



Holster First Year Project

Curiosity Leads to Wisdom

2019 Application

Submit as instructed below
by **November 14, 2019.**

Statements (required). Complete both statements.

Be sure your **name, email and SA#** appear on every page of your statements.

1. Project Proposal (600 words max., 12 pt. font, double-spaced)

What is your idea for a summer project? What motivates you and why do you want to do this project now? What makes this project exciting, creative and challenging? Explain what you hope to gain/learn/understand. Identify a faculty member *or* an honors advisor with whom you have discussed this project: what was his or her response/advice? (NB: This faculty member may or may not end up mentoring you during the project. We simply seek evidence that you are talking about your ideas with an expert in a related discipline.)

The project proposal should demonstrate:

- Creativity, evidence of innovative thinking and ingenuity
- Intellectual rigor
- A clear sense of how and where the project could be completed
- What form of research, reflection, and academic writing will emerge
- Details regarding materials and equipment you would need
- How you might present your completed project to others

2. Personal Statement (400 words max., 12 pt. font, double-spaced)

Write a compelling statement that illustrates your qualifications, aspirations and abilities. What should we know about you that isn't expressed in your résumé or transcript?

The candidates should demonstrate:

- Intellectual fitness for the proposed project
- Energy, commitment, and motivation
- Independence and maturity
- A willingness to be challenged and accept criticism
- Ambition and a desire to learn

Supplementary Materials (required). Completed applications must also include:

- A "preliminary recommendation" form from a UConn faculty member (**Note:** recommenders may access this form at <https://honors.uconn.edu/holster-scholars>)
- One recommendation from a high school teacher or mentor*
- A high school transcript (this may take longer than you think; don't wait until the last minute)
- A 1-2 page résumé (unofficial copy ok)

**High school recommenders may submit their letters to the candidate in a postmarked envelope or envelope with a signature across the seal; OR they may email or submit recommendations directly to onsf@uconn.edu.*

Additional Materials (optional)

Candidates *may* include additional information if it is relevant to their application/proposed project:

- One additional recommendation from an employer, supervisor, or high school teacher
- A portfolio depicting previous work related to the proposed project (1 copy or original, ok)
- CDs/DVDs (1 copy or original, ok)

Submission

Assemble your materials in the following order (DO NOT STAPLE any materials; use a paperclip or envelope to contain your application; if you submit electronically, please send as *.pdf attachments):

1. project proposal
2. personal statement
3. transcript
4. résumé

(Letters of recommendation and transcripts should arrive in sealed envelopes via the candidate or the US Mail, or by Email. *Be sure to reference the Holster Scholar Program on the envelope or in the subject line of Emails.*)

Deadline: All items should be **received** by **4:00pm on November 14, 2019.**

Materials may be sent by US Mail to:

Holster Scholars Program
Attn: Marlene Coughlin
368 Fairfield Way, Unit 4147
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06269-4147

Or hand-delivered to:

Enrichment Programs Main Office
Rowe 419

Or Emailed to (preferred):

onsf@uconn.edu

(Again, please reference the Holster Scholar Program in any communications.)

Interviews & Selection

We plan to notify Finalists the week after Thanksgiving that they have been granted permission to enroll in the one-credit spring Holster Proposal Development course.

During the course, finalists will hone their ideas, secure firm commitments from faculty mentors, and sharpen their proposals. Final proposals will be due in **March (exact deadline varies, but applications are usually due the Thursday before spring break).**

All finalists will be interviewed and have their final proposals reviewed by an interdisciplinary faculty selection committee. Based on their final proposals and their interviews, six-to-nine Scholars will be selected to receive approx. \$4,000 in research funding for summer 2019 to complete their projects.

Questions?

Contact [Vin Moscardelli](mailto:Vin.Moscardelli@uconn.edu), Director, [Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships](http://nexus.uconn.edu), at vin.moscardelli@uconn.edu. Or, schedule an appointment on <http://nexus.uconn.edu>.