

Presidential Scholar Application template

Student Information:

Last Name and First Name: _____

Campus email address: _____

Student Identification number (Pnumber - can find on your BearPaws record): _____

Phone number: _____

Co-leader Last Name and First Name: _____

Co-leader Campus email address: _____

Student Identification number (Pnumber - can find on your BearPaws record): _____

Co-leader Phone number: _____

School Information:

Major 1: _____

Major 2: _____

Minor 1: _____

Minor 2: _____

Overall GPA: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date (semester/year - example spring 2023): _____

How many semesters do you have remaining before you expect to graduate (including, if applicable, student teaching semester) (Select one)

Faculty Mentor Information:

Last Name and First Name: _____

Department: _____

Second Faculty Mentor Information (if applicable):

Last Name and First Name: _____

Department: _____

Project Information:

Project Title: _____

ESSAY Information (will upload your essay):

Students in the Presidential Scholars Program will complete an independent research or creative project by the final semester of their senior year. The project may be an outgrowth of research/creative endeavors within the major, an interdisciplinary exploration, a community-related or service-learning experience, or combine personal interests with an academic, intellectual, and creative component. The project is expected to contribute to a field of academic interest and expand the student's horizons outside the classroom.

Please submit an essay of **not more than 350 words**, explaining your proposed project and research questions and emphasizing the following:

- The project's purpose and relation to your academic and personal goals
- The project's research methods or creative modes and significance for your particular academic community
- Skills needed to complete this project (such as coursework, software skills, or artistic techniques) and your plans to acquire these skills
- The format of your work and venues for presentation
 - Will you present your project to the academic community, here or elsewhere?
 - On-campus demonstrations of your work might include workshops/demonstrations, museum displays, video screenings, teaching demonstrations, or presentations of a paper or poster
 - Off-campus presentations may occur at regional or national meetings in one's discipline
 - Relevant prior experiences (class projects, hobbies, jobs, volunteer work, or other extracurricular activities)

Essay objectives: Your essay will need to convince the Presidential Scholars Selection Committee that:

- You have a student-driven, independent research or creative project that contributes to your educational growth and to the academic community at large
- You are capable of pursuing the project independent of your academic coursework
- You have developed a strong plan to carry out your project
- You have the skills to complete this project in the time allotted

Check your work: Proofreading your application is a critical step in the process. Have others read over the final draft of your essay. Typographical errors and poor grammar are not characteristics of the high-quality work expected of Presidential Scholars. Some common problems include:

- Noun-verb agreement
- Use of contractions (formal writing does not use contractions – i.e. doesn't)
- Incorrect use of apostrophes
- Spelling ("their/there" confusion is not caught by spellcheckers)

Timeline Information:

A timeline that outlines important stages of the process is needed to complete your project. Before you write your essay, sketch out a timeline semester by semester; take account of when and where you will need to devote more or less attention to the project, based on your expected course load and other time considerations. A general outline of the process will guide you in crafting your timeline:

- Presidential Scholars are admitted into the program during the fall semester
- Shortly after they are notified, Scholars meet with their Faculty Mentors to begin planning
- Scholars may begin using their funds once they and their Mentors have agreed on a plan (This is the beginning of your timeline)
- Presidential Scholars present their projects at a mandatory Colloquium in December or mid-to-late spring of their senior year, which marks the project's culmination (Your timeline should end with this presentation)

Give a short description (one or two lines each) of your research/creative endeavors project goals, semester by semester (4 semesters if you are a junior, and 6 semesters if you are a sophomore)

Fall (1st semester)

Spring (2nd semester)

Fall (3rd semester)

Spring (4th semester)

Fall (5th semester)

Spring (6th semester)

Upload your budget pdf. Find the budget here:

<https://www.potsdam.edu/academics/appliedlearning/mentored-student-research/forms>, scroll down to Presidential Scholars

For purposes of budgetary justification: Please upload any digital scans of invoices or printed estimates for your project

Letters of Recommendation:

Note: one must be your faculty mentor. Link for letters can be found on our website under the forms page, <https://www.potsdam.edu/academics/appliedlearning/mentored-student-research/forms>.

First recommendation First and Last Name: _____

Second recommendation First and Last Name: _____

Do you agree to waive your right to see any recommendation letters to be written for you by your prospective Faculty Mentor/s or other recommender?

NOTE: The committee, as a rule, requires that candidates waive their rights to view recommendations in order to encourage honest appraisals of candidates' potential. (Select yes or no)

Project Approval Information:

Does your project require approval from either of the following: (check all that apply)

When will your project receive approval: _____

When did/will you complete CITI Certification? _____

If you are selected to be a Presidential Scholar grant recipient, you acknowledge that you will attend all events for the Presidential Scholar Program.