**Crafting a Competitive External Fellowship Application**

Funding Opportunity:

Deadline:

Do you meet all eligibility requirements?

Application Requirements:



**Analyze Funding Entity and Fellowship Announcement**

Funding Entity’s Mission or Purpose:

Desired applicant skills, interests and experiences mentioned in the funding announcement or on the funder’s website:

History of Past Award Recipients (any patterns in past recipients’ skills, interests, or experiences, etc.):

**Brainstorm How Your Profile Matches the Funding Opportunity’s Desired Applicant**

Which of your skills, interests and experiences align with this funding opportunity?

**Request Letters of Recommendation**

Number of Required Recommenders:

*\*Each recommender should be given at least one month to complete your letter of recommendation.*

Consider which supervisors, mentors or professors could best speak to the skills, interests, and experiences you identified. Prioritize choosing a recommender who can speak to your skills and past experiences in detail as opposed to a recommender who has an impressive job title but may not know you as well.

Potential Recommenders:

**Plan for Revising and Editing**

The best funding applications are revised over time so it’s important to give yourself enough time to finish a first draft and receive feedback from others. Consider asking a peer in your field to give you feedback or make an appointment with the [GW Writing Center](https://writingcenter.gwu.edu/).

The Office of Graduate Student Assistantships and Fellowships offers personalized advising for several national funding opportunities. See the list of eligible funding opportunities and sign up for an advising session here: [gradfellowships.gwu.edu/fellowship-advising](http://www.gradfellowships.gwu.edu/fellowship-advising).

Feedback Plan: