Knight-Hennessy Scholars Program
The Program prepares a new generation of leaders with a deep academic foundation and the broad skill set to develop creative solutions to effect positive change in the world.

I. Eligibility
• Citizens of all countries
• Applying to enroll in any full-time graduate degree program at Stanford
• You are in your final year of study for your bachelor’s degree or within four years of earning your bachelor’s degree (Veterans - six years).

II. Awards
• Tuition and fees
• Stipend for living and academic expenses
• Travel stipend to cover an economy-class ticket for one annual trip to and from Stanford.

III. Criteria
1. Independence of Thought
   • Demonstrates mental sharpness and intellectual ability
   • Seeks out knowledge and new experiences
   • Full of original ideas
   • Makes sense of ambiguous situations
   • Can hold a contrarian or dissenting point of view

2. Purposeful Leadership
   • Ambitious, in the best sense of the word
   • Driven to improve self
   • Able to include and elevate others
   • Self-aware and adaptable
   • Persistent and resilient

3. Civic Mindset
   • Personally humble and kind
   • Supportive and accountable
   • Embraces difference
   • Concerned for and helpful to others

IV. Application Package
   Online Application
   Transcript(s)
   Standardized Test Scores (if your graduate program requires)
Resume (1 page) – highlights of your experiences, interests, and academic record in reverse-chronological order.

Two recommendation letters
- They must be able to provide specific examples, anecdotes, and evidence of your ability and determination to make a difference.
- The Knight-Hennessy program reviews your departmental recommendation letters. As such, your recommendation choices for the Scholars program should make a compelling independent case, and complement your graduate program.

Short Answers and essay
- After graduating from Stanford, what are your immediate and long-term intentions? How will your Knight-Hennessy Scholars experience prepare you to realize your intentions? (Limit 250 words)
- Please tell us when and how you: (limit 150 words for all three responses combined)
  - Made someone particularly proud of you
  - Were most challenges
  - Did not meet expectations
- Please tell us eight improbable facts (things that are unlikely but true) about you. (Limit 150 words for all eight responses combined)
- Connect the dots. How have the influences in your life shaped you? (600-word limit)

Video (invitation only for up to 500 applicants in January) – “Teach something to your cohort of fellow Knight-Hennessy Scholars.” (2-min max)

V. Selection Process
- Early August: Application opens
- Early October: Deadline of Knight Hennessy Application
- January: Notification of Finalists
- Late February: Up to 150 finalists invited to Stanford for “Immersion Weekend”
- Mid March: 75 Knight-Hennessy Scholars Announced

VI. Website
- https://knight-hennessy.stanford.edu/ - Knight-Hennessy Scholars Program Official Site

2021 cohort Stats:
- 75 scholars from 26 countries out of 6,000+ applications
- 28% in Humanities and Sciences, 22% in Engineering, 18% in Law, 16% in Business, 15% Medicine, 5% in Earth, Energy and Environmental Sciences, and 5% in Education
- 57% women, 43% men
- 40% pursuing doctoral degrees, 26% Master’s degrees, and 43% professional degrees
- 46% international scholars from 26 countries
- 20% First Generation College students