

Applying for the Wilmers, World, and Lawrence: Frequently Asked Questions

Questions you may have about the Summer Travel Fellowships:

Q) Which fellowship should I apply for?

A) This depends on several aspects of the project you are considering.

- * Ask yourself why you want to travel. Do projects that appeal to you have a strong academic focus? Do they have a connection to possible thesis work at Williams?

- * Or are you thinking of travel more as an occasion for the unstructured experience of another part of the world? As a voyage of self-discovery?

- * Are you interested in learning first-hand about issues relating to a globalized world? Challenges faced by other societies and countries?

- * How much of your summer do you want to commit to travel? A relatively short period (e.g. less than a month) or a longer one?

- * Is your project likely to require significant funding (\$1500—2000 or more) or not?

The sum of your thoughts about such questions will direct you towards one, and possibly two, of the three fellowships. Some examples:

Longer Projects:

- a) If a project is lengthy and requires a justifiably large amount of support, and is ambitious and original, go for the World or Wilmers.
- b) If a project is lengthy and ambitious, and it reflects an interest in world affairs and understanding, go for a World.
- c) If a project combines the qualities of a Wilmers and a World, you should submit your proposal for each.
- d) A lengthy and/or expensive project will not be suitable for a Lawrence.

Shorter Projects:

- a) A short project that you have planned for very personal reasons would be suitable for a Lawrence.

b) If your project combines both personal goals and a global or international focus, you should submit your proposal for both the Lawrence and the World.

These examples don't cover all possible types of projects, so feel free to explore other combinations of elements in designing a project.

Q) My friend and I have the same interests, can we submit a joint application?

A) No. Each application must stand on its own merits. Each award will be made individually.

Q) May I apply for a summer fellowship to support research for my Senior Thesis?

A) Yes. You may apply for any of the three summer fellowships to support research for your Senior Thesis as long as your proposal satisfies the criteria for the particular fellowship you designate (see question #1 for more information on these criteria). Successful projects need not involve constant travel, but may instead support time at, for example, one or more major research libraries. Q) Can I work/volunteer at an agency (clinic, school, etc) as part of my my project?

A) No, the intention of the fellowship is for you to create and implement a unique travel, research or study project. Funds cannot support an internship or work arrangement.

Q) I am currently studying abroad. May I apply for a project that extends my stay abroad?

A) Yes. If you are already abroad, you may apply for any of the fellowships whose criteria your proposal satisfies (see question #1 for more information on these criteria).

Q) I've applied for an alumni sponsored internship through OCC. Can I receive funding from more than one source for my fellowship project?

A) This depends. On the cover page of your application please list other sources of potential funding for this project. Remember that travel fellowship funds will not pay for volunteer work.