



Self Memorial Scholarship Information | Spring 2022

ABOUT THE SELF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

[Note: The Self Memorial Scholarship is a separate award from the Self Graduate Fellowship.]

The Madison and Lila Self Memorial Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship that recognizes outstanding undergraduates from the University of Kansas who will be transitioning into their first year of a master's or doctoral degree program at KU in the fall semester. This scholarship award provides each recipient with \$10,000 for their first year in a graduate program, with half deposited into the student's account at the beginning of the fall semester of enrollment and the other half at the beginning of the spring semester of enrollment. This scholarship is applied directly to the student's tuition and fees bill.

In addition to funding, scholars also participate in a Scholar Development Program. The Scholar Development Program is a distinguishing feature of the Self Memorial Scholarship. Madison and Lila Self intended for the program to orient Scholars and to enhance their vision of potential professional careers. This program provides general education and training in career development, communication, and leadership to assist Self Memorial Scholars in their preparation for future leadership roles, complementing the specialized education and training provided in their graduate program. Each Self Memorial Scholar, by accepting the scholarship award, recognizes the benefits of the Scholar Development Program and makes a commitment to participate. The program time commitment is approximately 30 hours per academic year plus any required preparation. To continue to hold the Self Memorial Scholarship, a Scholar must make satisfactory progress towards their degree, remain in good academic standing and be an active and full participant in the Scholar Development Program.

Each Scholar who is selected must have demonstrated success as an undergraduate student and potential for success in graduate education. Self Memorial Scholars are selected because they have shown achievement in leadership and scholarship, and possess "the ability to envision and attain goals that require exceptional energy and tenacity." Interest in lifelong learning, professional development , and joining a cohort of interdisciplinary graduate students is essential for a Self Memorial Scholar.

ELIGIBILITY

In order to become a Self Memorial Scholar for the **2022-2023** academic year, students must first meet a number of criteria at the time of scholarship application (**deadline is Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at noon**).

- Have been admitted into any master's or doctoral degree program at the University of Kansas (as shown by providing a graduate studies application and letter of admittance)
- Earned or will earn first bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas during the 2021-2022 academic year (includes fall, spring, and summer semesters)
- Will be enrolled as a full-time graduate student during the scholarship year (fall 2022 and spring 2023)
- Will be in their first year of graduate study when Self Memorial Scholarship funding begins (fall 2022)
- Domestic and international students are eligible
- Ability to attend approximately six mandatory, in-person Scholar Development Programs in Lawrence, Kansas during the fall 2022 and spring 2023 semesters

The following students are ineligible for the Self Memorial Scholarship:

- Programs that do not require a separate graduate studies application and letter of admittance
- Students admitted as non-degree seeking graduate students
- Students solely pursuing a graduate certificate program
- Students going to school part-time
- Students who have received and accepted KU funded graduate fellowship support including, but not limited to, the Bernadette-Gray Little Graduate Fellowship, University Graduate Fellowship, Chancellor's Doctoral Fellowship, and Self Graduate Fellowship.
- Students who are unable to attend the mandatory, in-person Scholar Development Programs

TIMELINE

It is important that students meet various deadlines in order to be considered for a Self Memorial Scholarship. The following serves as a suggested timeline for prospective Self Memorial Scholars.

September-November

Check with chosen academic department to confirm graduate school application deadlines and required information. Identify good sources for letters of recommendation. Update resume.

December-January

Submit graduate school application. Confirm with chosen department that the graduate school application is complete and all supporting materials have been received. Receive graduate admissions decision.

February

Gain admission to a degree-seeking graduate program at KU. Review the Self Memorial Scholarship website for information. Ensure eligibility and prepare scholarship application materials.

February 7, 2022: Scholarship application portal opens online

March

Submit materials by the application deadline: **Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at noon**

End of March: Committee reviews scholarship applications.

April

Committee makes final scholarship offer decisions. Students are notified by email of the committee's decision. If awarded, students must formally accept or decline the scholarship before the April deadline.

April 29: Latest deadline for student acceptance of the offer.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

Application Submission

Students should review the requirements and mission of the program. Please contact Self Graduate Programs staff with questions early in the preparation process to ensure eligibility. Students who meet all eligibility requirements and embody the scholarship attributes are encouraged to apply.

Eligible students will fill out the application using the online submission portal. The application is located on the Self Graduate Programs website under the Self Memorial Scholarship "Scholarship Application" tab. A complete submission includes the following materials: updated resume, scholarship statement of purpose, and letter of recommendation (all saved and uploaded as a PDF).

The Self Memorial Scholarship application portal will open **February 7, 2022** and will remain open until the scholarship deadline of **March 23, 2022**. Once students have completed the application and the letter of recommendation is submitted, staff will consider the scholarship application complete.

Students will receive notifications from the portal when a letter has been submitted.

Selection

The selection committee will review all applications after the deadline and make final decisions early in April. Students will be notified by email of the selection committee's decision.

If awarded, students must formally accept or decline the scholarship before the final decision deadline of **April 29, 2022**. All students are asked to communicate their intent to accept/decline the scholarship as soon as possible, as this may affect other applicant decisions.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill out the “Scholarship Application Form” online
2. Provide an updated resume (PDF attachment)
3. Submit “Self Memorial Scholarship Personal Statement” (PDF attachment—see requirements below)
4. Provide one letter of recommendation (writer will be sent online portal to submit PDF letter electronically)
5. Complete waiver form at the end of the application
6. Submit the application form

Resume

The resume should highlight experiences and significant achievements from work, school, volunteer projects, and extracurricular activities. Awards, honors and research experiences should be listed. Memberships and offices held should be noted.

Self Memorial Scholar Personal Statement

The personal statement is critical to your success in the Self Memorial Scholarship selection process. This is your opportunity to demonstrate how you would benefit from the Self Memorial Scholarship, and why you want to continue your education at the University of Kansas. Your statement should be authentic and should tell your story in your own words. Remember that through this document you want to convince the selection committee that you are meritorious of the scholarship. Edit the statement carefully. Before you begin, be sure to review the website for information about the [Self Memorial Scholarship](#). The “Self Memorial Scholar Profile” is included below to serve as an example of an ideal scholarship candidate.

The personal statement should be one to two pages long and in 12-point type and double-spaced. Your personal statement must address the following points:

- Why have you decided to continue your education at KU as a graduate student?
- Highlight your successes as an undergraduate student at KU and communicate your potential for success as a graduate student.
- What are your long-term goals and how do these connect with the Self Memorial Scholarship?
- What do you hope to gain from the Self Memorial Scholarship Scholar Development Program?

Self Memorial Scholar Profile:

The ideal scholarship candidate will have demonstrated their success as an undergraduate student, and communicated their potential for success in graduate education. Self Memorial Scholars are selected due to achievement in leadership and scholarship. They should possess “the ability to envision and attain goals that require exceptional energy and tenacity.” The ideal candidate is interested in personal development and lifelong learning and is committed to participation in the Scholar Development Program.

Letter of Recommendation

The letter of recommendation can be from any preferred source who can speak to your academic success and/or leadership potential. Please note that the evaluation committee will be able to see your original graduate application; thus, students are required to submit a letter of recommendation that is specific for the Self Memorial Scholarship. All other letters of recommendation for graduate school are already included as part of the graduate application and review process.

As a student admitted into a graduate program at KU, you have demonstrated your potential as a graduate student. This letter of recommendation should address your fit as a Self Memorial Scholar.

**Please direct all questions to Madison and Lila Self Graduate Programs
785-864-7238 or email selfscholar@ku.edu**