

THOMAS J. WATSON FELLOWSHIP, FALL 2023

Website: <https://watson.foundation/fellowships/tj>

APPLICANTS MUST BE NOMINATED BY GRINNELL COLLEGE

Applicant's Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

_____ Review the Watson Fellowship website, <https://watson.foundation/fellowships/tj> and visit with Ann Landstrom, Grinnell College's Watson Partner School Liaison.

_____ **Friday, May 26, 2023 or soon after – Intent to Apply Notification for the Watson Fellowship**

- Complete the online form to state your intent to submit an application in Fall 2023.

_____ **Spring and Summer 2023 Advising Appointments with Ann Landstrom.** When the TJW Application platform becomes live (typically in late May/June) Ann will enter your name and email into the system. You will receive an email with a link to begin the online application that is used for the internal campus application process and foundation application process.

_____ **Wednesday, August 16, 2023 – Commitment to Apply Deadline**

- As of this date, class of 2024 graduating seniors must have met with Ann and be in progress with an application by this commitment date in order to submit an application on September 8.

_____ **Friday, September 8, 2023 from 11am to 5pm – Campus Application Deadline** (Please be aware the submission process may adjust, yet the materials required and deadline will remain the same. Early submission by appointment.)

*Paper copies of the following materials must be turned into Ann Landstrom, Global Fellowships and Awards, CLS, 1103 Park. Print as one-sided documents!

_____ **Scholarship Nomination Permission Form and Waiver.** Print or obtain copy, read, and sign.

_____ **Budget.** A one or two page estimated budget that includes all aspects of a one-year journey with a maximum of \$40,000. It is best to lay this out like an itinerary, country by country.

_____ **Contact List.** A comprehensive contact list by country, with full name of contact, email address, organization, city, and notes on how the contact has informed the project or year. In addition, please designate status of connection for each 1) confirmed contact, 2) in communication with contact, or 3) emailed contact with no response.

_____ **Supplemental Materials,** as needed per project proposal. Materials must be concise, relevant, and with clear intent. Such items typically elucidate a particular activity, talent, skills, or personal strength directly relevant to the proposal.

_____ **Official Transcripts.** Request from every other college/university you have attended for which the course title, credit hours, or grade are NOT all listed on your Grinnell transcript. AP or IB classes do not require an additional transcript. The institution can postal mail to Grinnell College, Attn: Ann Landstrom, Assistant Dean and Director GFA, Center for Careers, Life, and Service, 1103 Park Street, Grinnell, IA 50112 OR request an official to be emailed to Ann at landstrom@grinnell.edu.

_____ Institution _____

_____ Institution _____

Friday, September 8, 2023 – Campus Application Deadline CONTINUED

*TJW online application components must be completed by the time the supplemental materials are turned in. **Note the application needs to be COMPLETED, DO NOT PRESS SUBMIT.** Ann will print the application in pdf format when you drop off the materials in order to make your campus application complete.

- _____ **Personal Data.** Demographic and institutional questions that includes a Professional Aspirations statement.
- _____ **Biographical Abstract** – 100-word limit. Summary which is based upon the personal statement.
- _____ **Activities, Awards, Employment, and Education.** Highlights of an applicant’s life thus far to demonstrate areas of interest and involvement. It does not have to include your full resume and/or all your descriptive bullet points.
- _____ **Travel.** Include length of stay in each country and purpose for the visit.
- _____ **Languages Spoken in Project Countries & Other Languages Spoken.**
- _____ **Personal Statement** – 1500-word limit. Introduces the candidate and provides the backdrop for the application. The statement should explain the personal significance and context for the proposed project. It will discuss why you chose your topic, how it developed out of previous interests or experiences, and how within your proposal the topic represents a new challenge. It may also describe your background, your college years, your professional goals and aspirations, and your reasons for seeking a Watson Fellowship. It should be clear from your personal statement why, of all the topics you could have chosen, you chose this one. Personal anecdotes are often helpful, but they must be genuine, not forced. The statement will introduce and/or allude to the project topic, but save the details for the Project Proposal.
- _____ **Project Title** – 8-word limit.
- _____ **Equipment Needs.** Expenditures in excess of \$1,000 will require approval by the Foundation.
- _____ **Proposed Project Countries.**
- _____ **Project Abstract.** Summary of the project proposal.
- _____ **Project Proposal** – 1500-word limit. Flowing from the personal statement, the project proposal should describe the applicant’s plan for the 12-month year. Provide a description of the project and details about how you intend to carry it out. *In addition to focusing on a topic you are passionate about, the project should be personally challenging (yet feasible), independent, and sustainable over 12 months.* The proposal should indicate the anticipated itinerary, specific opportunities and intentions for each country/location, language plan, and efforts taken to secure contacts “on the ground” in the proposed project countries. The proposal should detail the opportunities and challenges unique to the project and the applicant’s preparation and strategy to address them. *Health and safety should be top of mind when developing this plan.* Remember: The proposal is read in tandem with the Personal Statement, so you need not repeat information already provided there.
- _X_ **Supplemental Materials.** DO NOT UPLOAD ANYTHING HERE. SEE ABOVE.
- _____ **Two Recommendations.** One recommendation must be from Grinnell College. You will enter the names and contact information into the online application. An email will be generated to the recommenders for completion of the application portal recommendation form. **This form must be completed by the time you turn in your campus application or at the latest 5pm on that Friday, September 8, 2023!**
- _____ Name _____
- _____ Name _____
- _____ **Grinnell College Transcript.** Obtain an unofficial hard copy directly from Colleague Self-Service, Registrar’s Office website. Scan as a pdf or png, rotate right-side up, and upload.
- _____ **Headshot Photo.** Read the online application directions and PLAN IN ADVANCE. Careers, Life, and Service and Communications are both options for the photo when you are on campus.
- _____ **Verification.** All fields must be checked.

Attend Preparing for your Watson Interviews – Noon, 5 pm, or 8pm on Monday, September 11, 2023

September 12 to October 5, 2023 – Campus Committee Application Review & Interviews

- The review and interview process is based upon how many applications we receive each year. All applications will be reviewed by the committee, and we anticipate the interview stage will include one-on-one interviews with two to three committee members. More information will be available about this process as we near the campus application deadline.

By Monday, October 16, 2023 – Notification of Nomination

- Up to 4 Grinnell College students may be nominated.
- Nominees meet with Ann Landstrom at the start of Fall Break and complete the TJW Fellowship Nomination Agreement Form. Application preparation continues for the foundation deadline.

Monday, November 6, 2023 by Noon – Final Application Materials Ready for Electronic Submission

- *By this date the Nominated Students will complete all online application materials required for submission to the Watson Foundation.*
 - **Personal Data.**
 - **Biographical Abstract.**
 - **Activities, Awards, Employment, and Education.**
 - **Travel.**
 - **Languages.**
 - **Personal Statement** – 1500 words.
 - **Project Title, Equipment Needs, Proposed Project Countries, and Project Summary.**
 - **Project Proposal** – 1500 words.
 - **Supplemental Materials.** Will include budget, contacts, or other relevant project information.
 - **Two Recommendations.**
____ Name _____
____ Name _____
 - **Grinnell College Official Transcript.** (Obtained by GFA Watson Liaison)
 - **Additional Official Transcripts.**
____ Institution _____
____ Institution _____
 - **Headshot Photo.**
 - **Verification. Travel Warning Check.**
- *Submit digital word documents of a) Biographical Summary and Personal Statement, and b) Title, Countries, Project Summary, and Project Proposal to GFA at the designated appointment time.*
- *Nomination Letter Completed by Grinnell's TJW Committee.*
- *Applications must be received online to TJW by Noon ET on Wednesday, November 8, 2023.*

November 2023 to February 2024 – A Thomas J. Watson Fellowship Representative (a former Watson Fellow) will interview the nominated candidates on Grinnell College's campus or virtually. Additional supplemental material may be requested at the foundation interview.

Friday, March 15, 2024 – All Watson Nominees will be notified and the 2024-2025 Thomas J. Watson Fellowship Awards announced.