The Honors Transfer Fellowship

The Honors Transfer Fellowship is the highest award given to a transfer student in the Honors College at Middle Tennessee State University. Each year, thirty (30) applicants are chosen to become Honors Transfer Fellows. Each class comprises Fellows with similar abilities, but Fellows are diverse in terms of interests, experiences, and professional aspirations. Characteristically, they possess high aspirations and strong records of scholarship, and they have repeatedly demonstrated special talents, leadership skills, and community-mindedness. Ideally, each possesses most, if not all, of the virtues espoused by the Honors College: honor, commitment, integrity, discipline, faith, curiosity, character, and creativity.

The benefits of being an Honors Transfer Fellow are many. The foremost is the offer of a rich education that can provide a superior foundation for graduate school or professional school (e.g., medicine, law, theology). The Honors Transfer Fellowship provides (1) $3,500 a semester for up to four semesters; (2) special consideration for study-abroad scholarships; (3) access to the resources of the Undergraduate Fellowships Office, which nominates Honors College students and others for prestigious national and international fellowships (e.g., Fulbright, Rhodes, Truman, Goldwater); (4) access to special lectures and events sponsored by the Honors College; (5) support for preparation and admission to graduate or professional schools; and (6) early registration privileges. Honors Transfer Fellowships are automatically renewed for up to four semesters, provided that the student meets the benchmarks and responsibilities of the award (described below).

Please note that this is not an online program.

Admission of Honors Transfer Fellows

In order to compete for an Honors Transfer Fellowship, an applicant must (1) apply for undergraduate admission to Middle Tennessee State University (mtsu.edu/apply); (2) complete this application; (3) have a college or university GPA of at least 3.5; (4) be on track to have completed at least 60 credit hours of college work before fall classes (although priority will be given to those who have completed two-year degrees, students who transferred to MTSU after freshman year are eligible to apply after sophomore year); (5) provide an official transcript of all college and university work completed; and (6) write an essay on the topic found in part B on page 4. These are minimal requirements—successful applicants will generally equal or surpass the qualifications required for other MTSU academic scholarships. MTSU is especially open to applications from people with life experiences such as travel, community service, or special challenges and varied perspectives.

The deadline for submission of this completed application is Feb. 15 of the year before fall enrollment. Successful applicants will be notified of their acceptance during March or April. With this notification will come an Acceptance Form for the student to complete. In the Acceptance Form, the student makes a firm commitment to accept (or reject) the fellowship offer by May 1 and to accept the responsibilities of an Honors Transfer Fellow.

Responsibilities of Honors Transfer Fellows

In accepting an Honors Transfer Fellowship, a candidate assumes several responsibilities. Among these is a pledge to (1) uphold the ideals espoused in the Honors Creed, (2) participate fully in a specially designed Transfer Fellowship Seminar during the first semester, and (3) make progress toward graduation according to benchmarks set by the Honors College.

Benchmarks of progress include

• completion of a minimum of a 3-hour seminar, one Honors Lecture Series, and one other Honors elective during the first two semesters;
• registration for Honors Thesis Tutorial (UH 4900) in the second or third semester of enrollment at MTSU and Honors Independent Research (the thesis, UH 4950) by the first or second semester of the senior year;
• completion of all requirements for graduation with University Honors (or Distinction in University Honors) by the end of the senior year; and
• maintenance of a continuing cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) on all MTSU courses while a Transfer Fellow at MTSU.

Failure to meet progression expectations may result in a permanent loss of privileges and financial aid associated with the Honors Transfer Fellowship.
Part A

Name ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  MTSU ID no. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

Home Address ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

Home phone ____________________________  Cell Phone ____________________________

MTSU E-mail ____________________________  Home E-mail ____________________________

Colleges and/or Universities Attended (include MTSU if you are here now) ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

Number of hours completed after the Fall 2017 Semester ________  Number of hours expected to be completed after Spring and Summer 2018 ________

Current Major ____________________________  Current GPA ________

Anticipated major at MTSU ____________________________  Anticipated semester of MTSU graduation ________

Are you a U.S. citizen? ☐ Yes  ☐ No  Are you classified as out-of-state for tuition purposes? ☐ Yes  ☐ No

List up to four (4) extracurricular college activities, on- or off-campus jobs, or community service projects to which you have devoted more than 40 hours of your time since you entered college.

1. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

2. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

3. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

4. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

Does your college offer Honors classes? ☐ Yes  ☐ No  If so, how many Honors hours have you taken? ________

List any academic or special recognition you have received while in college (you may include recognitions by honor societies).

1. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

2. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________

3. ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________  ____________________________
List in ranked order (top choice first) all colleges, universities, or programs to which you expect to apply, including MTSU.

1. 

2. 

3. 

What do you plan to do when you finish your baccalaureate degree?

Please provide full contact information including name, title, address, office phone number, and email addresses for the two persons writing your letters of recommendation. (Please have them send the letters directly to us; do NOT include them in your application packet. We strongly prefer letters written by college professors and/or Honors directors or personnel).

Part B

Essay (500 words or less, double-spaced): What are you most interested in learning at MTSU, and how will you use what you have learned to affect your community? We value a high level of creativity and self reflection.

Part C

Your Honors Transfer Fellowship application and essay should be mailed directly to the Honors College by February 15 (see address below). Also, please provide an official transcript of all college work completed. THIS TRANSCRIPT WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE ONE SENT TO MTSU ADMISSIONS. Have your college mail your transcript directly to the following address:

Honors Transfer Fellowship Committee, University Honors College, MTSU Box 267, Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Is Your Application Complete?

1) Two-page application completed
2) 500-word essay completed and attached
3) All college and university transcripts mailed to the Honors College—see instructions above about transcripts
4) Two letters of recommendation requested; no e-mails—need hard copies on letterhead.

Note: The awarding of scholarships is based on the availability of funds and the criteria set for by the appropriate governing bodies and is subject to change without notice.