HBCU and HSI Bridge Scholarship Program

The Bridge Scholarship is a merit-based, full-tuition award for graduating seniors of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic-Serving Institutions who would benefit from a year of academic study at a leading research university. Scholarship recipients enroll in 2 courses per quarter, earning a total of 600 units of credit for the academic year.

About the Scholarship

- The Graham School began the program in Autumn 2015 with 50% tuition scholarships, expanding it to full-tuition scholarships in 2016-17.
- Subject to availability and their qualifications, students are eligible to enroll in graduate or undergraduate-level courses in the University’s graduate divisions and schools, with the exceptions of the Booth School of Business, the Pritzker School of Medicine, and the Law School. Academic advisors work closely with departmental advisors and area deans of students to provide ongoing support.

Program Objectives

- Enable students to pursue research, lab, or volunteer experiences on or off-campus, in addition to formal coursework
- Encourage students to develop ties to graduate faculty mentors
- Provide students with an opportunity to hone their research skills and academic interests

Scholarship Requirements

- Institutional letter of nomination
- BA or BS from an HBCU or HSI at time of matriculation
- Students should be in their final year of undergraduate studies at time of application
- Minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0

Application and Selection Process

- To apply, students must be graduating seniors of either an HBCU or HSI and will need to submit the following:
  - Institutional letter of nomination
  - 3 letters of recommendation, at least two of which are from faculty
  - Official undergraduate transcript
  - Statement of purpose
  - Resume
- Institutions may nominate up to 3 candidates
- The selection committee includes: Graham School Dean, Graham School academic associate deans, University faculty, and University Vice Provost for Academic Leadership, Advancement and Diversity
- Up to 10 scholarships will be awarded for the 2018-19 academic year

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Deadline for institutional nominations and student online applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>March – April</td>
<td>Dean’s meetings for decisions</td>
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<td>April 15</td>
<td>Admissions decisions are relayed to students</td>
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<td>April 15 – May 15</td>
<td>Communication with students and nominating institutions regarding decisions</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Deadline to accept or decline Bridge Scholarship</td>
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Laura Caballero graduated from the University of the Incarnate World with a degree in Psychology. She chose to focus her coursework in the School of Social Service Administration during her time as a Bridge Scholar, with a foray into the Center for Latin American Studies for a course on Latin American cinema. Laura gained admission to the Master’s Program at SSA with a scholarship; she matriculated in Autumn 2017.

William Guzman studied Business Administration and Computer Information Systems at the University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras. His autumn and winter quarter coursework was focused in the Departments of Computer Science, Mathematics, and Statistics. He began the Graham School’s Master of Science in Analytics program in Spring 2017.

Mariah Levy graduated from Howard University with a degree in Philosophy. During her year at the University of Chicago, she took courses at the School of Social Service Administration, as well as the course “Conceptual Drawing” with the Department of Visual Arts. She has been admitted to the Master’s Program at SSA with a scholarship, and matriculated in Autumn 2017.

Courtnie Mack graduated from Spelman College with a degree in Psychology. She spent two quarters taking courses at SSA and in the departments of Sociology and Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies, and has been admitted to the SSA Master’s Program with a scholarship, matriculating in Autumn 2017.

Mateo Uribe Rios graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a degree in Political Science. While a Bridge Scholar, he took courses in the Centers for Human Rights and Latin American Studies, as well as the School of Social Service Administration. He was accepted to the Master’s Program at SSA with a scholarship; he matriculated in Autumn 2017.