Dear Students and University Administrators:

Thank you for your interest in The Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholars Program (SMSP). This Dossier Information and Application Packet contains important information for applicants and university officials regarding:

- The SMSP Selection Process;
- Instructions for completing a dossier for admission to the SMSP; and
- Submission deadlines.

Please read the information carefully. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the SMSP staff or your University’s SMSP Coordinator.

Povashni Naidu, Program Administrator, Povashni.Naidu@nyu.edu or 02 628 4885 or 050 443 1072
Sultan Karmostaji, HCT Coordinator, at skarmostaji@hct.ac.ae
Jihan El Wagie, UAEU Coordinator, at j.abobaker@uae.ac.ae
Steven Gardiner, Zayed University Coordinator, at Steven.Gardiner@zu.ac.ae

Sincerely,

Diane Yu, Executive Director

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Introduction to the SMSP Selection Process

To be eligible for consideration for this program a student must:

- Be in his/her third or fourth year of a baccalaureate course of study in the 2015-2016 academic year, second year of a higher diploma, or third year of a higher diploma with the intention to begin a baccalaureate course of study in the 2015-2016 academic year;

- Be a student in good standing at one of the three participating universities—Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT), United Arab Emirates University (UAEU), or Zayed University (ZU); and

- Complete and submit a dossier to the designated administrator at his/her home university.
The SMSP does not have a minimum required GPA or IELTS/TOEFL exam score; candidates, however, are expected to:

- Be top students with noted intellectual curiosity and a record of accomplishment;
- Possess excellent English language competency;
- Be self-aware;
- Have outstanding interpersonal skills and be able to contribute to the class;
- Be creative or have other special talents or gifts;
- Demonstrate leadership potential;
- Be enterprising and demonstrate a spirit of adventure and flexibility.

To be a Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholar, applicants must successfully complete a highly competitive three stage Selection Process—The Nomination Stage, The Finalist Stage, and Selection Days.
Summary of Selection Process
Class of 2015-2016

**STAGE 1: NOMINATION STAGE**

The SMSP does not accept applications directly from students. Instead, there is a two-step process:

- Interested students submit dossiers to their designated university administrator by the specified deadline (please see information below for each university);
- Each of the three universities reviews all of the submitted dossiers and forwards twenty complete and exceptional applications to the SMSP Office at NYU Abu Dhabi no later than Sunday, April 19 at 5:00 PM.

**NOTE:** A nomination is not complete unless all documents are received by the deadline.

**Dossier Deadline and Submission Instructions**

- Higher Colleges of Technology Students
  - Deadline for dossier submission: Thursday, April 9, 2015
  - Please submit completed dossiers to the appropriate campus administrator:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Designated Administrator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abu Dhabi Men’s Campus</td>
<td>Sameera Farhan <a href="mailto:sfarhan@hct.ac.ae">sfarhan@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abu Dhabi &amp; Khalifa City Women’s Campus</td>
<td>Emma Blakemore <a href="mailto:eblakemore@hct.ac.ae">eblakemore@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Ain Colleges</td>
<td>Noura Nader <a href="mailto:nnader@hct.ac.ae">nnader@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai Men’s Campus</td>
<td>Mary Gladwin <a href="mailto:mgladwin@hct.ac.ae">mgladwin@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai Women’s Campus</td>
<td>Dina Abuljebain <a href="mailto:dabuljebain@hct.ac.ae">dabuljebain@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ras Al Khaimah Men’s Campus</td>
<td>Khadija Al Tenaiji <a href="mailto:kaltenaiji@hct.ac.ae">kaltenaiji@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ras Al Khaimah Women’s Campus</td>
<td>Sumayya Al Rasbi <a href="mailto:salrasbi@hct.ac.ae">salrasbi@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharjah Colleges</td>
<td>Hana Baroudi <a href="mailto:hbaroudi@hct.ac.ae">hbaroudi@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madinat Zayed and Ruwais Campuses</td>
<td>Nial Farrell <a href="mailto:nfarrell@hct.ac.ae">nfarrell@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fujairah Men’s College</td>
<td>Mansour Kayyani <a href="mailto:mkayyani@hct.ac.ae">mkayyani@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fujairah Women’s College</td>
<td>Shaikhah Eid <a href="mailto:smesmari@hct.ac.ae">smesmari@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other campuses</td>
<td>Sultan Karmostaji <a href="mailto:skarmostaji@hct.ac.ae">skarmostaji@hct.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary of Selection Process  
Class of 2015-2016

- United Arab Emirates University Students
  - Deadline for dossier submission: Sunday, March 29, 2015
  - Please submit completed dossiers to the appropriate faculty:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Designated Administrator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Business &amp; Economics</td>
<td>Amna Al Nuimi (Females)  <a href="mailto:a.alnuimi@uaeu.ac.ae">a.alnuimi@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faisal Al Harmoodi (Males)  <a href="mailto:faisal.mh@uaeu.ac.ae">faisal.mh@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Engineering</td>
<td>Basma AlShawoosh (Females) <a href="mailto:b.alshawoosh@uaeu.ac.ae">b.alshawoosh@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salha Al Nuaimi (Males)  <a href="mailto:salha.h@uaeu.ac.ae">salha.h@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Food &amp; Agriculture</td>
<td>Hamda Almatroushi (Females): <a href="mailto:hamda.j@uaeu.ac.ae">hamda.j@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abu El Majed Matwally (Males): <a href="mailto:a.elmatwally@uaeu.ac.ae">a.elmatwally@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</td>
<td>Mariam Alhassani: <a href="mailto:m_alhassani@uaeu.ac.ae">m_alhassani@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of IT</td>
<td>Mariam Al Shamsi (Females): <a href="mailto:m.alshamsi@uaeu.ac.ae">m.alshamsi@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huda Al Nuaimi (Males):  <a href="mailto:h_alnuaimi@uaeu.ac.ae">h_alnuaimi@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Law</td>
<td>Zahra Al Saadi (Females):  <a href="mailto:fslsa@uaeu.ac.ae">fslsa@uaeu.ac.ae</a>/z.alsaadi@uaeu.ac.ae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hamdy Ebrahim Oreiba (Males): <a href="mailto:tsi.adviceunit@uaeu.ac.ae">tsi.adviceunit@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty of Science</td>
<td>Jawaher AlShamsi  <a href="mailto:J.AlShamsi@uaeu.ac.ae">J.AlShamsi@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other Faculties</td>
<td>Jihan El Wagie  <a href="mailto:j.abobaker@uaeu.ac.ae">j.abobaker@uaeu.ac.ae</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Zayed University Students
- Deadline for dossier submission: Thursday, April 2, 2015
- Please submit completed dossiers to the appropriate administrator:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Designated Administrator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abu Dhabi Men’s Campus</td>
<td>Joy Saneo in M3.0.016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abu Dhabi Women’s Campus</td>
<td>Deborah Williams in ADM-2-041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai Men’s Campus</td>
<td>Fanny Coutinho in R-L2-119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai Women’s Campus</td>
<td>Muna Abdulkarim in 01-L1-017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- If you have any questions regarding dossier drop-off at ZU, please contact Steven Gardiner at Steven.Gardiner@zu.ac.ae or Deborah Williams at Deborah.Williams@zu.ac.ae

**STEP 2: FINALIST STAGE**

The SMSP selection committee will review the nominees’ dossiers and will select up to 36 finalists from the 60 nominees. These finalists will be invited to participate in the final stage of the selection process — Selection Days. Finalists will be announced in mid-May.

**STEP 3: SELECTION DAYS**

Finalists will be invited to participate in Selection Days—a rigorous two-day national competition on Monday and Tuesday, June 1st and 2nd, 2015 in Abu Dhabi. At this event, finalists will undergo a combination of individual and small group interviews with distinguished judges from the U.S. and the UAE, a group problem-solving exercise, a writing exercise, and informal interactions with the judges. Only the most meritorious of the finalists—up to 24—will be selected as Scholars. The announcement for next year’s class of Scholars will be made in early summer. The Program begins in early September.
Students and School Coordinators must ensure that the nominee applications are complete by the applicable deadlines. **NOTE: A nomination is not complete unless all documents are received by the deadline.** Below is a checklist of all documents that must be included in the dossier.

### Part A. DOCUMENTS TO BE PREPARED BY THE NOMINEE:

1. Completed Biographical Information Form;
2. Signed Student/Parental Consent Form;
3. Curriculum Vitae that follows the format indicated by SMSP;
4. Color copy of a currently-valid passport photo page;
5. Personal statement from the nominee (limit of 750 words);
6. Description of a project completed by the nominee;
7. Brief self-description (biography) of the nominee (limit of 120 words);
8. Color photo taken within the last year; and
9. Copy of an English Proficiency examination score from IELTS, TOEFL, or a similar test taken within the past two years, if available.

### Part B. DOCUMENTS TO BE PREPARED BY UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF STUDENTS:

1. University Nomination and English Language Certification Form;
2. Two faculty letters of recommendation; and
3. Official academic transcript (unofficial school transcripts will not be accepted.)
A.1. Biographical Information Form (to be filled out by student)

Full Name (as in passport): __________________________________________________________

Preferred name: _________________________________________________________________

Male/Female: _________________________________________________________________

Name of University/Campus: ______________________________________________________

Nominee’s Address (now through August 2015): _____________________________________

Nominee’s Date of Birth: __________ Nominee is a citizen of: ________________________

Nominee’s Phone Number: _________________________________________________________

Nominee’s Email Address (valid through August 2015): ________________________________

Will you be in a Higher Diploma or a Bachelor’s Degree program in the academic year 2015-2016? __________

How many years of university have you completed? __________

Expected Graduation Date (Month/Year): _____/_______

Expected Degree to be awarded: ______________________

Academic Major: _______________________________________________________________

Have you previously applied to be a Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholar? __________

How did you hear about SMSP? ____________________________________________________
A.2. STUDENT / PARENTAL CONSENT FORM (to be filled out by student and guardian)

I certify that the information I have attached to this form is complete and correct and that the personal statement and project description have been written by me alone. I understand that any misrepresentation or omission may be cause for denying consideration for, or acceptance into, The Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholars Program (“the Program.”) I understand that any items submitted to the Program in conjunction with my candidacy become the sole property of the Program and will not be returned.

I understand that the Program reserves the right to deny consideration or acceptance to anyone whom it considers not sufficiently qualified and to require withdrawal of any student at any time for any reason, including scholarship, character, attendance, and/or personal conduct.

My family and I understand that this is a mixed-gender program.

I understand that the Program includes a nine-day chaperoned trip to the U.S. in January and/or February, 2016 and I have my family’s approval to attend. To facilitate my participation in the U.S. trip, I understand that it is my responsibility to apply for my visa to the U.S. no later than October 1, 2015.

I certify that I have read the “SMSP Guidelines and General Agreement” that is available on the Program’s website and that I fully understand its content, and that, if selected, I will sign this document as an indication of my readiness to participate fully in the Program for 2015-2016.

I certify that I have shared all of this information with my parents and/or guardians, and that I sign this Nominee’s Parental Consent Form with their full knowledge and agreement. My parent/guardian’s signature appears below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nominee’s Name (Please print)</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent/Guardian’s Name (Please print)</td>
<td>Signature</td>
<td>Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A.3. CURRICULUM VITAE

Please prepare your curriculum vitae for submission as a nominee for the SMSP Class of 2015-2016 using the following format:

Section 1 - Heading
Name, address including P.O. Box (now through August 2015), mobile phone number, home phone number, and email address

Section 2 – Education
With dates, including major(s) and degree(s) obtained and sought, and expected date of graduation

Section 3 – Activities
Relevant university co-curricular, extracurricular, and other activities (with dates)

Section 4 - Work Experience
Volunteer and/or work experience (with dates)

Section 5 – Honors and Awards
Honors, scholarships, awards, publications, leadership accomplishments, and/or creative works (with dates)

Section 6 - Other Relevant Skills or Interests
Hobbies, previous travel abroad (including to the U.S..) etc.
A.4. COLOR COPY OF PASSPORT PHOTO PAGE - include photo page, and visa if applicable.

A.5. PERSONAL STATEMENT FROM THE NOMINEE - up to 750 words, in English, explaining his/her interest in (1) The Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholars Program, (2) either President Sexton’s course or James Traub’s course (for course descriptions visit [http://nyuad.nyu.edu/en/academics/community-programs/smep/academics/academics.html](http://nyuad.nyu.edu/en/academics/community-programs/smep/academics/academics.html)), and (3) how he or she sees the relationship between the Program and his or her academic trajectory and life goals.

A.6. DESCRIPTION OF A PROJECT COMPLETED BY THE NOMINEE - (or presentation of its results) that demonstrates his or her interests, intelligence, creativity, and academic or artistic accomplishment. Examples might include an essay; story; a painting, drawing, print, or photograph; a website project; a lab project, or similar undertaking.

A.7. SELF-DESCRIPTION (AUTO-BIOGRAPHY) OF THE NOMINEE – up to 120 words, in English, of a brief narrative auto-biography or self-description suitable for use by the media and/or the Program should the candidate be selected as a Finalist or Scholar. NOTE: Program administrators may need to edit this for style or consistency.

A.8. COLOR PHOTO

A.9. COPY OF AN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION SCORE – if available, include a copy of a score from an English proficiency examination, such as IELTS, TOEFL, or a similar test taken within the last two years.
B.1. UNIVERSITY NOMINATION AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE CERTIFICATION FORM  
(TO BE FILLED OUT BY UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS)

I certify that the below named student has been nominated by a SMSP participating university, is able to communicate well in written and spoken English, and that he/she is a student in good standing at his/her home institution.

Name of Nominee:________________________________________________

Name of Nominator: _____________________________________________

Title at the University: __________________________________________

Signature: ______________________________________ Date _____________

SUPPORTING COMMENTS

1. Nominee’s strengths (academics, leadership, character, ability to gain from and contribute to the program).

2. Nominee’s potential for growth and development;
3. Impact of this nominee on his/her school and/or community; and

4. What this nominee has done that might be considered creative or exceptional.
B.2. FACULTY RECOMMENDATION LETTER
(Two Faculty Letters Required per Nominee)

Nominee’s Name:___________________________________________________

University:__________________________________ Major: _______________________

Recommender’s Name: ___________________________ Position: ____________________

The above named student is applying for acceptance to the Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholars Program (SMSP) for the coming academic year. The SMSP is a specially designed program by New York University and New York University Abu Dhabi in conjunction with the Government of Abu Dhabi to offer exceptional university students in their third or fourth year of a bachelor’s program in one of the three national universities in the UAE, an outstanding academic, cross cultural and leadership development experience. The program offers the following opportunities and benefits:

- Special Academic Courses- interactive and intensive:
  - One half of the Scholars will take a course taught by NYU President John Sexton on the U.S. Supreme Court’s treatment of religion and government
  - The other half will take a course taught by noted journalist James Traub on U.S. Foreign Policy.
- A class entitled, “What Makes a Great Leader?”
- Public Speaking and Public Presentations class
- Critical Thinking and Persuasive Writing curriculum
- Cross-cultural experiences with students from throughout NYU’s Global Network University
Roundtable meetings with global leaders from around the world
Advice and counseling on graduate education options and admissions processes, and scholarship opportunities at NYU New York
9-day trip to U.S. (New York and Washington, D.C.) to meet noteworthy leaders and experience the intellectual and cultural riches of these cities.

Scholars will be expected to complete all their coursework, including extensive readings, regular essay assignments, class participation, and team projects. Overall, the work is demanding and rigorous.

Scholars should:

- Be top students with noted intellectual curiosity and a record of accomplishment;
- Possess excellent English language competency;
- Be self-aware;
- Have outstanding interpersonal skills and be able to contribute to the class;
- Be creative or have other special talents or gifts;
- Demonstrate leadership potential;
- Be enterprising and demonstrate a spirit of adventure and flexibility.

Please complete all three (3) parts of this recommendation as outlined below.

1. WRITTEN NARRATIVE: Please answer the following questions in an attached letter about this nominee:
   a) How long and in what context do you know this candidate?
   b) What are this candidate’s outstanding achievements, talents, and skills? Please be specific in your description.
   c) What, if any, are the candidate’s weaknesses?
   d) How would this candidate benefit from The Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholars Program?

2. QUANTITATIVE EVALUATION: Please assess candidate’s ability in each category below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Superior</th>
<th>Unable to Judge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analytic ability</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creativity</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrity</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. SUMMARY EVALUATION: please check the appropriate box.

- [ ] Highly Recommend
- [ ] Recommend
- [ ] Recommend with reservation noted
- [ ] Do not recommend

Please complete this form and attach it to your written narrative with the candidate’s name indicated on each document. Both the form and narrative should be returned to the designated university administrator (please obtain contact and deadline information from your student) in a sealed and signed envelope.