

Smith Scholars Application

This is a SAMPLE application. Applicants must submit the online application in ScholarshipUniverse by the deadline to be considered.

Academic Excellence: Very briefly describe the recognition/club and your role (if any). Indicate the year of the recognition/award, and/or the time period when you were involved with the club/organization. The focus should be on post-high school experiences. Note: This should be presented in list format, not as a paragraph.

Sample entries:

Global Studies Society (GSS), Member in 2022-2023, Vice President in 2023-2024. Responsible for organizing two panel discussions and for co-leading GSS member meetings. One hour/week for the academic year.

Vira Heinz Scholarship for studying abroad in Japan, summer 2023. Given to three female students from Temple every year.

TIP: Please ensure that it is easy to understand what you did and when. What was your role? What did you accomplish? How many hours a week did you dedicate to this club/organization, and for how long did you participate? All of this should be very clear.

TIP: If you list a club or organization, it should be in some way linked to your major. If you have participated in non-academic clubs or organizations, they belong in another category (probably leadership).

TIP: Spell out names of clubs, organizations, or awards. Don't use acronyms.

TIP: You should not repeat activities in the Academic Excellence, Leadership, or Professional responses, so decide which category makes most sense for each of your experiences.

Leadership and Engagement: Very briefly describe the activity and your role. Indicate the time period when you were involved in these activities, and the number of hours per week/month you spent on each. Do not repeat items listed previously. The focus should be on post-high school experiences. Note: This should be presented in list format, not as a paragraph.

Sample entries:

Nationalities Service Center (NSC), Volunteer, Summer 2023. Assisted an English as a Second Language class for Philadelphia-area refugees and immigrants. 5 hours/week for 10 weeks.

Leadership, Education, and Development in Science (LEADS), Member, 2022-2023. Four visits to middle schools to conduct science experiments and mentor students interested in science and technology. About five hours for each of the four visits (20 hours total).

TIP: Please ensure that it is easy to understand what you did and when. What was your role? What did you accomplish? How many hours a week did you dedicate to this club/organization/position, and for how long did you participate? All of this should be very clear.

TIP: Spell out names of clubs or organizations. Don't use acronyms.

TIP: You should not repeat activities in the Academic Excellence, Leadership, or Professional responses, so decide which category makes most sense for each of your experiences.

Professional: Very briefly describe where you worked or interned, and your role. Indicate the time period when you worked/interned, and the number of hours per week/month you spent on each. Do not repeat items listed previously. The focus should be on post-high school experiences. Note: This should be presented in list format, not as a paragraph.

Sample entries:

Student Success Center Writing Tutor, September 2022 to current, 10 hours/week. Assist students with research papers, personal statements, and other writing assignments. Stress the relationship between critical thinking and writing. In-person and virtual sessions.

Morning Jo Café, barista, May 2022 to August 2022, 20 hours/week. Prepared coffee and other beverages; interacted with customers in a fast-paced environment; managed the closing of the café.

TIP: Please ensure that it is easy to understand what you did and when. What was your role? What did you accomplish? How many hours a week did you dedicate to this experience, and for how long did you work/intern there? All of this should be very clear.

TIP: You should not repeat activities in the Academic Excellence, Leadership, or Professional responses, so decide which category makes most sense for each of your experiences.

Personal Statement (maximum 4000 characters)

Write a personal statement that includes the following information: 1) A college experience that motivated or increased your interest in your current major; 2) A life challenge or obstacle (relating to academics, family, finances, health, etc.) that you have overcome or are overcoming during your college career, and what you learned from it; 3) An experience with community service, volunteering, or other campus/community involvement, and how it has affected you and your community. 4) Your academic and professional plans for your remaining time at Temple. **Incorporate responses to all four points into your essay.**

TIP: Ensure that you answer all four points in a meaningful way.

TIP: The maximum character count is 4000 characters: use your space appropriately (for example, don't spend 2500 characters answering the first prompt).

TIP: It is okay if you expand on any of the experiences you wrote briefly about in the Academic Excellence, Leadership, and Professional questions.

TIP: For points 1-3, don't just describe what happened—reflect on it.

TIP: The personal statement should be in **paragraph format**. You may answer the questions in any order.

Future Goals (1-2 sentences)

In one or two sentences, explain your academic and/or professional goals after graduating from Temple University.

Future Fellowship/Scholarship/Research Opportunities (maximum 2000 characters)

Identify one fellowship, scholarship, or research opportunity from this list and explain how it would help to support your academic and career trajectory.

Tip: Your future fellowship should make sense for the Future Goals you mentioned above.

Tip: The “Smith Scholarship” is not an acceptable response for this question. We are looking for a fellowship, scholarship or research opportunity from this list that you are hoping to apply for after you are selected as a Smith Scholar.

Tip: You do not need to meet all the eligibility requirements for the opportunity you select yet. You are identifying something you hope to apply for *in the future*.

Tip: Click on the hyperlinks to learn more about the opportunities before selecting one. **Do not make a selection based only on the brief descriptions we provide.** We expect applicants to do a little research to determine a fellowship that makes sense for them.

SAMPLE