



# MARY GATES ENDOWMENT FOR STUDENTS

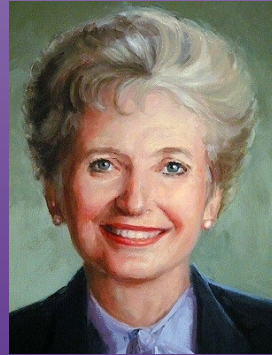
WINTER 2019

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UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

# MARY GATES ENDOWMENT FOR STUDENTS



*Mary Maxwell Gates*

- UW Alum, B.A. Education, 1950
- UW Board of Regents, 1975-1993
- Numerous other advisory boards and volunteer roles for non-profit and for-profit organizations in education, arts, government, health care, and private industry.
- Endowment established to “create new opportunities for students to become independent learners and community leaders.”

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Many types of funding available:

- *Leadership*
- *Research*
- Innovation Internships

Partners:

- CoMotion
- Friday Harbor Research Labs
- Summer Institute in the Arts & Humanities
- UW Honors Program
- WA NASA Space Grant

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- \$5,000/award = two quarters of \$2,500 each.
- Unrestricted funds.
- Open to *all* UW undergraduate students.
  - Must be enrolled and actively pursuing a Bachelor's degree.
- Students may earn multiple scholarships while at UW.
  - Up to three – combination of Leadership & Research.
  - Only one monetary award (up to \$2500) per quarter.

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## \$ = Opportunity

- What will you *do*? What will you explore?
- How will you contribute to the scholarly work of your field? What impact will you have on your community?
- How will you develop as a leader or researcher?

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- How will this project help you learn and inform your academic coursework? What are your learning goals?
- What will be your unique contribution? How will your role fit into the greater whole?

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## Recent *Leadership* Project Titles:

- Empowering artists through agency-oriented interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Women in Materials Science Engineering (WiMSE)
- Healthy Meal Prep for Aging Populations
- Patient Education Videos to Increase Health Literacy in Chinese-American Population
- BioExplore

## Recent *Research* Project Titles:

- The Relationship Between Wildfire and the Cascading Impacts of Predators on Plants
- Using a continuous measure to study children's gender identity
- Comparing CYP2J2 regulation between heart and liver tissue
- Refugees and Immigrants: A Snapshot of Community Health in Lake City
- Climates of Habitable Exoplanets

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- An investment in you, your learning and your development as a leader or researcher.
- Support your passion for project.
- Require close working relationship with faculty or professional mentor.



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## Who are Mentors:

- UW faculty member or other professional community leader:
  - ▶ Research applicants **MUST** have a UW faculty member as mentor and letter writer.
  - ▶ Research applicants may designate another mentor, such as a post-doc or grad student, to write a second letter of support.
  - ▶ Leadership applicants may designate *only one* mentor but have more flexibility on whom (e.g. site supervisor).

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## Mentor's Role:

- Someone who will help you learn and process the challenges of leadership or research activities.
- Mutual agreement about mentorship needs and individual roles (how you will work together).

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## Mentor Letters of Recommendation:

- Mentors will receive automated email with instructions and login link.
- “Information for Mentors” form on website.
- Letters from mentor(s) must clearly explain:
  - ▶ your preparedness for the project,
  - ▶ how your mentor will support and assist you (project and personal goals, time commitment, feedback and guidance, etc.).

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## Application components:

- Biographical and contact information (auto-filled)
- Project title, summary description (50 words), dates of involvement and hours per week
- Requested award quarters
  - Default: 2 quarters - select any two of next three quarters
    - only exception if graduating at end of first quarter of funding
  - Must be enrolled and actively engaged in Leadership or Research activity in quarters scholarship is received.
- Letter of recommendation from mentor(s)
  - Mentor name and email address required.
  - Mentor will independently upload a letter of support.
- Unofficial Transcript (permission to access)
- Essay (uploaded as PDF)

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## *Leadership* Essay Prompt:

- Please describe the activity or project you propose to undertake and how this experience will challenge you and allow you to grow as a leader. Include a discussion of why this initiative matters to you, what you expect to distinctively contribute, and your goals for developing your leadership potential. What do you need to learn about leadership and about being a leader yourself? Consider how your mentor and the context of your project will provide the support you will need to meet your learning goals.
  - Probable update: Briefly address the potential impact of the scholarship on your engagement with your leadership project, your academic and professional goals, and/or your personal life.

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*Research* Essay prompt:

- In your own words, describe your research and what you and your faculty mentor hope to learn from your work. Discuss your motivations for getting involved in this research project and how this work contributes to your education and to the development of your future plans.
  - Probable update: Briefly address the potential impact of the scholarship on your engagement with your research project, your academic and professional goals, and/or your personal life.

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Maximum Essay Limit :

- 1,250 words, 4 pages (whichever is shorter)
  - ▶ Standard margins, double-spaced, 12 pt. font.
  - ▶ In-text citations are not included in word limit, but *are* included in page limit.
- One additional page for images, figures, references.



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- Leadership Evaluation Criteria:
  - ▶ Quality of Applicant
    - ▶ Preparation, potential for success
  - ▶ Project Context
    - ▶ Goals, collaborators, methods
  - ▶ Leadership
    - ▶ Define Leadership
    - ▶ Describe self as Leader
  - ▶ Reflection, Growth and Impact
    - ▶ Track learning
    - ▶ Personal impact of activity and scholarship



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- Research Evaluation Criteria:
  - ▶ Quality of Applicant
    - ▶ Preparation, potential for success
  - ▶ Understanding of Research
    - ▶ Goals, collaborators, methods
  - ▶ Quality and Intensity of Experience
    - ▶ Good learning opportunity
    - ▶ Support and resources to be successful
  - ▶ Educational and Long-Term Impact
    - ▶ Personal impact of activity and scholarship

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- Notes about Evaluation Criteria
  - Be sure your essay addresses all criteria in some way.
  - But do **NOT** equally divide your essay between all criteria.
    - Approximately 50-75% of essay should be devoted to description of leadership or research project.
    - Remaining 25-50% should address other criteria.
    - Letters of recommendation and transcript address some the evaluation criteria.

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## Competitive Essays:

- Are **FOCUSED** and specific.
- Clearly articulate project idea, goals, and plans.
- Outline project milestones - not date-specific.
- Discuss long-term impact of research or leadership experience on:
  - your education and learning goals
  - preparation for the future/next steps
  - any challenges – anticipated or previous
- Address the impact of the scholarship.
- Include strong mentorship.
  - Describe how your mentor will guide/support your growth and learning.
- Convey sincere engagement with project or activity.

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## Other Essay Guidelines:

- Write in your own voice.
- Be clear about your role.
  - Help the reader imagine you at work.
- Describe how your activity fits into the big picture.
- Properly cite references, figures, etc.
- Ask for critical feedback before you submit.
  - Mentors
  - OUGL Writing Center, Instructional Center (IC), Office of Merit Scholarships, Fellowships & Awards (OMFSA)
  - ✓ Provide essay prompt and evaluation criteria to reviewers.

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Comprehensive review of whole application.

- Evaluate this project/activity and it's future
  - > Previous experience and preparation are important, but are not the basis of the award.
- Every application reviewed by three people; leadership applicants may also be interviewed.
  - > Expert audience: faculty and professional staff.
- Decisions announced last Friday of quarter (before Finals Week).
- All applicants may receive feedback to strengthen future applications.
- Re-applications are encouraged.

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## If awarded:

- \$2,500/qtr for two quarters
- Present at Spring Celebration of Service & Leadership or Undergraduate Research Symposium
- Maintain full-time enrollment

## Financial Aid:

- May impact financial aid packages; check with Office of Student Financial Aid.
- MGE reserves right to adjust total award amounts based upon approval from Financial Aid Office, funds available, and to promote parity among awardees.

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## Emergency Financial Aid:

- NEW website of both on- and off-campus resources for students experiencing unexpected costs.
- Assistance available for time-sensitive expenses, such as medical bills, housing/rent, food, transportation, or other basic necessities.
- [www.washington.edu/financialaid/emergency-aid-program](http://www.washington.edu/financialaid/emergency-aid-program)



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- **Deadlines**
  - ▶ Leadership: Monday, January 28, 2019 @ 5:00 PM
  - ▶ Research: Monday, February 4, 2019 @ 5:00 PM
- **Application Workshops**
  - ▶ Leadership: January 22, 2019 @ 4:00PM
  - ▶ Research: January 28, 2018 @ 4:00PM
- Applications accepted in Autumn and Winter quarters.
- CoMotion Mary Gates Innovations Internship applications are accepted in Spring quarters.



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- Application Login:  
*[expd.uw.edu/mge](http://expd.uw.edu/mge)*
- Questions?
  - ▶ *[expd.uw.edu/mge](http://expd.uw.edu/mge)*
  - ▶ *[mgates@uw.edu](mailto:mgates@uw.edu)*



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## Scholarship Fridays

- Mary Gates Research & Leadership Scholarships
- Getting Started with Scholarships with OMSFA
- Fridays, 1:30-2:30 PM
- Location varies
- More information?
  - [Expd.uw.edu/scholarships](https://expd.uw.edu/scholarships)
  - [Expd.uw.edu/mge](https://expd.uw.edu/mge)