

Department of Homeland Security Scholarship and Fellowship Programs

Purpose: The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) realizes that the country's strong science and technology community provides a critical advantage in the development and implementation of counter-terrorist measures and other DHS objectives. The DHS Scholarship and Fellowship Program is intended for students interested in pursuing the basic science and technology innovations that can be applied to the DHS mission.

Eligibility:

- Cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.30 or higher on a 4.00 scale. If you have earned a bachelor's degree as of the application deadline, you are ineligible.
- You must be majoring in a homeland security science, technology, engineering or mathematics (HS-STEM) field which is a STEM field with coursework and/or research relevant to a homeland security research area.
- If you have been attending college full-time, you must be in your second year of college attendance as of the application deadline. If you have attended college on a part-time basis, or a combination of part-time and full-time, since completing high school, you must have completed a total of at least 45 but no more than 60 semester hours (60 to 75 quarter hours) as of the application deadline.
- If you have any commitments such as active military service, a co-op program, or study abroad that would prevent you from attending school full-time, attending the fall 2009 DHS HS-STEM Career Development Conference and participating full-time in a 10-week internship during the summer of 2010, or completing the homeland security service requirement following receipt of your degree, you are ineligible.

Stipend and Tuition: \$1,000/month for 9 months during the academic year; \$5,000 for the 10-week summer internship. Full tuition and mandatory, nonrefundable fees paid.

Duration: Appointments are for two years, beginning fall 2009, given satisfactory academic progress and availability of funding.

Research Internship Requirement: A **10-week, continuous, off-campus research internship** at DHS or a DHS-affiliated facility will be required during the summer between your first and second year appointments. Internship placement will be coordinated through this program. **A one-year, full-time service requirement** in a relevant HS-STEM field will be required. This requirement will be fulfilled with paid employment that you will secure through traditional job search techniques. The work done during this service must be applicable to one of the 16 homeland security research areas. The one-year service commitment must be served at a DHS-approved STEM venue and must be completed within two years of your final stipend payment. Options for completing this service requirement at a DHS-approved STEM venue include full-time service for: (1) one continuous year; or (2) two six-month periods at no more than two locations.

Other Requirements. While there is no guarantee of employment, **you must indicate a willingness to accept, after graduation, competitive employment offers from DHS, state and local homeland security offices, DHS-affiliated Federal laboratories, or DHS-related research staff positions.** This condition will not interfere with plans to attend graduate school in a supported field immediately after graduation. If you accept a DHS Scholarship, you cannot accept any other scholarships, grants or federal loans while on your DHS appointment except educational benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs and need-based assistance approved by DHS.

Application Deadlines: See <http://www.orau.gov/dhsed/2009pages/scholarship.html> for deadlines and updates as provided. Graduate study fellowships are also available. See website for further information. **Contact:** T. Schroer, Assoc. Prof. of Sociology: tschroer@usi.edu or 812-464-1723.