Harry S. Truman Scholarship
Application Steps

First, visit the Truman Foundation website (www.truman.gov) to determine your eligibility and the scope of the scholarship. (You must be a junior with one more year of academic study after the award is given).

If you are interested in applying for ASU nomination, send your resume and unofficial transcripts to Dr. Kyle Mox (kyle.mox@asu.edu), Director of the Office of National Scholarship Advisement. If you are determined to be eligible and reasonably competitive for the award, you will be contacted to set up an appointment. At this meeting, if you decide to proceed, you will be registered in the system and may then begin working on an application.

Begin reaching out to a faculty or community mentor to develop the topic of the policy statement you will make. Be sure it fits with your interests and is something about which you feel strongly.

On the application, fill out the short-answer sections of the application. Do not hit the Submit to your Faculty Representative button yet. Send the individual short essay responses and the policy statement as .doc files to Dr. Mox (kyle.mox@asu.edu). Those individual responses and the policy statement will go through multiple drafts before going into the application.

Approximately three to six weeks before the deadline, ask three people to write letters for you. One must be able to write about your leadership ability as described by you in question #7 of the application. A second letter will discuss your commitment to a career in public service (and, ideally, relate to the example of ‘satisfying public service’ that you describe in question #8 on the application). The third letter will discuss your intellect and academic ability. Give writers the appropriate form from the application and the ONSA guidelines for writing letters of recommendation. The letters should be sent to ONSA by November 13 (they may be emailed to Dr. Mox at kyle.mox@asu.edu). Letters should be addressed to the ‘Truman Scholarship Selection Committee.’

Hit the button for “Submit to your Faculty Representative” by November 13. Students will be informed within two weeks whether the Truman campus committee is recommending that they proceed with their application.

If you are one of the students given the go-ahead by the committee, you will be expected to work with Dr. Mox over winter break to polish your application, which will be returned to you for that purpose. At the end of the period, your policy statement and answers to the application’s questions should be especially strong. Lack of progress on an application has previously disqualified students for the final nomination. You will have an opportunity to work with experts on interview skills during winter break.

The Truman campus interview will be during the week of January 14. Each student is expected to be available for his or her interview time.