Scholar Conferences FAQs - FAQ

1. What conferences are available to HSF Scholars?
   - STEM Summit
   - National Leadership Conference (NLC)
   - Career Symposium
   - Finance Conference

2. What are the differences between each conference?

   STEM Summit

   - The STEM Summit is an annual “Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math”
     conference that gives the best and brightest HSF STEM Scholars an inside
     track to career success in STEM fields, through a combination of mentoring,
     professional insights, and career guidance.

   National Leadership Conference (NLC)

   - The National Leadership Conference (NLC) provides an inside track to the best
     and brightest HSF Scholars, through a combination of mentoring, professional
     insights, and career guidance.

   Career Symposium

   - The Career Symposium is an annual conference that introduces top HSF
     Scholars to current internship and full-time employment opportunities with
     HSF’s corporate partners.

   Finance Conference

   - The Finance Conference is an annual conference that exposes interested HSF
     Scholars to career opportunities in finance, asset management, private equity
     and other finance related fields.

3. When are the conferences?

   - STEM Summit
     August 5-7, 2016 – Bay Area, CA

   - National Leadership Conference (NLC)
     August 18-21, 2016 – Los Angeles, CA

   - Career Symposium
     September 8-11, 2016 – Los Angeles, CA

   - Finance Conference
     October 21-23, 2016 – New York, NY
4. Why should I attend?

**By participating in the STEM Summit you can...**

- Learn about and explore top-tier internship, leadership, and career opportunities
- Explore opportunities in STEM-related fields
- Participate in comprehensive professional skills training workshops
- Interact and network with leading industry professionals
- Form lasting friendships with the best and brightest HSF Scholars from around the country
- Be mentored by outstanding professionals representing STEM-related fields
- Learn about the journeys of prominent business leaders, and participate in Q&A sessions

**By participating in the NLC you can...**

- Learn about and explore top-tier internship, leadership, and career opportunities
- Participate in comprehensive professional skills training workshops
- Interact and network with leading industry professionals
- Form lasting friendships with the best and brightest HSF Scholars from around the country
- Be mentored by outstanding professionals representing a range of fields
- Learn about the journeys of prominent business leaders, and participate in Q&A sessions

**By participating in the Career Symposium you can...**

- Learn about and explore top-tier internship, leadership, and career opportunities
- Meet hiring managers and recruiters who represent top employers
- Interview live with prominent organizations
- Participate in comprehensive professional skills training workshops
- Interact and network with leading industry professionals
- Form lasting friendships with the best and brightest HSF Scholars from around the country
- Be mentored by outstanding professionals representing a range of fields
- Learn about the journeys of prominent business leaders, and participate in Q&A sessions

**By participating in the Finance Conference you can...**

- Learn about and explore top-tier internship, leadership, and career opportunities
Explore opportunities in finance, asset management, private equity and other finance-related fields
Participate in comprehensive professional skills training workshops
Interact and network with leading industry professionals
Form lasting friendships with the best and brightest HSF Scholars from around the country
Be mentored by outstanding professionals representing finance-related fields
Learn about the journeys of prominent business leaders, and participate in Q&A sessions

5. Who is invited to apply to the conferences?

To be invited to apply to a conference, you must be a current HSF Scholar in good standing, have demonstrated high academic achievement, leadership potential, and meet the eligibility requirements. Please refer to the eligibility requirements listed in the FAQs.

6. Will I receive an invitation to apply?

Yes! HSF Scholars who meet the eligibility requirements will receive an email from HSF with an invitation to apply.

7. How do I apply?

To apply, click on the application link provided in your invitation email.

8. What is the application process?

If you meet the eligibility requirements, you will receive an invitation to apply
You must submit your application by the stated deadline, along with all required documents, including essays and headshots
Once the selection committee has reviewed your submission, you will be notified via email of our decision
If selected, you will be asked to confirm your participation and provide corresponding documents
Once HSF receives your confirmation and all required documents, you will receive a program itinerary and event logistics

9. When are the applications for the various conferences due?

NLC – April 15, 2016
Career Symposium – April 15, 2016
STEM Summit – April 29, 2016

10. Can I apply to multiple conferences?

Yes. You will receive separate invitation emails for the conferences for which you qualify.
11. Can I be selected to attend more than one conference?

   Yes, you may be selected to attend more than one conference.

12. If I want to apply to multiple conferences, do I have to submit multiple applications?

   Yes. You will need to submit a separate application for each conference. Essay questions will differ for each application, but your basic information will carry over.

13. Do I have to major in a STEM-related field to participate in the STEM Summit?

   No. While preference will be given to scholars with intentions to pursue career opportunities in STEM, HSF will also select scholars with alternative majors who are interested in learning more about the field.

14. Do I have to major in finance to participate in the Finance Conference?

   No. While preference will be given to scholars with intentions to pursue career opportunities in finance, HSF will also select scholars with alternative majors who are interested in learning more about the field.

15. Do I have to attend every day of the conference? What if I cannot attend every day of the conference?

   Yes. Scholars must be able to attend a conference in its entirety. This includes all sessions, group activities, and workshops. If you cannot attend an entire conference, you will not be permitted to attend, at all.

16. Do you I have to pay for anything?

   No. HSF will pay for all meals, transportation, and room & board costs for the duration of the conference. HSF will neither pay nor reimburse you for any unrelated expenses.

17. Will meals be provided?

   Breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks will be provided during the conference.

18. How can I communicate with HSF?

   All conference communication will be conducted via email, only. Please check your inbox regularly for updates on the status of your application. If you have additional questions, please refer to the program FAQ’s or send us an email via our message center.

19. What are the eligibility requirements?
STEM Summit:

- Current HSF Scholars in good standing
- Scholars entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year of college
- 2.5 GPA or above, on a 4.0 scale, or equivalent based on your school's scale
- Scholars in a STEM-related discipline/major
- Scholars outside STEM-related disciplines are encouraged to apply. If your major is not STEM-related field, you will need to state in your application how you plan to utilize the knowledge you would gain at the STEM Summit to support your professional goals
- Identify as being of Hispanic Heritage

*Please note: HSF Scholars are amongst the top students in the nation, and selections are highly competitive. The HSF STEM Summit selection committee uses a rigorous selection process to choose Scholars who are awarded seats at the conference, in a given year.

National Leadership Conference (NLC):

- Current HSF Scholars in good standing
- Scholars entering their sophomore year of college
- Scholars entering their second year of Graduate school
- 2.5 GPA or above, on a 4.0 scale, or equivalent based on your school’s scale
- Scholars from all disciplines/majors are encouraged to apply
- Identify as being of Hispanic Heritage

*Please note: HSF Scholars are amongst the top students in the nation and selections are highly competitive. The HSF National Leadership Conference selection committee uses a rigorous selection process to choose Scholars who are awarded seats at the conference, in a given year.

Career Symposium:

- Current HSF Scholars in good standing
- Scholars entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year of college
- 2.5 GPA or above, on a 4.0 scale, or equivalent based on your school’s scale
- Scholars from all disciplines/majors are encouraged to apply
- Students interested in pursuing internships & employment opportunities during and after college will be invited to apply
- Identify as being of Hispanic Heritage

*Please note: HSF Scholars are amongst the top students in the nation, and selections are highly competitive. The Career Symposium selection committee uses a rigorous selection process to choose Scholars who are awarded seats at the conference, in a given year.
Finance Conference:

- Current HSF Scholars in good standing
- Scholars entering their sophomore, junior, or senior year of college
- 2.5 GPA or above, on a 4.0 scale, or equivalent based on your school’s scale
- Scholars in a finance-related discipline/major
- Scholars outside finance-related disciplines are encouraged to apply. If your major is not finance-related field, you will need to state in your application how you plan to utilize the knowledge you would gain at the Finance Conference to support your professional goals
- Identify as being of Hispanic Heritage

*Please note: HSF Scholars are amongst the top students in the nation, and selections are highly competitive. The HSF Finance Conference selection committee uses a rigorous selection process to choose Scholars who are awarded seats at the conference, in a given year.

20. I meet the eligibility requirements, why wasn’t I invited to apply?

HSF Scholars are amongst the top students in the nation, and selections are highly competitive. We receive many more qualified applicants than can be accommodated at any of the conferences. The HSF Conference selection committees use a rigorous selection process to choose a limited number of participants for each conference, as designated.

21. May I apply if I have already attended any of HSF’s previous conferences?

Yes. Scholars who meet the eligibility requirements will be invited to apply.

22. I am a Gates Millennium Scholar; am I eligible to apply?

Yes. Gates Millennium Scholars who meet the eligibility requirements will be invited to apply.

23. If I am not a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident, am I eligible to apply?

If you are an HSF Scholar and have a valid form of identification to travel to the conference, you may apply.

24. If I am a refugee or have established asylum status, am I eligible to apply?

If you are an HSF Scholar and have a valid form of identification to travel to the conference, you may apply.

25. If I am studying abroad during the time of the conference, will HSF cover the cost of my international flight/transportation?
No. HSF covers only domestic transportation costs.

26. I am older than the traditional college student. Am I eligible to apply?

   Yes. Scholars who meet the eligibility requirements will be invited to apply, regardless of age.

27. Where can I find the application?

   A link for the application can be found on your invitation email, or on your MyHSF account landing page.

28. Do I need to submit essays?

   Yes. Each conference application requires two essays.

29. If I apply to multiple conferences, can I use the same essay responses?

   No. Each conference requires a separate application and essays. Essay questions will differ for each application, but your basic information will carry over.

30. Why am I not able to access the application?

   If you have been invited to apply and are experiencing technical difficulties, please contact us through the message center by selecting Website/Tech Issues. A member of our team will get back to you.

31. Why is HSF asking me to submit my employment information?

   HSF will use employment information to support scholars in obtaining internship and entry-level employment opportunities.

32. If I exit the application, will my information be saved?

   Yes. All the information provided will be saved; however, we recommend that you save a copy of all the information submitted, including your essays.

33. Can I review my application before submitting the information?

   Yes. You will be able to return to any section to edit and review before submitting. However, once the application is submitted, you will not be able to edit your application.

34. I submitted my application, can I edit my information?

   No. Once the application is submitted, you cannot edit the information. However, if you are selected, we will ask you to confirm your address and any other pertinent
information at a later time, so you need not be concerned if that information has changed since your submission.

35. What supporting documents will I need to submit?

You will be notified about the need to submit supporting documentation when you are invited to apply, and again, if you are selected to attend a conference.

36. I am concerned about uploading my personal documents into my application. Do you recommend that I encrypt my files in order to protect my information?

No. HSF’s online system is completely secure. Encrypted documents lead to disruptions in the application review process. If you have any concerns regarding the security of your application, please contact us through the message center.

37. Can I fax or mail my required documents?

No. Documents sent by fax will not be accepted. Documents sent via U.S. mail will not be accepted. Only documents uploaded electronically into the applicant’s Document Bank will be accepted.

38. How do I update my online application if my personal information changes?

Once your application has been submitted, you will not be allowed to make any changes. If your information changes and you are selected, you will be able to update your information at a later time.

39. When will I know if I am selected to attend a conference?

Scholars will be notified of their acceptance via email, approximately 3-4 weeks prior to the event.

40. Will I be notified if I do not get selected?

Due to a high volume of applicants, only students who are selected will receive immediate notification via email. We will make every effort to notify those who were not selected.

41. My application and supporting documentation have been submitted, what are my next steps?

The HSF Conference Selection Committee will review all applications. If you are selected, we will notify you of the next steps via email.

42. What is required for acceptance and confirmation?

If you are selected, you will be asked to accept your invitation and to confirm that you
will participate in the conference. You will be asked to submit additional documents, update your contact information, and complete the required homework assignment prior to the conference.

43. I have a really high GPA and consider myself a strong candidate. Why wasn’t I invited to attend?

HSF Scholars are amongst the top students in the nation, and selections are highly competitive. We receive many more qualified applicants than can be accommodated at any of the conferences. The HSF Conference selection committees use a rigorous selection process to choose a limited number of participants for each conference, as designated.

44. Does HSF offer transportation to the conference/s?

Yes. HSF will offer transportation to the conference/s as needed. Students who are selected will be contacted to provide information about their travel needs. HSF will work with each student to arrange the best form of transportation to the event.

45. Will HSF provide hotel accommodations?

Yes. HSF will provide hotel accommodations for all students who are participating in the conference/s.

46. What if I accept and can no longer attend the conference?

Scholars must make every effort to evaluate the opportunity before accepting. If you cannot attend the event or it conflicts with another activity, do not confirm. Scholars who accept and then cancel will be responsible for covering 100% of the costs incurred by HSF for this reason. Until funds are repaid, all HSF Scholar privileges will be suspended.

47. I got accepted into two conferences, but I can only attend one. What should I do?

Scholars must make every effort to evaluate the opportunity before accepting. If you cannot attend one of the conferences, simply decline the one you cannot attend. Scholars who accept and then cancel will be responsible for covering 100% of the costs incurred by HSF for this reason. Until funds are repaid, all HSF Scholar privileges will be suspended.

48. I have additional questions about the conferences; how/who do I ask?

If you have additional questions, please contact us through the message center.