

Columbia Community Scholars Program

About The Program:

The Community Scholars Program offers independent, community-based scholars from Northern Manhattan access to a suite of Columbia University services and resources in order to work toward the completion of a particular project or to attain skill in a particular area. **The program originated as one of the benefits and amenities provided to the local community as part of Columbia's Manhattanville Campus Expansion.** The program allows provides a formal opportunity to participate in the intellectual life of the university, providing opportunities for interaction with faculty, students, and other visiting scholars. It also helps foster and deepen ties between the University and the many independent members of the cultural and intellectual community surrounding it.

The services include access to the university's libraries (including online access), course auditing privileges (in departments offering auditable courses), interaction with scholars in their field of study, and the ability to participate in seminars and social events. A Scholar may wish to make use of all or some of the services offered; a Scholar who begins the program simply wishing to access the libraries can later into the program choose to audit classes. The program's coordinator will assist each scholar to access resources and determine his or her needs, as well as alerting them to relevant opportunities on campus as they arise.

Appointed for terms of three years, scholars are selected by a committee that may include Columbia senior staff, deans and faculty, and leaders from local cultural institutions. Scholars are encouraged to share the tangible outcome of their work at or near the completion of their programs.

Eligibility:

1. You must be a Borough of Manhattan resident living north of 96th Street.
2. You cannot have a current affiliation with Columbia University.
3. You must have a High School Diploma, GED or equivalent.

Please Note:

This program does not lead to course credit, a degree or certification. All instruction in classes is conducted in English unless otherwise noted in course descriptions. Admission to Community Scholars program is conditional upon proof of northern Borough of Manhattan residency. Although terms are stated as 3 years, individual scholars may opt to complete the program in less time. Continued enrollment depends upon continued compliance with all program requirements and University regulations.

Applications are due May 1st, 2020.

To learn more about the program, including how to apply, please visit gca.columbia.edu/communityscholars. If you have any questions, please contact us at 212-854-2568 or communityaffairs@columbia.edu.



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Office of Government and Community Affairs

Columbia Community Scholars Program Application Cover Page

Full Name _____

Home Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Project Description _____

Application Requirements:

- Please complete and sign this page and include it as the cover page of your application.
- 1-2 pages describing your educational and/or professional background
- 1-2 pages describing the project you propose to pursue
 - Your anticipated goals and outcomes
 - University resources you would like to access (i.e. courses to audit, library, etc.)
 - A brief statement on how your project might be of benefit or interest to the larger community
- Required Documentation*
 - Résumé, or Curriculum Vitae (Required)
 - Copy of your High School transcript, GED/TASC, OR explanation of equivalent experience. (Required if no college transcript is provided)
 - Copy of transcripts from any college or university work, if applicable.
 - 2 letters of reference (may be from a current or former employer, community leader, teacher, professor, colleague, or eminent person in your field of study) (Required)
- Other supporting materials you would like to have considered as a part of your application: work sample, writing samples of up to 2 pages, audio or videotape

Please visit <https://gca.columbia.edu/communityscholars> to apply online or via email.

Alternatively, application materials in one package can be hand delivered to the Office of Government & Community Affairs at Columbia University, located at 535 West 116th Street, 309 Low Library, New York, NY 10027. **Materials must be received no later than May 1st, 2020 and cannot be returned.**

The New York State Empire State Development Corporation may require Columbia University to submit each applicant's name, address and proof of residency to confirm program eligibility.

Signature: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

**If accepted into the program, further proof of residency and official transcripts will be requested.*