

UNM Preliminary Deadline: October 1, 2023

I. Eligibility

- Be a junior (graduating between December 2024 and August 2025) or a graduating senior if you are graduating within 3 years
- Be a U.S. Citizen
- Have a highly competitive GPA
- Plan to pursue a master's degree in Law, Public Administration, Public Health, Social Work, Education, Public Policy, International Affairs, etc.
- Plan to work in public service for three of the first seven years after I complete a Foundation-funded graduate degree.
- **Obtain institutional nomination** - Submit [UNM online Application Form](#)
NISF.unm.edu → Prestigious Awards → Truman Scholarship → Application Form

II. Awards and Benefits

- \$30,000 for graduate degrees in public service fields
- Invitation to Truman Leadership Week
- Assistance with career counseling, internship placement, graduate school admissions, and professional development

III. Criteria

- Appropriateness for proposed graduate study
- A "Change Agent" in your field
- Selection criteria for Finalists include
 - extent and quality of community service and government involvement
 - leadership record
 - academic performance, writing and analytical skills and
 - suitability of the nominee's proposed program of study for a career in public service.
- At the interview, Truman scholars are selected largely based on
 - leadership potential and communication skills
 - intellectual strength and analytical ability and
 - likelihood of 'making a difference' in public service.

IV. Truman Application/Supporting Documents (The CAELD office upload the supporting documents.)

- Online application form
- College/university transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation
 1. **Leadership Potential and Abilities**
 - a. Confirm and elaborate on the leadership example the candidate described in Question 7 on the Application
 - b. Address the candidate's personal characteristics (confidence, persuasiveness, diligence, conviction, vitality, poise, and so forth) which contribute to the candidate's leadership abilities.

2. Commitment to a Career in Public Service

- Confirm and elaborate on the service experience the candidate described in Question 8 on the Application.
- Describe a significant contribution made by the candidate through one or more public service, community or government-related activities
- Address the candidate's values, interests, goals, and/or ambitions which represent commitment to a career in government or elsewhere in the public service.

3. Intellect and Prospects for Continuing Academic Success

- Discuss the student's overall academic background in context of the student's future plans for career and graduate school

V. Selection Process

October 1, 2023 (11:59 pm) – UNM Preliminary Application Due

October 21, 2023 – UNM Finalists Announced

Late October – Early November 2023 – UNM Finalists Interview

Early November 2023 – UNM Nominees Announced

December 1, 2023 – First Draft Due, Recommenders Confirmation

February 2024 – Truman Application Due

February 2024 – Truman Finalists Announced

March or April– Finalist Interview

April 2024– Truman Scholars Announced

VI. Resources

- <https://nisf.unm.edu/prestigious-scholarships/truman-scholarship/index.html>
- <http://www.truman.gov/are-you-potential-truman-scholar>: “Are you a potential Truman Scholar?”
- <https://www.truman.gov/2017-truman-scholars/>: Meet Truman Scholars
- <http://www.truman.gov/sample-application-forms/>: Truman Sample Application Materials
- <http://www.truman.gov/candidates/advice-guidance>: Advice & Guidance for Candidates

2023 Truman Scholars Fact

62 Truman Scholars from 705 candidates nominated by 275 colleges/universities

- 33 Scholars attend public universities
- 19 Scholars attend private research universities
- 8 Scholars attend private liberal arts colleges
- 2 Scholar attends service academies

Notable Truman Scholars

Susan Rice (1984) National Security Advisor, US Ambassador to the UN

Ted Deutch (1986) US Representative from Florida

Neil Gorsuch (1987) Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States

Stacey Abrams (1994) Georgia House Minority Leader

Jake Sullivan (1997) US National security Advisor

David Haskell (2000) Editor-in-Chief of New York Magazine

Andy Kim (2003) US representative from New Jersey

UNM achievement

2023 – Truman Scholar

2022 – Truman Scholar

2021 – Truman Scholar

2020 – (1 Finalist)

2019 – (1 Finalist)

2017 – (1 Finalist)

2015 – (1 Finalist)

2014 – Truman Scholar (4 finalists)

2011 – Truman Scholar (2 finalists)

2010 – Truman Scholar