

2026 Marshall Application Statements

In appointing Marshall Scholars, the selection committees will look for candidates who have the potential to excel as Scholars, as leaders and as contributors to improved UK-US understanding. Assessment will be based on academic merit, leadership potential and ambassadorial potential. This section allows you to provide examples of your leadership skills and to describe how you would use your time in the UK to develop professionally and academically.

Personal statement

This should be a short statement in which candidates describe their intellectual development and other interests and pursuits. (750 words maximum)

Proposed academic programme

Commission criteria on academic merit [can be found here](#).

Candidates should describe their proposed academic programme, giving reasons for their choice of course and preferred university. Those hoping to read for a research degree should give an outline proposal of the research they wish to undertake and with whom they would like to work. Candidates must also include a brief outline of why they have chosen their second-choice courses and institutions. (500 words maximum)

Leadership

Commission criteria on leadership potential [can be found here](#).

Candidates should describe a situation in which they were working with a group of people and recognised and responded to a need for leadership. The objective is to help the committee understand the candidate's leadership conviction and drive, style and potential rather than provide a list of achievements. (500 words maximum)

Ambassador potential

The Ambassadorial Potential Criteria [can be found here](#).

Please share how you will serve as an ambassador between your USA and UK communities. Candidates should describe transferable skills, experiences, or extracurricular activities that will enable them to successfully engage with and contribute to their community in the UK. Please include specific reasons why the UK, under a Marshall Scholarship, matches their personal and professional interests and how the USA-UK relationship will be a part of their lives post-Scholarship. (500 words maximum)

One-year Scholarship only

The one-year Marshall Scholarship is aimed at applicants who have strong reasons for wishing to study in the UK but are unable to commit to the two-year scholarship. Please read the objectives of the Marshall Scholarship outlined in the Rules and provide a statement that outlines why you are unable to apply for a two-year Scholarship. (300 words maximum)