Gates Cambridge Scholarships: Overview

- One to four years of study at the University of Cambridge (master’s or Ph.D.). Scholarship established a decade and a half ago.

- Scholarship covers university and college fees, maintenance allowance for a single student, and air travel between the scholar’s country of residence and the U.K. at beginning and end of study period.

- Approximately 90 awards each year; about 30 to U.S. citizen applicants.
Gates Cambridge Scholarships: Eligibility

- **DOES NOT** require institutional endorsement from Princeton. But you are encouraged to meet with the [Director of Fellowships Advising](#) to review your application.

- Cannot be citizen of the U.K.—all other countries are eligible.

- Must hold a B.A.

- No limit on age or time since your undergraduate degree.

- No GPA cutoff but minimum 3.65 GPA is advised (3.7 is the minimum GPA for Cambridge admission by graduation).

- Must gain admission to Cambridge University through the University’s regular procedures.
Why Study in the U.K and at Cambridge?

• Ancient, self-governing universities: Cambridge’s is over 800 years.

• Collegiate system in Cambridge: traditions, ideal of close academic and social contact between Fellows and students.

• Explore British and European culture, history, politics.
Gates Selection Criteria:

- outstanding intellectual ability
- leadership potential
- a commitment to improving the lives of others
- a good fit between the applicant's qualifications and aspirations and the postgraduate programme at Cambridge for which they are applying.

Tip: Review the Gates Magazine online and review past essays in the binders outside the Trustee Reading Room at Firestone.
What Degree?

- Master’s level:
  - M.Phil., M.Res., M.Stud., but never M.A.
  - Most Cambridge M.Phil.’s are one-year courses;
  - D.Phil. is available on a Gates Cambridge. Be aware that some Princeton disciplines/departments suggest that you obtain your Ph.D. in the U.S.
  - Princetonians from a wide variety of disciplines are competitive for the Gates.
Courses and Faculty

- **Courses may be interdepartmental:**
  - e.g. Public Health courses may be housed in Faculties of Medicine.

- **Should you e-mail possible academic tutors/supervisors?**
  - Yes. It is *very* important to establish relationships with potential faculty mentors in your intended department, so that they advocate for you in the Cambridge admissions process and rank you highly as a Gates candidate.
  - Ideally you should make contact only after a referral from Princeton faculty and only when you have undertaken research on your program of interest and have a clear sense of what you wish to do. Ask informed questions rather than those that are addressed on the website.
Gates Cambridge: Key Dates for U.S. Citizens

• **About October 15 (TBA for 2016):** Application must be submitted/RECEIVED online. You must also submit all supporting documents (three references, transcripts etc.) by this deadline. **Please be aware that some departments have an earlier admissions deadline (e.g. October 1st for history).** You must meet that earlier deadline. Moreover, some departments require writing samples or other supplemental material. We typically offer a workshop to finalize your essays in early October.

• **Mid-December to early January:** Notification if shortlisted for interview

• **Early February:** Interviews and Notification of decision
Gates Cambridge: Key Dates for Non-U.S. Citizens

- **Early December:** Application must be submitted/RECEIVED. If using online application form, you must also submit all supporting documents by this deadline.

- **Early March:** Notification if shortlisted for interview

- **Late March:** Interviews

- **Early April:** Notification of decision

*Deadlines for applying to certain academic programs (courses) at Cambridge may be earlier than the scholarship application deadline. If you are applying to a program/course with a deadline earlier than the scholarship deadline, you must submit your application to the program/course by the earlier deadline. In addition, note that online applications must be submitted two weeks before the course deadline.*
2016 Gates (U.S.) Scholar

• Emma Glennon ‘15
  Concentration: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Additional Questions?

- Deirdre Moloney, director of fellowship advising: (moloney@princeton.edu, 8-1998, skype: deirdre_moloney; make appointments on the WASS calendar.

- Fellowship Advising is located in the Office of International Programs, 36 University Place, Suite 350 (third floor of the U-Store building).

- To join the Fellowship Advising Blackboard site to stay informed about meetings, opportunities, and upcoming deadlines, e-mail postgrad@princeton.edu.