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.