Knight Hennessy Scholars Program

Knight-Hennessy Scholars will prepare 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. Through the generosity of alumnus Phil Knight, MBA ’62, philanthropist, American businessman and co-founder of Nike Inc., and numerous benefactors, the Knight-Hennessy Scholarship Program offers a transformative experience comprised of opportunities for leadership development, mentorship, and immersive interdisciplinary experiential learning.

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 first/bachelor’s degree or within four years of earning your first/bachelor’s degree (Veterans - six years).

II. Awards
- Tuition and fees
- Stipend for living and academic expenses (such as room and board, books, academic supplies, instructional materials, local transportation, and reasonable personal expenses)
- Travel stipend to cover an economy-class ticket for one annual trip to and from Stanford.

III. Selection Process
- May/June 2018: The Stanford MBA Program and MD Program applications are open. No other graduate degree program applications will open until September.
- September 12, 2018, 1:00 pm (Pacific Time): Deadline of Knight Hennessy Application
- January 16, 2019: Notification of Finalists
- February 9-11, 2019: Up to 150 finalists invited to Stanford for “Immersion Weekend”
- Mid-February 2019: 75 Knight-Hennessy Scholars Announced

IV. Helpful Websites
- https://knight-hennessy.stanford.edu/ - Knight-Hennessy Scholars Program Official Site
- https://knight-hennessy.stanford.edu/events/upcoming-events - Online Information Session
V. Criteria

1. Independence of Thought
   - 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
   - Willing to take risks
   - Resilience, Adaptability

3. Civic Mindset
   - Humility and kindness
   - Generosity of spirit
   - Inclusive

VI. Application Package

- Online Application
- Unofficial Transcript(s)
- One-page resume – your intellectual, personal, and professional background and accomplishments
- Two recommendation letters
  - They must be able to provide specific examples, anecdotes, and evidence of your ability and determination to make a difference.
  - Once your graduate program shares its feedback with Knight-Hennessy Scholars, we also will review your departmental recommendation letters. As such, your recommendation choices for the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program should make a compelling independent case, and also complement the references of your graduate program.
- Essays (Total 2,000 words)
  - Connect the dots. How have the influences in your life shaped you?
  - How will you pursue your life’s calling? How will your Stanford education and your Knight-Hennessy Scholars experience support this?
- Short Essays
  - Please tell us eight improbable facts about you.
  - Please list three goals/objectives that you are working toward right now.
- Video Story— “Teach something to your cohort of fellow Knight-Hennessy Scholars.” (2-min max)

2017 Stats:

- 3601 applications, 103 finalists, 51 scholars
- 31 Stanford academic programs: 45% Doctoral, 37% professional, 18% master’s
- 51% international students