

USMA GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

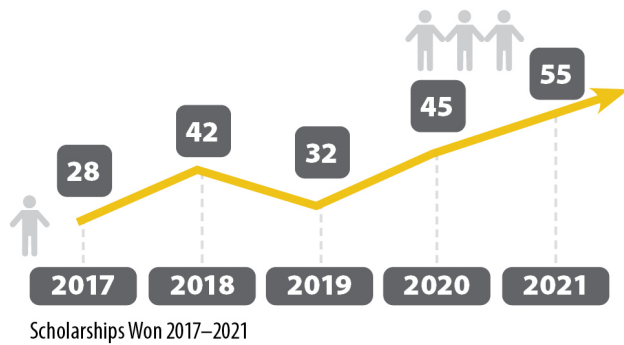


- RHODES SCHOLARSHIP
- MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP
- EAST-WEST FELLOWSHIP
- TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP
- FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP
- ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP
- MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP
- KNIGHT-HENNESSY SCHOLARSHIP
- GATES CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP
- SCHWARZMAN SCHOLARSHIP



West Point
READY 

READY TO SERVE. READY TO LEAD.



RHODES SCHOLARSHIP	
Harvard	379
Yale	258
Princeton	216
Stanford	104
USMA	100
Dartmouth College	63
Brown University	58
University of Virginia	55
The University of Chicago	51
USNA	50
USAFA	42
Georgetown	25
Notre Dame	20

USMA ranks in the Top 5 nationally for Rhodes Scholars.

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP	
Harvard	246
Princeton	138
Yale	125
Stanford	94
MIT	83
Brown	51
USMA	47
Cornell	34
USNA/Duke	32
Cal Berkeley	31
...	
USAFA	21

USMA ranks in the Top 10 nationally for Marshall Scholars.

USMA GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The USMA Graduate Scholarship Program is a proven program within the West Point developmental model that offers a path beyond the normal cadet experience. Whether or not cadets win scholarships, the process of preparing for the competitions pushes our highest performing cadets to reach their full potential and populates our Army with officers who are: more open to new ideas and experiences; better able to deal with complexity and solve complex problems; more experienced in communicating effectively with all audiences; and have demonstrated the strength of spirit to persevere and win. Those who earn the opportunity to pursue postgraduate study immediately upon graduation by winning scholarships undertake an unmatched educational experience, while serving as ambassadors from the U.S. Army to future civilian leaders on the national and global stage. These officers bring their educations and broadened perspectives back to the force, contributing to the overall capability of the Army’s officer corps. Many national rankings of colleges factor success in competitive scholarships into their criteria, which in turns impacts the Academy’s ability to attract the highest caliber candidates.

The impact of the USMA Graduate Scholarship Program extends, however, far beyond lists of winners and impact on West Point’s reputation, as the cadets who apply for these scholarships, regardless of whether they win or not, come away with the skills and experiences needed to become well-rounded leaders who can meet the challenges of the 21st Century. The process of applying for scholarships is immensely valuable to cadets, offering them opportunities to think critically, work collaboratively, and formulate visions of their future service.

SUSTAINING A CULTURE OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The intensive mentorship that graduate scholarship candidates receive helps cadets achieve the outcome goals of the West Point Leader Development System by assisting them in synthesizing their experiences in the academic, military, physical, and character programs—and their other developmental experiences as cadets—and in formulating and articulating visions for their future service. The program consists of both a formal course sequence (XH300 Purpose and XH407 Advanced Critical Thought) and developmental experiences beyond the classroom. Cadets in the program apply for nationally competitive scholarships ranging from the deferrable Truman Scholarship (awarded in the junior year) to the Rhodes, Marshall, Gates Cambridge, Mitchell, Rotary, East-West, Knight-Hennessy, Schwarzman, and Fulbright Scholarships, each of which provides for one to two years of graduate schooling immediately following commissioning.

Personnel

The program requires funding for two Deputy Directors and an Administrator to lead and manage a unique academic excellence opportunity (see enclosed duty descriptions). Prior to the fall of 2016, a senior faculty member and military rotating faculty ran the Scholarship Program as an additional duty on top of their normal responsibilities in the Department of Social Sciences. The resulting lack of focus and continuity led to declining scholarship victories relative to better-staffed peer institutions. In the fall of 2016 the program added two dedicated staff members, a Deputy Director and Administrator, allowing the program to include more cadets and significantly improve West Point’s results in scholarship competitions. An additional

dedicated staff member will allow the program to further focus its efforts on mentorship of promising cadets and outreach to the Academy, scholarship foundations, and alumni. Uniformed junior military faculty, particularly past scholarship winners, will continue to play valuable roles as instructors in the XH Critical Thought course sequence, and they will continue to serve as role models to cadets aspiring to follow in their footsteps, both as scholarship winners and successful Army officers. A senior faculty member will continue to provide oversight of curriculum development and long-term strategy. Expertise about the mechanics of scholarship applications and relationships with awarding foundations and other programs of excellence at West Point, however, will reside with the Program's civilian team comprised of two Deputy Directors and an Administrator.

Internships

Dedicated funding for internships would ensure that our top cadets remain competitive for national scholarships vis-à-vis their civilian counterparts and are able to maximize their time at the Academy for broadening opportunities. This would also serve as a recruitment tool, both among cadets already at the Academy and for high schoolers considering the Academy who might be drawn otherwise to intensive research opportunities available at comparable civilian institutions.

Internal scholarship: Peer programs at the U.S. Naval and Air Force Academies offer internally awarded scholarships for graduates to attend Oxford and Cambridge each year. Funding for a one- to two-year scholarship would ensure that at least one West Point graduate would gain a world-class graduate education and establish bonds with civilian elites early in their careers, whether or not any West Point cadets wins Rhodes or Marshall scholarships in a given year. An internal scholarship would also serve as a valuable recruiting tool for the Scholarship Program.

Cadet scholarship interview travel: Many nationally competitive scholarships require in-person interviews in cadets' home state or region, which are seldom funded by the scholarship awarding body.



The annual Peter Zhu Writing Retreat offers a brief interlude for cadets to isolate themselves from the many competing demands of cadet life and focus solely on improving their ability to express themselves in written form. It involves days of intense writing and reflection punctuated by multiple sessions with over a dozen faculty and alumni—many of whom won prestigious international scholarships themselves.

Faculty travel: Participation in the National Association of Fellowship Advisers' conferences is vital to USMA remaining abreast of developments in the field, collaborating with counterparts on best practices, and representing the Academy to representatives of scholarship awarding bodies.

Cadet writing retreat: A weekend away from West Point in the busy run-up to fall scholarship deadlines provides critical time for reflection and completion of application essays. A retreat will also provide a valuable opportunity for scholarship program faculty and alumni to mentor cadets currently enrolled in the program.

Guest lecturer travel and honoraria: Bringing in outside experts as guest lecturers for the cadets in the program is vital to development of their critical thinking and creativity and is valuable for both the scholarship applications processes and for their service in uniform and beyond.

The USMA Graduate Scholarship Program is a proven program within the West Point developmental model that offers a path beyond the normal cadet experience. Regardless of whether or not cadets win scholarships, they emerge from this program as promising young leaders who are better able to solve complex problems, more experienced in effectively communicating with all audiences, and have demonstrated the strength of spirit to persevere and win.



"The most valuable part of the Graduate Scholarship Program was gaining concision in writing and confidence in interviewing. The iterative seas of crossed-out sentences and scribbled margin notes taught me economy of words. They also taught me to know my audience. Both skills have been invaluable as an intelligence officer. The interviews taught me how to express my views in a thoughtful manner, which has had far-ranging applications since."

— Michal J. Cantrell, Class of 2014



Photo: Lee Ross '73

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

USMA Graduate Scholarship Program	\$1.4 million endowment
Cadet Finalist Program	\$700,000 endowment/\$28,000 annual
Cadet Finalist Travel	\$550,000 endowment/\$20,000 annual
Class Trip	\$150,000 endowment/\$6,000 annual
Guest Lecture Series	\$250,000 endowment/\$10,000 annual
Professional Development Workshop	\$250,000 endowment/\$10,000 annual
Leadership & Team Building Retreat	\$150,000 endowment/\$6,000 annual
Mentorship Retreat	\$100,000 endowment/\$4,000 annual
Scholarship Cadets' AIAD Program	\$200,000 endowment/\$8,000 annual
Social Sciences Department Head Office Suite	\$1 million

MARGIN OF EXCELLENCE



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