



UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS, 2026-2027

Application deadline: 28 February 2026

OVERVIEW:

The Menard Family George Washington Forum (GWF) will award undergraduate fellowships for the 2026-2027 academic year. The award winners will participate in a bi-weekly reading group and will meet with all GWF visiting speakers. The fellowships are each worth **\$2,500** and are open to students in all majors and colleges. The 2026-2027 GWF undergraduate fellows will attend a fully funded travel seminar in May 2027.

ELIGIBILITY:

- Applicants must be undergraduates at Ohio University.
- Applicants may be enrolled in any college within Ohio University.
- Applicants must have a 3.5 GPA and/or excellent standardized test scores (ACT, SAT).

APPLICATION DETAILS:

To apply for a GWF undergraduate fellowship, please assemble the following:

1. DARS report
2. Résumé
3. Statement (1 page) of career goals and how a GWF undergraduate fellowship would benefit you
4. Reference letter from an Ohio University faculty member.
5. Brief essay (500 words) responding to the following excerpt from Ian Leslie:

"The most fundamental reason to choose curiosity isn't so that we can do better at school or at work. The true beauty of learning stuff, including apparently useless stuff, is that it takes us out of ourselves, reminds us that we are part of a far greater project, one that has been underway for at least as long as human beings have been talking to each other. "

"[...]Life would be more straightforward if we knew what we needed to find out, if we were told at birth exactly what we need to know to be happy. But in a complex world, it's impossible to know what might be useful in the future. It's important, therefore, to spread our cognitive bets. Curious people take risks, try things out, allow themselves to become productively distracted. They know that something they learn by chance today may well come in useful tomorrow or spark a new way of thinking about an entirely different problem."

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

Submit all application material to Prof. Cort Rodet (rodet@ohio.edu). Interviews will be held in-person before the end of the Spring semester. For more information about the GWF, visit www.gwfohio.org