

## Downloads: “Pickering Fellowship”

**Purpose of the Award:** The Pickering Fellowship Program, funded by the United States Department of State and administered by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation (WWNFF), seeks to recruit talented students in academic programs relevant to international affairs, political and economic analysis, administration, management, and science policy. The goal is to attract outstanding students from all ethnic, racial and social backgrounds, who have an interest in pursuing a Foreign Service career in the U.S. Department of State. The Program develops a source of trained men and women from academic disciplines representing the skill needs of the Department, who are dedicated to representing America's interests abroad.

**Nature of the Award:** The fellowship award includes tuition, room, board, and mandatory fees during the junior and senior years of college **OR** during the first and second years of graduate study. The Fellow must commit to pursuing a graduate degree in international studies at one of the graduate schools identified by the WWNFF. In addition, successful candidates are obligated to three to four and a half years of service in the U.S. Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Applicants must be U.S. citizens, and must have and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.2 or higher. In addition, undergraduate applicants must be in the sophomore year of study, whereas graduate applicants must be seeking admission to a U.S. graduate school for the following academic year.

**Selection Criteria:** Pickering Fellows will be selected based on the strength of undergraduate course work, honors and awards, extracurricular activities and leadership roles, and the strength and clarity of the personal statement.

**Application Procedures:** All Pickering applicants are required to secure the endorsement of their respective universities. Pickering applicants from the University of Arizona must meet both the UA deadline and the Pickering deadline (see important dates). UA applicants must submit a completed Pickering application, a personal statement, an official college transcript, two letters of recommendation, and any other supporting documents necessary to Dr. Karna Walter, the Pickering Faculty Representative at the University of Arizona. Students who are nominated have several weeks to strengthen their applications before the Faculty Representative must submit them to the Foundation.

**Nomination and Selection Procedures:** Consideration will be given to qualified applicants who, in addition to outstanding leadership skills and academic achievement, demonstrate financial need. Finalists will attend an interview session in Princeton, NJ or Washington, DC.

### **Important Dates:**

- December 1: Pickering applications due to Dr. Karna Walter
- February 6: application materials due to WWNFF

**Contact Information:** Potential applicants should consult [www.woodrow.org/public-policy/index.html](http://www.woodrow.org/public-policy/index.html) to obtain specific details related to the Pickering Fellowship. UA students considering applying for the Pickering should contact Dr. Karna Walter, Assistant Director of International Studies and Scholarships, at 621-6546 or [karna@u.arizona.edu](mailto:karna@u.arizona.edu). Dr. Walter is available to discuss application procedures and essay ideas.