Luce Scholars Program Application Procedures

Each of the colleges and universities invited to participate in the Luce Scholars Program has designated a member of its faculty or administration to serve as the campus liaison for this program. A nominating institution may submit three nominations for each year’s Luce Scholars competition. The Luce Scholar liaison on each campus will establish an internal application deadline, typically sometime in October, as well as procedures for internal candidate review. Each nominating institution must submit completed applications of its nominees to the Henry Luce Foundation to arrive no later than November 1st or the nearest Monday if November 1st falls on a weekend. The Foundation cannot accept applications submitted directly by individual candidates.

Application Documents

Each applicant must complete the documents listed below and submit a hard copy to the Luce Scholars liaison on campus for forwarding to the Luce Foundation. All such materials become part of the Foundation’s files and cannot be returned.

- **Luce Scholars Program Application.** Please use the application form provided; do not attach separate resume. Use Personal Statement to discuss, among other things, (a) long-range career interests, and how they have developed; (b) your understanding of leadership; and (c) reasons for applying to the Luce Scholars Program. Please be sure to complete the Contact Information Form with as much detail as possible to facilitate the scheduling of the interviews.

- **Four Letters of Recommendation.** Letters should be signed and, whenever possible, represent a range of academic and professional references.

- **Academic Transcripts.** Official transcripts of all college and graduate work.

- **Two Photos.** They should be recent Passport-size color photos; print name on the back of both photos.

Eligibility

Candidates must be U.S. citizens who would not have reached their 30th birthday by July 1st of the year they enter the program.

Candidates must have earned at least a bachelor’s degree or reasonably expect to receive that degree by July 1st of the year they enter the program.

Candidates must be in physical health that will not restrict them from working in a foreign environment.

Candidates need not presently be on campus or formally affiliated with the nominating institution. They may be selected from graduating seniors, graduate or professional students currently at the nominating institution, from recent alumni, or others the nominating institution deems appropriate.

The intent of the program is to provide an immersion experience in Asia for an outstanding group of young Americans who would not otherwise have the opportunity to come to know Asia intimately. Those who already have significant experience in Asia or Asian studies are not eligible.

Candidates however may have taken Asian language or Asia-focused courses (without majoring in Asian Studies). They may have spent up to a total of twelve weeks in countries where Luce Scholars are placed.

Selection Process and Criteria

An interview with each nominee will be held in November and December either in person or via skype or telephone. Early in January, approximately forty-five finalists will be selected from the pool of nominees. They will be invited to appear, at Foundation expense, before one of three independent selection committees that meet in early February. The members of a selection committee will each personally interview the fifteen finalists appearing before the committee, from whom five to six Luce Scholars will be chosen. All fifteen to eighteen Luce Scholars will have been named by mid-February. All candidates will receive timely notification.

Nominees should demonstrate an outstanding capacity for leadership.

Nominees should have a record of high achievement.

Nominees should have mature and clearly defined career interests with evidence of potential for professional accomplishments. All fields will be considered.

The Luce Scholars Program is experiential rather than academic in nature. Personal qualities such as flexibility, adaptability, creativity, humility, openness to new ideas, and sensitivity to cultural differences are as important as academic achievement.

Nominees are not judged on the basis of whether or not they have developed specific plans for their Asian experience. A candidate may have general ideas about the kind of placement preferred, but this is not considered as either a negative or positive factor.

Luce Scholars are chosen without regard to sex, race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnic background, marital status or financial need.

Please visit [www.hluce.org/lsprogram.aspx](http://www.hluce.org/lsprogram.aspx) for more information.