

*The British National Memorial to  
President Kennedy*

# KENNEDY SCHOLARSHIPS

AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

AND THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

In 1965 a Fund was set up in the United Kingdom by public subscription to commemorate President John F Kennedy. A Memorial was created at Runnymede in perpetuity; and it was resolved that Scholarships to the United States should be offered every year to British Citizens who are United Kingdom graduates. The Scholarships are tenable at Harvard or the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As the 50th anniversary of the Memorial Trust approached, the Trustees expanded the Scholarships to include not only recent graduates but also some who had gained a few years of experience outside academia and would now benefit from a course of study at Harvard or MIT. All candidates continue to be selected according to the criteria outlined in paragraph 5 below.

The broad context of Kennedy Scholarships remains President Kennedy's interest in bringing into fruitful combination the two great disciplines of traditional humane studies and modern technology and so making their strength effective in the activities of government and in the direction of world affairs. Applicants with a strong public-service ethos are particularly welcomed.

## PROSPECTUS FOR 2019 – 2020

1. Kennedy Scholarships will be awarded for the academic year 2019-2020 at Harvard University and MIT. A Kennedy Scholarship gives full fees' funding and a means-tested bursary for living expenses (see paragraph 7 below) for one academic year. Students who are applying for a two-year Master's will normally secure the necessary funding for second or subsequent years within their institution.
2. Candidates must, in the same application season as applying for a Kennedy Scholarship, make a separate and independent application for admission direct to their chosen programme at Harvard and/or MIT. See [www.harvard.edu](http://www.harvard.edu) and [www.mit.edu](http://www.mit.edu). A Kennedy Scholarship provides funding but does not carry automatic admission to Harvard or MIT, nor is it associated with particular programmes.

Those applying to doctoral programmes at Harvard and MIT are welcome to apply for the additional benefits of being part of the Kennedy Scholar network. Further, UK-registered Doctoral students are welcome to apply for an additional year of research as part of their doctorate. The Trust particularly welcomes those with links to faculty in the Media Lab and CSAIL, or those working in digital technology and/or policy in other Harvard and MIT schools. Potential Harvard GSAS Special Student or Visiting Fellow applicants should consult the following list for eligible programmes of study:  
<https://gsas.harvard.edu/programs-study/non-degree-programs>

3. Those applying for awards must be **all** of the following:
  - British citizens at the time of application; this does not include those with indefinite leave to remain;
  - ordinarily resident in the UK;
  - wholly or mainly educated in the UK and (will be) graduates of a UK university.

Applications cannot be accepted from those already in the United States.  
There is no additional funding for dependents.

4. Graduate applicants must have spent at least two of the seven years prior to 1st September 2019 studying as an undergraduate at a UK university, graduating from their first degree not earlier than 2014.

Those studying for a first degree at a UK university and due to graduate in the academic year 2018-2019 are also eligible.

Awards will not be made to postdoctoral candidates wishing to pursue further research in their own field.

5. In awarding Scholarships, the Trustees will take into account candidates' intellectual attainment, readiness and ability to express themselves, and a well-researched and argued case for their proposed course of study at Harvard or MIT at this point in their careers. It should be noted that Kennedy Scholars typically have a First Class degree.

Trustees may also look for:

- originality of mind;
- commitment to public service;
- potential to make a mark in public life;
- ability to overcome adversity.

## *Conditions*

6. Scholars will be required to devote most of their time to one of the faculties of the university to which they are admitted. They may be registered on a degree programme or as non-degree or Special Students.
7. A Kennedy Scholarship covers the full costs of tuition and health insurance, paid direct to the institution concerned. In addition, Scholars selected at interview may apply for a means-tested bursary of up to \$26,000 to cover living costs. Scholars are expected to spend part of their summer vacation in the United States after the end of the academic year and may also apply for an additional grant of \$2,500 to pay for vacation travel.
8. Awards are made in the expectation that Scholars will bring the benefits of their American experience back to the United Kingdom.

## *Applications*

9. Applications are to be made online at [www.kennedytrust.org.uk](http://www.kennedytrust.org.uk)
10. In addition to completing an online form, applicants will be asked to submit an essay (which MUST NOT exceed 1,000 words) giving an account of their academic pursuits and intellectual interests, their general activities, their reasons for their choice of course and institution and their current plans for the future.
11. The closing date for applications will be 23.59 on Wednesday 24th October 2018.

## *References*

12. Applicants will be asked to give the names and professional email addresses of two referees. The first should ideally have supervised some aspect of the applicant's academic work at university. The second *may* be non-academic but should be able to write pertinently in support of the applicant's choice of programme at this particular stage in their academic and professional career.
13. Both references must be submitted online by 23.59 on Wednesday 31st October for the application to be accepted. Referees will be contacted automatically but only once the applicant has submitted an application. Please give them enough time to respond before the deadline.

## *Interviews and Selection*

14. Selected applicants will be invited to London for interview on either Monday 7th or Tuesday 8th January 2019. Interview candidates should ensure they *attend in person in London* on the date requested. A UK passport will be required to be shown at this time. Those awarded Scholarships will later be asked to provide a medical certificate.
15. Candidates selected to receive Scholarships will be notified by the end of January but confirmation of the award cannot be made until May, when admission to Harvard or MIT has been secured.
16. Please note that it is not possible for the Trustees to provide candidates with comments on unsuccessful applications at any stage of the process.