

MOUNT HOLYOKE
CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Phone 413-538-2080 / Fax 413-538-2081

THE BEINECKE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

(The Beinecke Memorial Scholarship Program web site: <http://www.beineckescholarship.org/>)
We encourage all applicants to visit this website for more detailed information about the program

Application forms for The Beinecke Memorial Scholarship Program are available from the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School. If you wish to apply, please contact Kimberly Parent, Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School, in the Career Development Center to discuss your plans.

TYPE: Nomination by Mount Holyoke College required. Mount Holyoke may nominate one candidate for this award. Apply as a Junior.

PURPOSE: The Beinecke Scholarship Program was established to provide substantial scholarships for the graduate education of young men and women of exceptional promise. There are no geographic restrictions on the use of the scholarship, and recipients are allowed to supplement the award with other scholarships, assistantships and research grants. Scholars are encouraged to begin graduate study as soon as possible following graduation from college, and must utilize all of the funding within five years of completion of undergraduate studies.

ELIGIBILITY: Basic eligibility requirements are:

- Have demonstrated superior standards of intellectual ability, scholastic achievement and personal promise during her undergraduate career
- Be a college junior pursuing a bachelor's degree during the 2008-2009 academic year. "Junior" means a student who plans to continue full-time undergraduate study and who expects to receive a baccalaureate degree between December 2009 and August 2010
- Be a U.S. citizen or a U.S. national from American Samoa or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
- Plan to enter a master's or doctoral program in the arts, humanities or social sciences. Students in the social sciences who plan to pursue graduate study in neuroscience should not apply for a Beinecke Scholarship.
- Have a documented history of receiving need-based financial aid during her undergraduate years. Primary evidence of meeting this criterion is a student's history of receiving need-based institutional, state or federal grants-in-aid. An institutional financial aid officer will be required to complete a Financial Data Sheet certifying that the student meets this criterion. In the selection process, the amount of financial need will not be a major determining factor; nevertheless, preference is given to candidates for whom the awarding of a scholarship would increase the likelihood of the student's being able to attend graduate school.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Each year approximately 100 colleges and universities are invited to nominate applicants and 22 awards will be awarded in 2009. Historically, the Beinecke selection committee favored students planning to attend graduate school in the traditional liberal arts disciplines, but also made awards to students planning to attend graduate school in mathematics and the natural sciences. In 1998, the board of The Sperry Fund decided to limit eligibility for the award to students planning to attend graduate school in the arts, humanities and social sciences. Law school has also been excluded from Beinecke funding.

AWARDS: Each scholar receives \$4,000 immediately prior to entering graduate school and an additional \$30,000 while attending graduate school.

PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS: Four Mount Holyoke students have won the Beinecke Scholarship. Mount Holyoke's most current, class of 2005 recipient, pursued a graduate program in cultural anthropology.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Interested juniors should meet with the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School in the Career Development Center (CDC) in the fall to discuss their interest and qualifications. The Dean of the College and the Committee on Fellowships will review application materials.

PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE, LAMINATE OR BIND ANY PART OF THE APPLICATION FORM OR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, AS THEY WILL BE COPIED FOR REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE ON FELLOWSHIPS!

NOMINATION PROCESS & DEADLINES:

Friday, January 30, 2009

Submit the following information to the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School in the Career Development Center:

- **Application Form** (typed and signed)
- **Certification of Eligibility Form from the dean or administrative officer** summarizing the reasons for the nominee's selection
- **Financial Data Sheet** signed by a financial aid officer certifying that you qualify for need-based financial aid
- **Current Resume** which should include academic honors, activities, research and internship experiences, and employment.
- **Personal Statement** of 1,000 words or less describing your background, interests, plans for graduate study and career aspirations. The statement should include a discussion of some experiences and ideas that have shaped those interests, plans and aspirations.
- **Three Recommendations** from faculty members, addressing your intellectual curiosity, character, and potential for advanced graduate study. These letters should be printed on letterhead paper, signed, and sent directly to the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School at the Career Development Center.
- **Official transcripts from each institution attended, including study abroad** (note: MHC unofficial transcripts may be submitted to the Committee on Fellowships for the interview, however if nominated, official transcripts will be required for final application submission). Transcripts are to be sent directly to the CDC.

Monday, February 9, through Friday, February 13, 2009

The Fellowship Committee will select Mount Holyoke's nominee.

Friday, February 20, 2009

Final applications are due in the Career Development Center. The MHC nominee must submit the following:

- **Application Form** (typed and signed)
- **Certification of Eligibility Form from the dean or administrative officer**
- **Financial Data Sheet**
- **Current Resume**
- **Personal Statement**
- **Three Recommendations**
- **Official MHC Transcripts** including those from all other institutions you have attended

Friday, February 27, 2009

Application materials must be received by the Beinecke Program Director. The Career Development Center will make the required copies of the application and mail it together with the Dean's official endorsement letter and Certification of Eligibility Form.

Friday, May 1, 2009

Announcement of awards

Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that each portion of the application, including letters of recommendation, is received by the appropriate deadline. If you will be requesting transcripts from other institutions or letters of recommendation from outside the College (particularly outside the U.S.), please do so immediately, as these materials can take several weeks to reach us. If you anticipate a problem meeting a particular deadline or have any questions concerning your application, please contact the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School at (413) 538-2080.