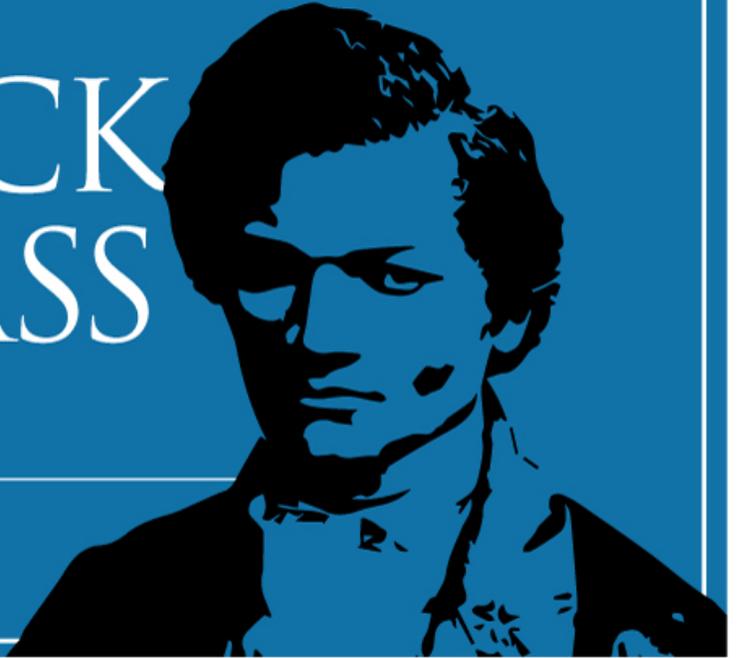


FREDERICK DOUGLASS

GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Frequently Asked Questions

FELLOWSHIP INFORMATION

What is the Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship?

The Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship is offered by CIEE: Council on International Educational Exchange and the Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions (CMSI), two separate organizations that are partnering to change the face of who studies abroad. The Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship seeks to break down the barriers of cost, curriculum, and culture to make study abroad accessible to students from MSIs. This opportunity is made available to all of the nation's Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), which includes about 600 institutions, making this a highly competitive fellowship given our acceptance of only 10 students.

Why is this fellowship named after Frederick Douglass?

The scholarship is named in honor of Frederick Douglass – the African-American social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and international statesman – to highlight the characteristics that today's young leaders need most: a keen intellect, a strong work ethic, and a global perspective. Consistent with Douglass' legacy, Frederick Douglass Global Fellows are meritorious individuals who demonstrate high academic achievement, exemplary communication skills, possess the hallmarks of self-determination, exhibit characteristics of bold leadership, and who have a history of service to others. In the spirit of one of America's most powerful intellectuals, communicators, and scholars, Frederick Douglass Global Fellows commit to sharing their experience and intercultural growth with peers and classmates, before, during, and after the fellowship.

What are the eligibility requirements for this fellowship?

This is a highly competitive fellowship opportunity. As such, eligible applicants will be current freshmen or sophomores with a minimum 3.0 GPA who are in good academic standing. Eligible applicants must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or permanent resident and should be Pell Grant eligible. Lastly, in order to be eligible for this opportunity, at the time of application students should be enrolled at an accredited Minority Serving institution.

Does the Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship cover all costs related to the program?

Awards will cover the full cost of travel, lodging, program field trips, and participation in a four-week summer study abroad program sponsored by CIEE. Visas and passports will also be covered; however, students will be responsible for securing their own passport. Meals and recreational activities are the responsibility of each individual student.

Are dates made available at this time?

The 2019 London experience will take place from July 15, 2019 to August 11, 2019.

Is there an itinerary available for review?

Students participating in the 2019 summer program to London, England will be enrolled in one course – Intercultural Communication, Identity, and Leadership in London. Any additional questions pertaining to program activities can be directed to Moriah Maron (mmaron@ciee.org) at CIEE.

For students who are ineligible for the Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship, are there any similar programs available?

At this time, there are no additional co-sponsored CMSI and CIEE programs available for which students may apply. However, please contact inquire@ciee.org for alternative program opportunities.

APPLICATION**Can someone submit an application on behalf of a student?**

Students are responsible for applying to this opportunity, as the application requires specific personal information.

Who should write a letter of recommendation for this application?

Each applicant must submit one letter of recommendation from a faculty member, preferably a member of their institution's senior leadership, such as the president/chancellor, provost, vice president, or dean.

Will students receive a confirmation email once the application is submitted?

Upon submission, students will automatically receive a generated confirmation email. If no confirmation email is received within 24 hours, students may email Lola Esmieu (pesmieu@gse.upenn.edu) for a confirmation that the completed application has been received.

For freshman applicants who have not received their first collegiate transcript, what documentation should be submitted?

Incoming freshman applicants who have not received their first college transcript should submit their high school transcripts with their application. The high school transcript should demonstrate a 3.00 GPA. If selected, fellows will be required to submit their first semester college transcript, which demonstrates that they have maintained the minimum 3.00 GPA.

Once an application is submitted, can a student make edits and re-submit?

The application system does not allow for students to make edits to submitted applications. If edits are necessary, students must email Lola Esmieu (pesmieu@gse.upenn.edu) for editing access. Please note that students will not be able to make any edits or changes to their application after the application due date.

Can students submit an unofficial transcript with their application?

Students are permitted to upload an unofficial transcript along with their application. However, if selected, fellows will have to provide an official transcript.

Is there a preferred software for constructing the personal video?

Students must upload their video to YouTube or Vimeo and share the link via the application. Please ensure that the link works prior to pasting in your application. Also, you will want to double check that the video is public, as we will not have access to view private videos.

PELL GRANT ELIGIBILITY

Are students who are not Pell Grant eligible encouraged to apply?

Unfortunately, this opportunity is only open to students who demonstrate a financial need. Therefore, students who are not eligible to receive the Pell Grants are discouraged from applying.

If a student was Pell Grant eligible but a recent change in financial need made them ineligible for the Pell Grant, can they still apply?

Students that have experienced a recent change in Pell Grant eligibility are still encouraged to apply. When completing the application, the student should be sure to include an explanation of the change in their financial need and should provide alternative documentation that demonstrates they are still considered a low-income student.

Are students who are not Pell Grant eligible, but demonstrate financial need, eligible to apply?

This opportunity is for low-income students. Therefore, students must be able to demonstrate financial need. Students who are not Pell Grant eligible, but can provide official documentation from their institution's financial aid office that indicates financial need may apply.

What document should be submitted to prove Pell Grant eligibility?

There isn't a specific document required. Any documentation provided by the financial aid office at your current institution that can verify Pell Grant eligibility is acceptable.

ELIGIBILITY**What is the desired classification for students interested in applying? Can juniors apply?**

Currently we are only accepting applications from current freshmen (who will be rising sophomores during the study abroad program) and current sophomores (who will be rising juniors during the study abroad program).

Are graduate students eligible to apply?

No, at this time graduate students are ineligible to apply as this opportunity is only available to current undergraduate freshmen and sophomores.

Are students with a GPA lower than 3.00 still eligible to apply?

No, students must have at least a 3.00 GPA. We are seeking high achieving students with demonstrated success in and out of the classroom. Students who do not have the minimum GPA but are still interested in other study abroad opportunities should reach out to inquire@ciee.org for more information on alternative program options.

Can second-semester sophomores apply?

Yes, as long as the student will be a rising junior during the program, they are eligible to apply.

Are international students eligible to apply?

International students can apply. However, we do encourage international students to inquire about the policies and stipulations regarding the potential visa requirements to enter the host country for the study abroad experience (e.g. United Kingdom for 2017 cohort). Students are responsible for any associated fees regarding the procurement of visas for their visit to the country hosting the study abroad experiences for this Fellowship.

RECOMMENDATION LETTERS**Does the recommendation have to come from a faculty member or a member of the institution's senior leadership?**

Yes, the recommendation letter has to come from a faculty member, preferably a member of the institution's senior leadership, either the president/chancellor, provost, vice president, or dean.

To whom should the recommendation letter be addressed?

The letter should be addressed to: The Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions and CIEE.

How should the letter of recommendation from a faculty member or a member of senior leadership be submitted?

Once the student submits their application, an email request will be generated and sent directly to the email of the faculty member or member of senior leadership listed in their application. If for any reason, the faculty member or member of senior leadership does not receive this email, they are permitted to send their letter of recommendation directly to Lola Esmieu at pesmieu@upenn.edu.

DACA STUDENTS

Are students living in the U.S. under the DACA program eligible for the Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship program?

Although we are supportive of undocumented students and have done work in this area, they are ineligible to participate in this fellowship due to limited mobility in traveling abroad. If students can receive permission to travel outside of the U.S, they would be eligible. However, due to the long and costly process for students and the lack of support provided to students, we advise against it.

If DACA students still wish to apply, are there any special instructions for the application process?

When completing the application, students are encouraged to mention DACA in the *Citizenship* section of the application. Rather than submitting proof of Pell Grant eligibility, students should also submit proof of initiation of Advanced Parole or any other process that ensures they can travel beyond the U.S. Please keep in mind that CIEE or CMSI are unable to assist students throughout this process and the process costs approximately \$360. Prospective DACA students should visit this [website](#) for additional information.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Are students that currently attend community college, but plan to transfer to a four-year university eligible to apply?

This opportunity is only for students from Minority Serving Institutions. Therefore, if a student transfers to an institution that is not an MSI, this may render them ineligible. If selected, final decisions would have to be made on a case by case basis.

Are transfer students who are not familiar with a faculty member or a member of their institution's senior leadership discouraged to apply?

Transfer students are encouraged to still reach out to a faculty member or a member of their institution's senior leadership. This opportunity is very competitive, and we want to ensure that we are receiving the most outstanding and motivated students. As such, making a point to approach a faculty member or a member of senior leadership, either a president/chancellor, provost, vice president, or dean and advocating for a recommendation letter, demonstrates a great deal of initiative, motivation, and drive.

Are transfer students who have not yet amassed a GPA on campus eligible to apply?

For a student who does not yet have an official transcript at the current institution, they may use a final official transcript from their previous institution that demonstrates the minimum 3.00 GPA.

If selected, what will transfer students be required to submit?

If selected, the student will then have to submit their first semester transcript demonstrating that they were able to maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA at the new institution. These students will still need to get a letter of recommendation from a faculty member, preferably a member of their institution's senior leadership, either the president/chancellor, provost, vice president, or dean. If the student does not have a relationship with a president, provost, or dean, they are encouraged to reach out to a faculty/staff.

SELECTION PROCESS

Will only one student from each Minority Serving Institution be selected?

In total 10 MSI students will be selected to participate in the program for each of the three cohorts. There is no cap on how many students can apply or be selected from any institution. All eligible students are encouraged to apply

Are selected students granted participation in the study abroad program for three consecutive years?

No, selected students only participate in the summer program that directly follows their application cycle. Once a student has participated in one summer program, they are no longer eligible for the following opportunities. Please see below for cohort breakdown:

Cohort 1: Application due Fall 2016 for travel to London, England (summer 2017)

Cohort 2: Application due Fall 2017 for travel to Cape Town, South Africa (summer 2018)

Cohort 3: Application due February 2019 for travel to London, England (summer 2019)

Can a selected student defer their participation for the following summer opportunity?

Students may not defer their fellowship for the following summer. Selected students must attend the summer program for which they applied. If they are unable to attend that session, they will forfeit their fellowship. Students who wish to apply for later study abroad programs, should look out for future application opportunities.