

# PHRGE Scholar Application Instructions

## ➤ General Information

- Prior to applying, please review the information about the PHRGE Fellowship Program and the PHRGE Scholar Award on the [PHRGE Fellowship Program site](#).
- Information about deadlines is available on the [PHRGE Fellowship Program site](#).
- PHRGE generally awards two unrestricted fellowships (i.e., fellowships open to JD students and to LLM students) each semester. In addition, PHRGE will typically award one restricted LLM fellowship (i.e., a fellowship open only to LLM students) per year.
- PHRGE staff members process applications and recommend award recipients. PHRGE's Faculty Co-Directors make the final award decisions.
- PHRGE seeks a dynamic and diverse group of award recipients each year.

## ➤ Application Instructions

**Step One: Please compose a cover letter.** It is important to describe the relationship between human rights and the work you will be doing on your co-op. If your co-op organization is not explicitly devoted to promoting human rights, please explain how your work will promote human rights and further your understanding of human rights. Please address your cover letter to Elizabeth Ennen, Director of PHRGE.

**Step Two: Please compile an application packet. Please use your last name (only) for its title.**

The application packet should contain, in the following order: (1) your cover letter, (2) your resume, (3) your short (unofficial) transcript, and (4) your co-op evaluations. Please note that your course evaluations should not be included in your application.

- Adobe Software, which can be used to assemble multiple documents into a single PDF, is available on NUSL library computers.
- To access your short transcript, log into myNEU, navigate to "Service and Links," select "Courses and Registration, and select "My Transcript." The instructions for generating a PDF of your short transcript will vary with your operating system.
- If you are going on your first JD co-op, or your only LLM co-op, you do not need to explain the absence of co-op evaluations in your application packet. If you are a more advanced JD student and are missing one or more co-op evaluations, however, please explain why (e.g., late evaluation) in your cover letter.

**Step Three: Please complete and submit the application form. The last question on the form will invite you to upload your application packet. You will find a link to the application form on the [PHRGE Fellowship Program website](#).**

## ➤ Application Evaluation

- PHRGE evaluates applications holistically. Relevant factors include the following:
  - The degree to which the applicant will be using human rights strategies (e.g., the use of international human rights treaties, participation in UN human rights reporting procedures) during the co-op;
  - Whether the applicant has excelled academically at NUSL and has performed well on NUSL co-ops;
  - Whether the applicant will be working in one of PHRGE's focus areas: economic, social, and cultural (ESC) rights in general; land and resource rights; the application of a human rights framework to domestic litigation; and the rights of noncitizens;
  - Whether the co-op employer is on PHRGE's list of [Recommended Human Rights Co-op Organizations](#);
  - Whether the selection of the applicant would help PHRGE reach its goal of having a diverse group of PHRGE Scholars; and
  - The number of additional opportunities the student is likely to have to apply for a PHRGE Scholar Award. (PHRGE may, in the case of comparable applications, privilege applications from students who are closer to graduation.)

## ➤ Financial Issues

- In general, PHRGE Scholar Awards are dispersed in the form of \$3500 of financial aid at the beginning of the co-op semester. In many cases, this financial aid is applied toward the recipient's student loan and reduces the amount of the recipient's outstanding loan.
- In some cases, a recipient may receive a PHRGE Scholar Award in the form of work-study co-op funding. This disbursement method is available ONLY IF (1) the NUSL financial aid office determines that the recipient is eligible to receive federal work-study funding, and (2) the co-op office determines that the co-op employer is able and willing to serve as a work-study employer. Recipients who receive work-study funding receive a larger sum (approximately \$7000) in paychecks over the course of the co-op.
- Recipients consult with the co-op office and the financial aid office to determine the best approach for their individual circumstances.

➤ **For more information about applying for a PHRGE Scholar Award, please visit the [PHRGE Fellowship Program website](#) or contact Elizabeth Ennen at [e.ennen@northeastern.edu](mailto:e.ennen@northeastern.edu).**