursuing graduate work in science and engineering; due early October.

**Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship** for students pursuing a career in public policy or related fields; due early October.

**Soros Fellowship for New Americans** for immigrants or children of immigrants pursuing graduate work in the U.S.; due early October.

**Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Awards** for pre-PhD funding to diverse individuals committed to teaching and a research career; due early November.

# Write Your Personal Statement this Weekend!

By Hannah Nahm, SRC Staff

Let's face it: If you're like the rest of us, writing is not easy. Chances are, an impending paper deadline leaves you feeling anxious, queasy, or downright resistant, where suddenly you realize that between writing that paper and cleaning the toilet (for the third time), the choice seems clear: the toilet. When it comes to scholarship applications, a personal statement is perhaps the single most important and valuable document that can set you apart from the rest of the applicant pool. More than any other supporting data (such as the letter of recommendation or academic transcript), the personal statement is where you have exclusive control over what is included. It is a powerful tool you can use to present yourself in a winning light, whether that be as an individual with desirable personal qualities and interesting experiences, or a person who has overcome hardships or someone with ambitious professional aspirations.

Ironically, this knowledge of how heavily the personal statement is weighed is precisely why many of us dread or put off writing it, and why so many otherwise competitive students give up on the scholarship process altogether. It's easy to tell ourselves to "just write it," but where do we start? What questions can we ask to generate ideas that we can eventually build into the personal statement draft?

Like any major task, it helps to break down the writing into manageable parts and approach it as a process. By following this four-step process, you will have the first draft of your personal statement by the end of this weekend!

## Goal: To write the first draft of a personal essay by the end of this weekend

**Step 1:** Friday (1-2 hours). Use questions from the *Brainstorming Ideas* in the next column. Don't worry about writing in complete sentences. Brainstorm and take lots of notes.

**Step 2:** Saturday (2-3 hours). Write a draft of the essay based on brainstorming ideas. Don't worry about length, grammar, or style, and to some extent, even content. Remember: *Do not judge!*

**Step 3:** Sunday (1-2 hours). Use the *Strategies for Revision* checklist below to revise what you have written. Read it through at least 3 times and make changes.

**Step 4:** Schedule a writing appointment with the SRC and email the draft as an attachment to your assigned SRC writing consultant no later than 24 hours before your scheduled appointment.

### BRAINSTORMING IDEAS: Consider Your Abilities, Background, Interests, and Plans

- How do I think of myself? What sets me apart from others, and what do those qualities indicate about me? How did I acquire these qualities?
- How have my experiences and values prepared me for the study or career I want to pursue?
- What are my interests and motivations in my field of study? What have I gotten out of it so far and what do I hope to get out of the future?
- How did I become interested and motivated? Can I trace my interest to any concrete experiences?
- What are my strengths—personal, academic, and experiential?
- Is there any relevant aspect of myself that my resume or record does not reflect accurately?
- Do my relevant experiences form any pattern? Broad exploration? Increasing focus? Tackling greater and greater challenges?
- What kinds of experiences have taught me the most? How did I become the person I am today?

### STRATEGIES FOR REVISION

- Read out loud, sentence by sentence
- Read out loud backwards, from last to first sentence
- Be sure to cut any sentence that is not specific or clear to you
- Make the writing personal, specific—YOURS (as opposed to impersonal, generic or general)

Example: "I want to be an engineer so I can build things for the future."

Better: "I want to be a civil engineer so I can build type x bridge in Boulder, Colorado, as my initial interest in this community was sparked by my childhood visits there."

## How to Fix a Scholarship Essay

By: Jeremy Schmidt, SRC Staff

### 1. Make a writing appointment!

The SRC offers assistance with the essays, personal statements, and statements of purpose that you'll undoubtedly find yourself writing when applying to scholarships. Give us a call (at least one day in advance) and we'll schedule you for a 30-minute writing appointment. You'll speak with a staff member who will set up a specific time and day for your appointment and give you the email address of the Student Affairs Advisor (SAA) with whom you'll be meeting. You'll need to send your draft, outline, or brainstorming notes to the SAA by 11am on the day of your appointment, which will give your editor time to look it over carefully, make edits, and provide feedback.

Expert tip: Include the scholarship application, scholarship website, and prompt in your email. The more our staff knows about the writing task you're working on, the better we can help you.

### 2. Keep an eye out for common writing problems!

While seeking outside guidance on your writing is invaluable, you should also of course spend time editing and revising on your own.

Here are three examples of small but significant problems to watch out for. Keep in mind that these are just a few of the errors that show up most frequently in scholarship essays; you should be reading and revising your work over multiple drafts in order to attend to all sorts of writing issues, small and large both.

#### **Issue 1: Subject-Verb Agreement**

**Example:** These facts about ecological devastation has shaped my academic and professional goals.

**Solution:** These facts about ecological devastation have shaped my academic and professional goals.

**Explanation:** Grammatical basics like subject-verb alignment are easy to goof on when you're writing quickly and don't have much time to revise. Give yourself that time. If you still end up with a sentence so tricky that you're having difficulty locating the main subject and main verb, or determining whether they should be singular or plural, consider asking a friend for advice or try rewriting the sentence entirely.

#### **Issue 2: Expletive Constructions or "Dummy Heads"**

**Example:** There is only one week left in my study-abroad

program in Mexico when I begin to notice a change in my Spanish skills.

**Solution A:** I have only a week left in my study-abroad program in Mexico when...

**Solution B:** My study-abroad program in Mexico has only a week remaining when...

**Explanation:** Opening a sentence with a phrase like "There is," "There are," "It is," or even "It" commonly leads to vague or awkward writing. While these phrases are somewhat different from one another and are often used in a manner that is technically correct (as in this example), you're better off eliminating them when possible. And you should definitely avoid using them with too much frequency. When in doubt, locate the key actor in a sentence, and try to make her, him, or it your grammatical subject.

#### **Issue 3: Generalizations and Overstatements**

**Example:** From the beginning of time, student loans have made life hell.

**Solution A:** The majority of borrowers who take out student loans are still paying back those loans well into their 30s.

**Solution B:** Student loans have a serious impact on the lives of individuals, and increasing student debt has serious repercussions for the U.S. economy.

**Explanation:** While the example above has a certain outrageous charm, it's also false on its face: Student loans didn't exist at, or before, the beginning of time. In most situations, being specific rather than general, balanced rather than overstated, and insightful rather than bombastic will impress the decision-makers reading your scholarship essay(s). Opening an essay with a sweeping claim about "time," "society," "life," "history," or "the world" rarely has as much impact as a clear and focused observation.

### 3. Seek out other campus resources for writing help!

Your friends, roommates, classmates, and family members can be great resources when you need someone to read through a piece of writing and make suggestions. In addition, UCLA has a variety of places on campus (including the SRC, of course!) where you can seek out assistance with your writing. Don't be shy about asking for help. These organizations exist to lend you a hand.

#### **Scholarship Resource Center (SRC)**

*web:* [scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu](http://scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu)

*office:* Covel Commons 233 (M-F 11am-6pm)

*email:* [src@college.ucla.edu](mailto:src@college.ucla.edu)

*phone:* 310-825-2875

*services:* one-on-one mentoring and editing for scholarship and fellowship materials (essays, personal statements, statements of purpose)



**Undergraduate Writing Center (UWC)**

web: [wp.ucla.edu/wc](http://wp.ucla.edu/wc)

office: Humanities A61 (M-Th 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-3pm), Rieber Hall 115 (Sun-Th 7pm-9pm), Powell 228 (Sun-Th 6pm-9pm)

email: [wcenter@g.ucla.edu](mailto:wcenter@g.ucla.edu)

phone: 310-206-1320

services: one-on-one peer assistance with all types of written work (course papers, research papers, capstone projects, senior thesis papers, resumes, CVs, personal statements, statements of purpose, cover letters)

**Academic Advancement Program (AAP)**

web: [aap.ucla.edu](http://aap.ucla.edu)

office: Campbell Hall 1230/1232 (M-F 9am-5pm)

email: [aapnewstudents@college.ucla.edu](mailto:aapnewstudents@college.ucla.edu)

phone: 310-206-1551

services: wide-ranging assistance for students from multi-ethnic, low-income, first generation, and multiracial backgrounds

**Graduate Writing Center (GWC)**

web: [gsrc.ucla.edu/gwc/](http://gsrc.ucla.edu/gwc/)

office: Student Activities Center B11

email: [gwc@gsa.asucla.ucla.edu](mailto:gwc@gsa.asucla.ucla.edu)

phone: 310-267-4806

services: assistance for graduate students with articles, prospectuses, dissertations, etc.

**Career Center**

web: [career.ucla.edu](http://career.ucla.edu)

office: 501 Westwood Plaza, Strathmore Building, North Entrance, 2nd & 3rd Floors (M-F 9am-5pm)

email: visit [career.ucla.edu/UCLA-Career-Center-Staff](http://career.ucla.edu/UCLA-Career-Center-Staff)

phone: 310-206-1915

services: assistance with resumes, CVs, internship applications, and job applications

**Writing Success Program (WSP)**

web: [cpo.ucla.edu/src/writing-success-program](http://cpo.ucla.edu/src/writing-success-program), [wspucla.wordpress.com](http://wspucla.wordpress.com), [wspucla.setmore.com](http://wspucla.setmore.com)

office: Student Activities Center 105

email: [wsp@cpo.ucla.edu](mailto:wsp@cpo.ucla.edu)

phone: 310-825-5969, 310-794-9079

services: drop-in counseling and one-on-one assistance with all types of written work (course papers, research papers, capstone projects, senior thesis papers, resumes, CVs, personal statements, statements of purpose, cover letters)



***The SRC has a new website!***

**[www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu](http://www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu)**

With up-to-date events, workshops, as well as real-time links to our Twitter feed (@UCLASRC) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/uclasrc](http://www.facebook.com/uclasrc)), the SRC website is now your one-stop shop for scholarship resources and information. Be sure to bookmark it, and let us know what you think!

**UCLA Undergraduate Education**  
Scholarship Resource Center

ABOUT | SRC DONOR SCHOLARSHIPS | PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS | SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH | PHI BETA KAPPA | CAMPUS RESOURCES | FAQs

**Connect with the SRC**

**Tweets** Follow

UCLA Scholarships @UCLASRC 10 Feb

**News and Upcoming Events**

- 03/30 WORKSHOP: Secrets to Winning College Cash
- 04/01 WORKSHOP: How to Get Letters of

**Strategies Newsletter**

**UCLA Scholarship Resource Center STRATEGIES**

PHI Beta Kappa

# Scholarship Resource Center Spring 2016 Workshop Schedule

Take advantage of these FREE  
resources and more!

Wide-Ranging Library  
Workshops Every Quarter  
Extensive Scholarship Website  
One-on-one Counseling  
Writing Assistance  
Even a Typewriter!

*All workshops are held in Covell 229 and include a  
personalized follow-up counseling session.  
Sign up for a workshop through MY.UCLA.EDU.*

It's all waiting for you at the

## UCLASRC

*Scholarship Resource Center*

*guiding UCLA students through  
the scholarship process  
since 1996*

233 Covell Commons

(310) 206-2875

Open Monday to Friday

11 am—6 pm

src@college.ucla.edu

www.scholarshipcenter.ucla.edu

**Join our fanpage  
on Facebook to get  
alerts on upcoming  
scholarships!**

### Secrets to Winning College Cash

March 30	Wednesday	5:30-6:00 PM
April 5	Tuesday	4:30-5:00 PM
April 14	Thursday	4:30-5:00 PM
April 18	Monday	5:30-6:00 PM
April 22	Friday	4:30-5:00 PM
May 2	Monday	5:00-5:30 PM
May 13	Friday	4:30-5:00 PM

### How to Win Scholarships

April 6	Wednesday	5:00-5:30 PM
April 26	Tuesday	5:00-5:30 PM

### How to Find Scholarships

April 12	Tuesday	5:00-5:30 PM
May 9	Monday	4:30-5:00 PM

### How to Write Personal Statements for Scholarships

April 7	Thursday	4:30-5:30 PM
May 6	Friday	4:30-5:30 PM
May 11	Wednesday	5:00-6:00 PM

### How to Get Letters of Recommendation for Scholarships

April 1	Friday	4:30-5:00 PM
April 13	Wednesday	5:00-5:30 PM
April 28	Thursday	5:00-5:30 PM



