

Schwarzman Scholars Application Guide

This application guide is provided by <u>FWD: Scholars</u> (FWD:S). FWD:S is a volunteer-led organization that seeks to pay forward our knowledge about competitive scholarship experiences. We aim to empower our peers through resources and support to pursue their academic and professional goals. Our ultimate aim is to better reflect the underrepresented identities among us.

To meet these goals, we work to increase the availability of scholarship application resources and match applicants to recent scholarship recipients for mentorship. We recognize that privilege of all kinds must be acknowledged and used to create a more equal and just world.

The FWD:S team is made up of students and alumni recipients of competitive scholarships—many of whom come from underrepresented backgrounds themselves—who are all eager to provide resources and support to prospective applicants. We want to use our privilege and insight to help students to chase their dreams at the undergraduate and graduate levels, both domestically and internationally.

Interested in mentorship? If you'd like to be paired with an alum of this scholarship to support your application process, fill out our <u>mentorship matching survey</u>.

Interested in volunteering with us? If you'd like to help us support prospective applicants, take our volunteer survey.

Partnerships: FWD:S is eager to form mutually beneficial relationships with organizations and individuals who share our commitment to diversifying higher education. If you're interested in partnering with FWD:S, please contact us at fwdscholars@gmail.com.

Have questions about FWD:S and its services? Send us an email at fwdscholars@gmail.com. You can also follow FWD:S on social media for updates on our program and more scholarship tips, tricks, and guides:

- @fwd scholars on Instagram
- @FWDscholars on Twitter
- FWD: Scholars on LinkedIn
- www.fwdscholars.org



Last updated: 13 April 2021

Prepared by:

Ishan Anand ('19) Netteange Monaus ('19) Jacqueline Cox ('19) Edwin Saucedo ('19)

Rachel Zuckerman ('19)

Matthew Salm ('19)

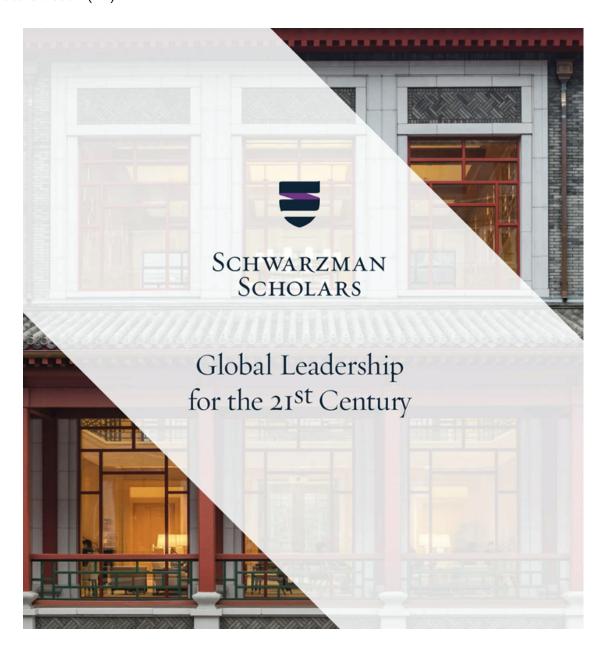


TABLE OF CONTENTS



INTRODUCTION

GOALS

PROGRAM INFORMATION

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

AM I ELIGIBLE?

TIMELINE

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

SCHOLAR ANECDOTES

WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU A GREAT CANDIDATE?

CONSIDERING APPLYING

PREPARING THE APPLICATION: ESSAYS & VIDEO

Preparing Your Essays

Leadership Essay

Statement of Purpose

<u>Video</u>

Resume

PREPARING THE APPLICATION: LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

INTERVIEW DAY ADVICE

Interview Overview

How to Prepare for the Interview

The Interview

"Additional" Parts of the interview

POST-INTERVIEW



INTRODUCTION

Applying to a prestigious scholarship program can be an extremely intimidating process. We understand it firsthand. The first time we looked at the Schwarzman Scholars website, we encountered faces of world leaders we aspire to be like, descriptions of recruiting only the "best and the brightest", and scholar profiles of people with extraordinary experiences who often did not resemble us. The process was not easy. It took a lot of introspection, hard work, and dedication. There were moments when we, too, doubted ourselves, asking questions such as, "Am I good enough?", "What makes me special?", and "Am I the type of leader they are looking for?" The answer was yes - we are good enough. Our unique experiences, backgrounds, and leadership set us up to not only be successful in our application but to excel in the program and bring much needed, diverse perspectives into every conversation.

As alumni of the Schwarzman Scholars program, we understand some of the barriers you may face and questions that arise during this process. We hope this guide supplements the information you find on the program website. More than anything, we want you to know that you are not alone. We, too, have experienced the fear of rejection, impostor syndrome, and many other adversities prevalent amongst people of color. Despite all of this, we have succeeded and are committed to helping Schwarzman Scholars continue to become a more inclusive, diverse, and forward-thinking program. Below are some of our experiences and words of advice as you begin to navigate this application:

Scholar Reflection: "My mother was the first person on her side of the family to go to college. On my father's side, few people finished high school. Explaining to my immediate family my desire to pursue a graduate education was a challenge, especially when it came down to talking about going overseas. They were supportive and proud, but throughout the process there were a lot of things I had to figure out on my own.

To those that may be among their families' first, or few, to go to college, understand that you are not alone even when it feels that way. Many undergraduate schools provide resources for seniors and alumni to help with secondary education scholarships. Family members can be great resources for reading personal statements because they know you, your story, and your tone. Coworkers, peers, and friends can be great practice interviewers because they will not be afraid to ask you hard questions. When in absolute doubt, reach out to alumni. You will not be the first or the last to do so and most people will be very willing to help you.

At the time I applied for the Schwarzman scholarship I could easily count the number of black women that received it before me. I would be lying if I said that was not deterring at first. Still, I recognized the importance of representation and saw the lack of diversity as an opportunity to be a voice in a space that probably was not being heard enough. If you identify as a racial/ethnic minority and believe your story and experience can



enhance the Schwarzman community, say it, say how, and say why. Don't be afraid to submit an application because you feel like your voice may be marginalized. In a program such as this, the greatest value comes from having a wide range of perspectives in the room."

Scholar Reflection: "When I first came across the Schwarzman Scholars program I remember thinking it was my dream graduate program. I opened and closed the website at least ten times, always walking away thinking I was not good enough and there would be no point in me applying only to get rejected. It was not until nearly two years after I first heard about the program that I decided to apply.

I looked over every single bio of past scholars and remember often feeling like none of them were like me nor looked like me. I found one scholar who was part of the same national scholarship as I was in my undergrad. I cold-emailed her, explaining our similar network and how I aspired to be a part of the Schwarzman Scholarship Program. She was kind and helpful, setting up time for us to connect and reassuring me every step of the way that I was just as worthy of receiving this scholarship as anyone else.

I would be lying if I said the fear of rejection ever went away. However, when I got an interview for the program I knew I was so much closer to making my dream a reality. I worked extremely hard on both my application and interview preparation, leaving no room for doubt that I deserved a ticket to Beijing. I never compromised my values nor changed who I was, instead I used my unique experiences and adversity as a way to differentiate myself from other applicants. I look back on every step of the process today, and I still remember feeling so nervous every step of the way but participating in this program was one of the best life decisions I have made thus far. I not only came away with new knowledge and confidence, I walked away with some of my best friends and an extensive network of scholars always willing to help out in any way."

We hope our experiences and advice validate and aid in some of the thoughts you are going through during this application process. It is important to acknowledge that this guide is limited to the experiences of a few scholars of color and should not be deemed representative of the experience of every applicant. For the latest information on the application process, please continue referring to the Schwarzman website or reach out directly to any of the program staff with questions, as program details frequently evolve.

GOALS

The Schwarzman Scholars program is the first scholarship created to respond to the geopolitical landscape of the 21st Century. It is designed to help young leaders deepen their understanding of China and the rest of the world - recognizing that whether in politics, business, or science, the success of future leaders will depend on a knowledge of China's role in global trends.



The program works hard to foster a deep sense of community among each cohort of scholars. One of the key benefits of the Schwarzman Scholars program is getting to know all your fellow scholars. Each cohort is full of talented, inspiring, diverse young leaders from around the world. When you graduate from the Schwarzman Scholars program, you leave with a global network of people who share strong personal and professional ties.

Moreover, a predominant feature of the program is the residential experience, where all scholars live together in the Schwarzman College at the heart of Tsinghua University's campus. Students can often be found sharing a meal in the dining hall between classes, or watching a movie in the lounge upstairs. Students go to the gym together, and then have a stimulating debate over China's foreign policy in the basement pub. The College itself was designed to encourage a feeling of community among students and visitors, with common spaces strategically scattered on each floor of the building to facilitate gathering and dialogue. Between the cohort model and residential experience, scholars undoubtedly learn as much from one another as they do in the classroom.

Finally, experiential learning is a key pillar of the Schwarzman Scholars program. Scholars study Mandarin so they can engage firsthand with the community that surrounds them in Beijing. The program hosts day-trips through Beijing to help students get to know the history and culture of China's capital city. On the weekends and during holidays, scholars travel together across China, from Shanghai to Chengdu, and every province in between, getting to experience the breadth and diversity of China.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Schwarzman Scholars experience is anchored in a rigorous and innovative Master's of Global Affairs degree program at Tsinghua University, one of China's leading universities. The program provides scholars with unparalleled learning opportunities, including interactions with leaders from China and the world through high-level interactions at lectures, internships, mentorship programs, and a one-week deep-dive travel seminar in China.

Students share a similar academic curriculum and graduate with the same degree in Global Affairs. While there is flexibility in the choice of elective courses at Schwarzman, students deepen their sense of community and shared understanding by learning together in the classroom. Schwarzman College classes are taught by renowned scholars from around the world, including Chinese faculty from Tsinghua University. In addition, courses are led by diplomats, international thought-leaders, and practitioners who are actively working and leading in their fields. As for language classes, students are required to learn Mandarin during the first module of the program, and are offered the opportunity to continue courses all year. Mandarin courses range from introductory to advanced.



Outside of the classroom, students engage in a breadth of academic experiences. Students are encouraged to find an internship in Beijing, and receive support from the Career Services team to identify an opportunity that fits their interests. In addition, scholars are required to complete a "capstone research project," much like a Master's thesis. They are given flexibility to work on the research project of their choice with the help of a faculty advisor. Students must complete and defend their capstone as a requirement for graduation.

After graduating, scholars go on to work in a wide range of industries, reflecting the diversity of students who enter the program. There is no "typical" job for a Schwarzman Scholars alumnus. Some students pursue additional graduate or PhD-level training, while others work for nonprofits, government, and the private sector. Numerous scholars remain in China or explore other countries in Asia to continue learning about the region, and other students return to their home countries. Finally, Schwarzman Scholars are lucky to benefit from the support of a dedicated Career Services Office. The team coordinates exclusive recruiting events, supports Scholar professional development, helps students find post-graduation employment, and connects current scholars to the Schwarzman alumni community.

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

- No tuition fees
- Room and Board included
- Travel to and from Beijing at the beginning and end of the academic year
- An in-country study tour ("deep dive")
- Required course books and materials
- Health insurance
- A stipend for personal and discretionary expenses

AM I ELIGIBLE?

- Undergraduate degree
- Candidates must be at least 18 but not yet 29 years old
- English language proficiency
- There are no citizenship or nationality requirements
- Applicants are expected to have demonstrated excellence in their academic studies (no minimum GPA requirement)
- For more information, visit: https://www.schwarzmanscholars.org/admissions/eligibility/

TIMELINE

Mid-April: application opens



Mid-August (school-specific): intent to apply deadline (only applicable to undergraduate

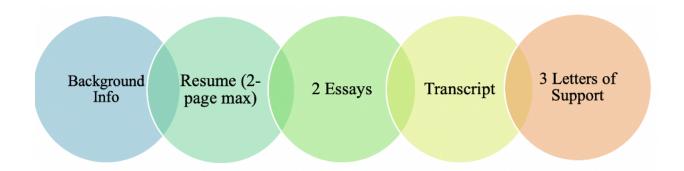
applicants)

September: national deadline

Late October - early November: interviews

November: selections made

APPLICATION COMPONENTS



SCHOLAR ANECDOTES

Watch these <u>videos from students in the program</u> and read the anecdotes below to further understand the Schwarzman experience:

Scholar Reflection: "I believe Schwarzman College is a distortion of reality. There's truly no other place like it on earth. When reminiscing about my experiences at Schwarzman College, it still feels surreal. For example, I remember one of my fellow scholars saying, "Let's go lift weights in the gym, then let's meet up with Kevin Rudd in the pub." Looking back now, I realize the absurdity of that statement. A bunch of freshly graduated 23-year-olds were able to casually walk a few meters from the gym to the pub to grab beers with the former Prime Minister of Australia, and discuss geopolitics."

Scholar Reflection: "Never before have I been surrounded by such a culturally diverse group of ambitious, high-achieving, intellectuals. Inside and outside of the classroom, I was constantly challenged to reevaluate how I think about the world and to defend my beliefs, inspiring me to be better and to learn more every day. I am so honored to be in a community that encourages and brings out the best in its members. I played on the Schwarzman women's basketball team, took an incredible course under the former U.S. Under Secretary of Energy David Sandalow, ran my first half-marathon in Hainan, and took part in a student-panel interview with Madame Secretary Madeleine Albright. I could not have imagined the opportunities I would have upon coming to Schwarzman, and these are just a few of the most impactful ones that I have had."



Scholar Reflection: "Obviously Schwarzman College is an amazing place for networking. No surprise there. But the phrase 'you never know who you're going to meet' could not possibly be more true. I decided to pursue elite-level speedskating after graduation, and I met the person who would become my coach through a fellow Scholar. My classmate's dad's best friend from college happened to be a 4-time Olympian speedskater who had coached several other Olympians. She was a world class coach, and she certainly didn't take on new athletes out of the blue. But because of a personal connection that I NEVER could have predicted before starting the program, she agreed to coach me. So yeah, Schwarzman College is a great place to find your next employer... Or your next Olympic speedskating coach.

WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU A GREAT CANDIDATE?

Characteristics of leadership and an individual's unique ability to make an impact can take shape in many forms. There is no "perfect" candidate for Schwarzman. The program values diversity of background and interest. Your version of leadership does not have to look like everyone else's, but it must be something that you are passionate about and has brought about some form of positive impact. The program does not require a background in international relations or China. However, it is important to explain how China ties in to your future aspirations.

Below are the accomplishments of some Schwarzman alumni before they became part of the program. These experiences remind us that leadership can be demonstrated in many different ways:

- Learned to play a rare type of bassoon and became an expert in the instrument.
- Became a co-founder of a new dormitory on campus as a safe and comfortable community for young Black men.
- Went on a trip to Ghana to study electricity generation and grid development.
- Spent the summer interning at a disaster preparedness site for FEMA, a personal dream job.
- Started a high fashion, high comfort clothing line for Muslim women.
- Biked across the united states to collect stories of and raise awareness for refugees.
- Participated on a team of computer engineers at Stanford to create a new method for using AI in machine learning.
- Started a Black fashion and empowerment brand for the Black diaspora.
- Created a mass atrocity prevention symposium that taught leaders in the armed services to realize their responsibility in preventing future atrocities.

CONSIDERING APPLYING

• On the Schwarzman Scholars website, there are many videos about life at the college, the purpose of the program, and who they're looking for. This is a good place to start.



- The Schwarzman Admissions team holds many webinars and campus visits throughout the year. We recommend attending these information sessions to learn more about what the program is about.
- Do you need experience in China?
 - No, absolutely not. However, you should be able to communicate why you want to go to China and learn more about China in your application and interview.
- Can I use this program to learn about China?
 - Yes, a significant portion of the scholars do not know Mandarin or much about China, but there are many opportunities to learn about the history, culture, policies, and politics of China.
- Is this program for you?
 - Schwarzman values individuals who have the potential to be "global leaders." It is important to reflect and consider how you have thus far been a leader in the spaces you occupy because this will be a key trait to highlight in your application and interview.

PREPARING THE APPLICATION: ESSAYS & VIDEO

Preparing Your Essays

- The program requires 1 long essay on leadership (750 words max), 1 essay on statement of purpose (500 words max), 1 short essay on "Something about yourself we would not otherwise know based on the application" (100 words max), 3 Letters of Recommendation, and 1 optional video introduction (~1 minute)
 - For your letters of recommendations, choose individuals that know you well and on a personal level.
 - Seek to have each letter highlight a different aspect of yourself. For example, it is beneficial to consider having a letter that speaks to your academic abilities, leadership, and/or character.
- When sorting through ~5,000 applications, the admissions team needs to get a good idea of who you are and what you're passionate about from a few essays.
 - Create a strong narrative about yourself and where your ambitions lie in life.
 Think of the application as a mini life charting tool.
 - It is important to have the essays connect together. There should be a "theme" that tells a story and conveys something memorable about you and your accomplishments. You want the admissions team to say, "Oh, that's the _____



person, because they did this _____." Know what sets you apart from the pack and have that guide your application materials.

- A big emphasis of this program is leadership. The admissions team wants to see that you are a leader and have the ability to inspire others. Make sure your leadership essay focuses on what YOU have done to lead others. This can be in many different forms.
 - Find more information on the website:
 https://www.schwarzmanscholars.org/news-article/examples-of-leadership/
 - https://www.schwarzmanscholars.org/news-article/schwarzman-scholars-the-type-of-candidate/
 - Dr. Robert Garris, the founding admissions director of Schwarzman Scholars, had insightful advice when asked a question about leadership, he said:
 - "Your example of leadership should have taken enough of your time that it comes to mind immediately."
 - "We want to take people who have demonstrated leadership, and give them an introduction to China."
- In your leadership essay, even if you're a generally humble person, now is the time to be a bit boastful.
 - It's important to show the reader why YOU were a crucial part of a team or endeavor, and how your ACTIONS led to an overall better outcome and lasting impact.

Leadership Essay

Consider providing specific examples of your leadership that explore your abilities to:

- understand challenges and opportunities,
- envision solutions.
- take initiative to act.
- inspire others to join an effort, and
- push through resistance and/or challenges to reach results.

Avoid describing situations that might fall into one of the following categories:

- accomplishing a difficult but typical task assigned to you in the workplace;
- solving brief problems of cultural miscommunication while traveling or studying overseas;
- simply winning office in a student or community organization leadership is about more than the title;
- brief situational challenges.

Statement of Purpose



The statement of purpose asks for candidates to describe their professional interests and goals and how they relate to some current affairs or global business issue of importance. In your statement of purpose essay, it's important to say a few things:

- Why China?
- Make a connection between your goals/interests and China.
- How will you contribute to the Schwarzman Scholar community?
- What will you gain from this year-long experience in China in terms of your professional aspirations?
- The program is interested in: "How the candidate describes the things they are passionate about and their ability to understand how they can both contribute to and learn from participation in the Schwarzman Scholars program."

Remember that a key part of the Schwarzman experience is the cohort. Scholars join a diverse group of individuals in your specific class and the larger Schwarzman community. It is important to understand this community-centered environment and what you can add to it.

In your short anecdote about yourself, talk about something interesting no one would know about you (hobby, special experience, philosophy about life, etc.).

Video

For your short video introduction:

- This is informal. The admissions committee wants to see you and hear you talk.
- This does not need to be professionally edited or made. It can be made from a cell phone or laptop camera.
- Be creative (cool background scene, or doing a cool activity).
- Be authentic and show your personality.
- Use the video as an opportunity to share something you weren't able to easily capture on your resume or in other application materials.
- Look up "Schwarzman Scholars Introduction" videos on YouTube for example videos.
- Although this video is optional, it is highly recommended to do it because it is one more way to set yourself apart from others and to be memorable.

Resume

The resume section of the Schwarzman application gives you the opportunity to highlight all of your unique work and academic experiences. Unlike your typical career resume, the resume for the Schwarzman application can be up to two pages. Some of the items you should consider adding to your resume include:

• Highlight Academic, Leadership, and Professional experiences which have helped shape you and demonstrate your skills and abilities.



- Quantify your accomplishments. If you are speaking about a project or organization you led, note how many people you impacted and how.
- Use action words and statistics/numbers if you can to support the impact that was generated.
- Highlight different awards you have received.
- Think about including hobbies or particular skills or interests that have not been highlighted elsewhere in your application.
- Consider your resume an opportunity to really quantify and expand on anything that you have spoken about in other parts of your application but with straightforward bullets.
- Make sure bullets are succinct.
- Please make sure that you triple check your essays and resume for any grammatical and spelling errors prior to submission!

PREPARING THE APPLICATION: LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

You are responsible for:

- Informing your recommenders of the deadline (let them know ASAP so they have plenty of time to write your reference)
- Explaining the role their letter will play in your application
- Think about diversifying the 3 recommenders to highlight your various strengths. Examples include:
 - Character: mentor
 - Leadership: student organization advisor, career supervisor
 - Academics: professor or research advisor
- Explaining the purpose of the program and your interest in applying

How to get good references:

- Think of people who know you very well
- Think of someone who could tell a story about you that hasn't already been told, or that can enhance a section of a story you could not fully articulate
- Ask early! They need time to write a good letter and it's a sign of respect for their time
- Be polite and considerate
- Talk with your references about your goals and reasons for wanting to do the program
- Share drafts of your essays and application materials
- Send them links to program information
- Email full instructions for writing and submitting their letters
- Be clear about deadlines

INTERVIEW DAY ADVICE



Interview Overview

- A video showing what the interview process is like: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1PFkVf MMxk
- On the website, there's an FAQ describing the interview process: https://www.schwarzmanscholars.org/admissions/faq/
- Great insights from Dr. Garris, the program's first Director of Admissions:
 https://www.schwarzmanscholars.org/news-article/eight-questions-for-rob-garris-global-director-of-admissions/

How to Prepare for the Interview

- If you get selected for an interview, you will have about two weeks for preparation.
- Consider meditation or some form of inspiration to calm you, like, "there's no way to know what they'll ask, but if you're calm during the interview, you'll be able to come up with something."
- Plan out 3-5 practice mock interviews with people in the career counseling center, past employers, contacts through parents, etc.
 - This will be important because when it comes to the real interview you will have simulated the experience as much as possible to better understand the emotions and responses that you will have in the actual interview.
 - Ask your interviewers to grill you. The harder the practice interview, the better you will do in the real interview.
- For current affairs questions, read:
 - The New Yorker, New York Times, The Economist, BBC, CNN, Council on Foreign Relations, and Fareed Zakaria GPS.
 - Make sure you are aware of the current events that are happening in the world and have an opinion on them.
- Ensure you know everything that is on your application (hobbies, past work experiences, interests, etc.) and can speak to them comfortably.

The Interview

(The following experiences are based on the 2016-2019 application cycles and therefore do not account for modifications to the application process amid the COVID-19 pandemic.)

- The Schwarzman interview team will arrange travel and lodging for your interview if you live far away from its location. Make sure you treat this as an interview business trip, not a free vacation.
 - You will meet many potential candidates in the hotel that are there for the interview as well. We recommend you don't go sightseeing the night before or the



- day of the interview. If you're lucky enough to have some time after the interview, then maybe that might be okay to do. Overall, stay focused on why you're there.
- Make sure you walk to the hotel where the interviews will be held the night before so you do not get lost in the morning. Do not be late.
- The night before, make sure you drink plenty of water and eat a healthy dinner.
- Do not be intimidated by the people you will meet at the hotel or the interview. Some will be from Stanford, Oxford, Harvard, have started their own companies or are pop stars in other countries. None of those things matter. You were invited because they thought you would be a good candidate for this program based on your past accomplishments and experience. **Trust and believe in yourself.**
- Be considerate to everyone you meet Schwarzman staff and the other applicants. Even
 if it is not in the specific interview, everyone is noting an impression of you. Interactions
 while waiting for the interview, in the lobby of the hotel, and at the luncheon could all
 have an impact. Also, if you make it into the cohort, your classmates will remember who
 they met at the interview and those can be fond memories, or not, based on how you
 present yourself.
- Make sure you dress the part.
 - Have a professional padfolio
 - Wear professional business attire
 - Turn your phone off prior to the interview
 - Wear shoes you feel comfortable and confident walking in
 - Wear your hair in a way that won't be distracting to you while you're talking
- When you are in the interview, about 5 minutes prior to the actual interview, Mr.
 Schwarzman will personally come and meet you and the other 8-10 interviewees at that time slot.
 - His advice was really good "We're not looking for a right or wrong answer, we just want to get a sense of who you are and how you think."
 - He will also say that the interview is more of a conversation. Every interview can be different - some are more argumentative than others. Be prepared to handle whatever comes.
- Make a lasting impression on the interviewers so they will remember who you are during their discussions after interview day. Make sure you are a memorable person (in a good way).
- During the interview:
 - It will be you and ~10 interviewers on the other side of the table. The interview will go by pretty quickly. Do not dwell too much on one question. Answer the question as honestly and clearly as you can.



- Make them see there are other dimensions to you in addition to what you wrote about in your essays.
- Make sure you show **passion**, and that you are not afraid to defend your positions.
- Don't focus too much on the body language and tone of your interviewers. They
 may seem intense or not engaged. Some may try to be intimidating. Remain
 engaged and confident throughout the whole interview regardless.

"Additional" Parts of the interview

During lunch:

- Make sure you converse with the other students and interviewers at your designated table. Think of this as an extension of the interview, for them to get to know you more.
- This is a chance to connect with some of the interviewers you did not necessarily have a chance to engage with during the interview. If you have a good conversation at lunch, it could make a good impression with the panelists or your future classmates.
- Be polite and use proper table manners.

Group activity:

- There is a group activity portion of the interview to demonstrate how well you work in groups.
- Show your ability to lead the group and also to listen. A good leader gives advice and also works collaboratively on a team.
- Take charge a bit, without being bossy and overbearing. Make sure you take everyone's voice/input into account.
- Know when to be a speaker, and when to be a listener.
- Do not think too much about winning or losing. The goal is not to win the contest, but rather your ability to interact with others.
- Be positive and celebrate the team's successes regardless of outcome.

POST-INTERVIEW

- After the interview, take a breather. This is an exhausting application process. You should be very proud of yourself no matter what.
- They should send you an email regarding your status about a week after the interview.
- At this point, there is nothing you can really do to change the outcome, so there is no point in worrying about it.
- If you get selected or not, remember this...
 - There is no way of knowing what they are looking for.
 - Do not over-analyze things you said or did not say. You'll never know what could or could not have made a difference. If you tried your best, that's all that matters.
 - If you made friends or connections throughout the interview process, maintain them regardless of the outcome. You were selected for an interview because you



- are smart and talented, just like they are. All of the applicants will go on to do amazing things in life no matter what!
- You will encounter people that have done a lot of mind-blowing things. Don't compare yourself to others. Focus on telling your story.
- Regardless of outcome...have a positive attitude. This is great practice for other job or graduate applications. It is all a learning process.
- If you do not get selected on the first try, consider applying again. There are scholars that have been reapplicants that have been successful on their second attempt.

CONNECT WITH FORMER SCHOLARS

Have questions about the Schwarzman Scholars Program in general? Fill out the survey on <u>this</u> <u>page</u> of the FWD:S website, and we can try to connect you with a current scholar or alum who can answer them!

Have questions about the specific contents of this document? Reach out to us at fwdscholars@gmail.com.

Have questions about FWD:S and its services? Send us an email at fwdscholars@gmail.com. You can also follow FWD:S on social media for updates on our program and for more scholarship tips, tricks, and guides:

- @fwd scholars on Instagram
- @FWDscholars on Twitter
- @FWD: Scholars on LinkedIn
- www.fwdscholars.org