

Call for Applications  
Deadline: January 31, 2021

### About the McDonnell Academy

The [McDonnell International Scholars Academy](#) is an endowed fellowship program that offers generous financial support towards graduate and professional degree studies at Washington University in St. Louis. Applications are accepted from graduates of universities across the world, with a special interest in those students from its network of [partner universities](#). Founded in 2005, the McDonnell Academy strives to develop a community of future global leaders. To that end, the Academy provides its Scholars with leadership training, mentorship by dedicated faculty members, and unique global engagement opportunities. It also facilitates collaborative research with its partners across disciplines and countries.

### About Washington University in St. Louis

[Washington University in St. Louis](#) is a private research university located in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Founded in 1853, the university has students and faculty from all 50 U.S. states and more than 120 countries. WashU has a long history of pioneering achievements and reputation for academic excellence. 25 Nobel Laureates have been associated with the university. Through our seven schools, we provide opportunities for in-depth study in a range of subjects and collaboration across disciplines.

### Graduate Fellowship Benefits

McDonnell Scholars receive both financial and programmatic support including:

- full tuition fellowship;
- a monthly living stipend and an annual travel allowance;
- cultural and leadership training through a leadership seminar and workshops, specially-designed educational events including visits to Washington D.C. and New York, participation in international symposia, and more;
- individual mentorship by a dedicated faculty [Ambassador](#) who assists in the development of the Scholar's academic and professional life;
- global network of students and alumni from across countries and disciplines.

### Eligibility

This fellowship opportunity is open to prospective students applying to pursue an [eligible full-time graduate or professional degree program](#) at Washington University in St. Louis. Applicants from all countries are welcome.

- Priority is given to international graduate and professional candidates who are graduates of one of the Academy's [partner universities](#).
- Domestic (U.S.) citizens who have spent most of their life and earned previous degrees in the United States are eligible to apply to the [U.S. Scholars Program](#).
- International graduate and professional candidates from [other international universities](#) outside the partner network are also considered for a limited number of fellowships.

McDonnell Scholars come from varied degree programs and different countries in order to maximize the diversity of the program and create a rich dialogue and experience. Most of our Scholars reside together in the Academy's housing complex, which provides Scholars with unique living, learning and social experiences.

## Application Process & Requirements

The McDonnell Academy accepts applications beginning October 1st 2020 through January 31st 2021. The application to the McDonnell Academy is separate from and in addition to, an application to an [eligible full-time graduate or professional degree program](#) at Washington University in St. Louis. The McDonnell Academy application consists of the following components:

- candidate's biographic information and academic history;
- a personal essay;
- a short video;
- recommendation letter.

Decisions are typically made by the end of March. Approximately 20 Scholars are admitted to the McDonnell Academy each year.

## What We Are Seeking in a Scholar

In selecting our Scholars, we consider the following:

- **Academic distinction:** Scholars are selected on the basis of their academic talent, promise and ambition to become future leaders in academia, government, the professions, or the corporate world.
- **Global mindset:** Scholars share a global outlook, embrace difference, and express interest in broader social and cultural issues. They are committed to engaging in dialogue across disciplines and cultures.
- **Leadership:** Scholars demonstrate a desire and potential to generate positive change in their communities and around the world. They are committed to engaging in the Academy's platform for leadership development and communication acumen.
- **Community:** Scholars become part of a diverse, close-knit community. They share a commitment to engaging in the Academy's academic, professional and social activities and to strengthening ties across our global network of partners.

## For More Information

Visit [mcdonnell.wustl.edu/apply](http://mcdonnell.wustl.edu/apply) for additional information and answers to frequently asked questions.