



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS®

Fulbright College
Arts & Sciences
Middle East Studies

MEST Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Application

Applicant Information

Name: _____

UARK ID (if assigned): _____

Email Address: _____

Incoming first-year students who have not yet received a UARK email may list a personal email address.

Phone Number: _____

Current Status (check one):

☐ Incoming First-Year Student

☐ Current Undergraduate Student

☐ Transfer Student

Expected graduation date (Semester & Year) _____

Academic Information

Intended or Declared Major(s): _____

Overall GPA: _____ / 4.0

MEST GPA (if applicable): _____ / 4.0

Incoming first-year students may list their high school GPA.



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MEST Coursework (if applicable)

Please list any completed or currently enrolled MEST core, language, or related coursework. Include the institution, term, and grade (if completed).

Incoming first-year students may write "Not Applicable."

Statement of Purpose

Please attach a 2–3 page Statement of Purpose addressing the following:

- Academic interests
- Interest in Middle East Studies
- Intended course of study
- Academic and/or career goals
- Relevant academic, extracurricular, leadership, research, language, study abroad, or service experiences
- Any additional information you would like the committee to consider



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Recommendations

Please identify the individuals whom you have asked to provide recommendations.

Current students should request at least one recommendation from a faculty member affiliated with the MEST program (see [Directory](#)). Incoming first-year and transfer students may request recommendations from high school teachers, faculty at a previous institution, or other academic mentors who can speak to their academic preparation and potential.

Applicants are responsible for providing recommenders with the MEST Recommendation Form. The form is included at the end of this application packet and is also available as a separate download from the [MEST Scholarship webpage](#). Recommenders should submit completed recommendation forms directly to mest@uark.edu by the application deadline.

Recommender 1

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Email: _____

Recommender 2

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Email: _____

Submission Instructions

Please submit the completed Application Form and Statement of Purpose to mest@uark.edu by **March 1**.

Recommendation forms should be submitted directly by recommenders to mest@uark.edu by the application deadline.



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MEST Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Recommendation Form

Dear Recommender,

Please provide a frank and candid assessment of the applicant's current academic performance and potential for future academic growth. Particularly relevant to the committee's evaluation is the student's demonstrated interest in the Middle East and/or North Africa. You may also wish to comment on the applicant's intellectual curiosity, initiative, leadership, personal integrity, maturity, and character.

Your evaluation is an important part of the scholarship selection process. Please complete the information below and submit your recommendation form directly to mest@uark.edu by **March 1**.

About the MEST Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Middle East Studies scholarships are awarded to outstanding students who demonstrate academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, and a strong commitment to the study of the Middle East and North Africa. Scholarship recipients must declare and pursue a major in Middle East Studies and maintain a 3.5 GPA in MEST core courses and a 3.0 cumulative GPA while enrolled at the University of Arkansas.

Selection criteria may include academic achievement, leadership, participation in community and extracurricular activities, study abroad experience, involvement in specialized educational programs, and recognition through academic honors or awards. Financial need may also be considered.

Name of Applicant

Name of Evaluator, Title, and Relationship to Applicant

Email Address

Department

Signature

Date

Rev. 06/2026



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RECOMMENDATION

Please discuss the applicant's academic performance, potential for future academic growth, demonstrated interest in the Middle East and/or North Africa, and any personal qualities that would assist the selection committee in evaluating the applicant. Relevant qualities may include intellectual curiosity, initiative, leadership, integrity, maturity, reliability, and character.

Please use the space below or attach a separate letter.