

Dressel Scholars Program

The University of Washington Tacoma Dressel Scholars Program recognizes and rewards exceptional scholarly achievement, community engagement, and leadership potential for any student enrolled at UW Tacoma. The Dressel Scholars Program was created to honor the legacy of Melanie Jan LaPlant Dressel by creating a robust scholarship and mentorship program that affords our students the opportunities to develop their leadership skills and community connections while giving them the financial freedom to fully participate in their UW Tacoma experience. The program hopes to achieve the following objectives:

- Provide financial assistance for students in a cohort-based, multi-disciplinary leadership development program. Financial awards will range from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per quarter.
- Wrap each Dressel Scholar with the support of a team of leadership mentors who will advise and guide the scholar throughout their experience at UW Tacoma
- Provide opportunities for community members to engage with UW Tacoma students as mentors for Dressel Scholars

Scholarship award amounts are variable, applicable to any approved college expenses, and are renewable for undergraduates for up to 12 quarters at UW Tacoma.

Deadline

The deadline for applying to the Dressel Scholars program is **April 5, 2019**.

Eligibility

Students currently enrolled or applying for enrollment for Autumn Quarter, 2019 in any UW Tacoma undergraduate program. This includes:

- Currently enrolled UW Tacoma students not intending to graduate prior to Spring, 2020
- Current High School seniors applying for acceptance for Autumn, 2019
- Community College students applying for transfer to UW Tacoma for Autumn, 2019 acceptance.
- The Dressel Scholars application is open to students who are **U.S. Citizens or permanent residents**.

There is a strong expectation that the student will have completed the necessary credits and other requirements, to be admitted to UW Tacoma for autumn quarter 2019 to complete their baccalaureate degree. Should a prospective student accept the scholarship and then not qualify for transfer or enrollment, the award will be withdrawn and may go unfilled that year.

To be eligible, students must be pursuing their first baccalaureate degree, having earned a high school diploma (or equivalent) by September 1, 2019. Those who already have earned a bachelor's degree, or are pursuing graduate study, will not be considered for the Dressel Scholars Program.

If a student is selected, he or she has three weeks to decide whether to accept the award. UW Tacoma reserves the right to offer the scholarship and program acceptance to other applicants should the first offers be declined.

Application Procedures

Part I: Student Application Materials

Students must complete (1) the biographical information form, (2) the release authorization form, (3) the personal engagement form, (4) provide a personal statement, and (5) secure two letters of recommendation (see below). This material must be submitted to UW Tacoma by **April 5, 2019**.

Two letters of recommendation are required:

1. **One letter should be from a faculty member** with whom the student has had direct academic contact. This letter **should focus on academic potential** detailing classroom experience or other activities that illustrate academic aptitude.
2. **The second letter** should be from someone who knows the student and should discuss leadership, service, and personal integrity.

Students are responsible for securing letters of recommendation.

Part II: Personal Interview

Finalists will be selected from among all the applicants completing Part I. These finalists will be interviewed by the UW Tacoma Dressel Scholars Selection Committee. Finalist interviews will take place on **April 26, 2019**.

Award Acceptance Policy

Dressel Scholar award recipients will be notified by May 1, 2019.

Dressel Scholars must inform UW Tacoma of their intention to accept or decline the award in writing by returning a Dressel Scholars Acceptance Form within three weeks of being notified. Should a student decline the award, UW Tacoma reserves the right to offer the award to another applicant. In the event that a student formally accepts the award and then elects not to enroll at UW Tacoma in autumn quarter 2019, the scholarship may go unfilled for that academic year. Exceptions may be made for students who can show that non-enrollment results from hardship or other circumstances beyond their control. Hardship exceptions will normally be granted for one quarter only.

Dressel Scholars must also agree to have their names released publicly and to participate willingly in academic ceremonies such as commencement and in donor stewardship activities, which may involve writing letters, attending events, etc.

Scholarship Renewal Criteria

To qualify for subsequent years of the scholarship, students must show satisfactory progress toward a degree by meeting the following minimum requirements:

- Maintain a cumulative UW Tacoma GPA of at least 3.00
- Be consecutively enrolled each quarter
(not including summer quarter)

Dressel Scholars will also be required to be actively involved in mentorship, campus, and community events and activities.

Application Materials

All application materials are to be assembled and submitted by April 5, 2019 to the Dressel Scholars Selection Committee one of the following ways:

- By mail: 1900 Commerce Street, Campus Box 358430, Tacoma, WA 98402
- In person: GWP, Room 312 - Chancellor's Office
- Electronic: jlawless@uw.edu

Application materials include:

1. Biographical information form
2. Release authorization and statement of participation form (student signature required)
3. Personal statement
4. Personal Engagement form
5. Two letters of recommendation

You must have a completed FAFSA on file for the current year.

For any additional information, please call 253-692-5685.

Each application must be neatly typed. The forms are provided in Acrobat PDF files that allow you to fill in the fields on your computer. Personal statements must have one-inch margins on all sides and be no less than 12-point type.

Incomplete application packets will result in disqualification.

Biographical Information

To be completed by the applicant.

Name: _____

Student ID number (current institution): _____ Last 4 digits of SSN: xxx-xx-_____

Street Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone (day): _____ (evening): _____

Number of college credits **completed** through January 15, 2019: _____

New 1st Year Students

Have you submitted a complete application for acceptance to UW Tacoma for autumn quarter 2019?

YES NO

If NO, will you meet all UW Tacoma requirements in time to enroll for autumn quarter 2019, to the best of your knowledge? YES NO

Academic program in which I plan to enroll at UW Tacoma: _____

Current UW Tacoma Students

UW Student ID# _____

Cumulative **college** grade-point average based on **all** institutions attended: _____

Academic program in which I plan to enroll (or are enrolled) at UW Tacoma: _____

New Transfer Students

Have you submitted a complete transfer application to UW Tacoma for autumn quarter 2019?

YES NO

If NO, will you meet all UW Tacoma requirements in time to enroll for autumn quarter 2019, to the best of your knowledge? YES NO

New Transfer Students

List all colleges and universities you have attended in the last five years or will attend before enrolling at the UW.

Do not exclude or omit any institutions, regardless of how many credits you earn(ed) there or the nature of the program in which you were/are enrolled.

Name of College/Location (City/State/Country, if outside U.S.) / Dates Attended (From/To)

Cumulative **college** grade-point average based on **all** institutions attended: _____

Academic program in which I plan to enroll at UW Tacoma: _____

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Release Authorization and Statement of Participation

I, _____, wish to be considered as a participant in the Dressel Scholars Program and Scholarship at UW Tacoma. I understand that this scholarship is primarily intended to support full-time study. Permission is hereby granted to officials of my prior academic institutions to release transcripts of my academic record to date and other information requested as part of the scholarship application form. I understand that any portion of this application may be released to the public should I be offered and accept the award and that participation in donor stewardship activities and academic ceremonies as outlined in the award acceptance agreement will be mandatory.

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

Personal Statement / Essay

Name of Dressel Scholars applicant: _____

Each applicant is required to submit a personal essay of no more than 1,500 words. In the essay, you should identify an urgent problem in the community or world, and address the following questions:

- What would you do to bring about change regarding that issue?
- What resources would that require?
- What obstacles would you anticipate encountering and how would you overcome those obstacles?

Essays must be typed on sheets attached to this form. They should be double-spaced with one-inch margins and 12-point type.

Letter of Recommendation No. 1

*To be completed by a **faculty member**.*

Please discuss your experience with the applicant's academic potential, intellectual capacity, personal integrity, analytical skills, communications skills, and any other characteristics you believe will result in continued academic success.

The applicant is urged to provide a copy of her or his biographical information sheet to the individual making this recommendation. The recommendation should be completed on a separate sheet and attached to this form.

Name of Applicant: _____

Your Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity? _____

Letter of Recommendation No. 2

*To be completed by someone familiar with the applicant's **leadership capacity**.*

Please discuss your experience with the applicant's capacity for leadership and your experience with their personal integrity, communications skills and any other characteristics you believe will result in their success as a leader in our community.

The applicant is urged to provide a copy of her or his biographical information sheet to the individual making this recommendation. The recommendation should be completed on a separate sheet and attached to this form.

Name of Applicant: _____

Your Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity? _____