

The TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP

The Honors Program is looking for potential candidates for the Truman Scholarship. This prestigious national scholarship will give up to \$30,000 in funding to students who will pursue graduate degrees in the public service fields. Truman scholars are also invited to participate in a Truman Scholar Leadership Week, a Summer Institute, the Truman Fellows Program, and a Public Service Law Conference. Students who win a Truman Scholarship must meet a service requirement: after completion of their graduate degree, they must work in public service for three of the first seven years of their career.

The Truman award is one of the most prestigious scholarship competitions in the nation. Recipients often receive a jump-start for a distinguished career in public service. URI has a strong track record of fielding successful candidates for this competition; we are the only public university in the Northeast to be awarded the title "Truman Scholarship Honors Institution."

Qualified candidates for the Truman Scholarship will fit the following profile:

- Excellent academic record (GPA of 3.75 or higher)
- Plans to pursue a graduate degree at a prestigious institution
- Plans to become "change agent" who will significantly improve the way in which government agencies, educational institutions or NGOs serve the public
- Have proven their commitment to public service by achieving a sustained distinguished record of community service, involvement in student government and extracurricular activities, or political engagement
- Have demonstrated leadership potential.

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Students who wish to be considered for nomination as a Truman candidate, should submit the following to Kathleen Maher, Assistant Director for National Fellowships:

- Contact information (phone and email) including URI student ID number
- An informal “brag sheet” that lists all academic honors, community involvement, extra-curricular activities, political engagement, and work or internship experiences.
- A concise, well-written essay (around 500 words) that addresses the following questions:
 - **What is the most important cause or problem you want to tackle as a public servant?**
 - **How is your education (including graduate school plans) preparing you to address this cause as a public servant?**
 - **How will you become a change agent?**

The on-campus deadline to submit these materials is **December 5th.**

*The Truman Scholarship Committee will then choose up to two candidates for nomination. Nominees will have until **January 4, 2012** to submit a draft of the entire application to Ms. Maher, who will then work one-on-one with the candidate(s) to help them prepare for final submission by the national deadline.*

The Truman Foundation website provides information about eligibility rules and the application process, as well as helpful advice that will help students decide whether they have what it takes to become a Truman Scholar. Please consult this website before embarking on the application process:

<http://www.truman.gov//for-candidates/how-to-become-a-truman-scholar/how-to-become-a-truman-scholar>

For more information:

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