



## Dossier Information & Application Packet Class of 2019-2020

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
- 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 Administrator.

**Povashni Naidu**, Assistant Manager for Programming and Strategy, NYUAD Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Community Programs:  
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**Khalid Al Noaimi**, Assistant Manager – Marketing, Outreach and Engagement, Higher Colleges of Technology Administrator:  
kalnoaimi@hct.ac.ae

**Rana Al Katheeri**, Head - Student Exchange Unit, Student Affairs Division, United Arab Emirates University Administrator:  
SMSP@uaeu.ac.ae

**Alyaziah Al Hashmi**, Events and Public Relations Officer, Zayed University Administrator:  
Alyaziah.AlHashmi@zu.ac.ae

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diane C. Yu'.

Diane C. Yu, Executive Director



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### Introduction to the SMSP Selection Process

To apply to the program a student must meet the following criteria:

- Be in his/her second or third year of a bachelor's program at the time of application
- In the Fall semester of the Program's academic year, be enrolled at one of the UAE's three federal universities: UAEU, ZU, or HCT
- Complete and submit a dossier to the designated administrator at his/her home university
- Be nominated by his/her university for the Program

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 Selection Process comprised of three phases: The Nomination Stage, The Finalist Stage, and Selection Days.



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## PHASE 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 Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM.

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

### Dossier Deadline and Submission Instructions

#### ➤ Higher Colleges of Technology Students

- o Deadline for dossier submission: **Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019**
- o Please submit completed dossiers to the appropriate campus administrator:

Campus	Designated Coordinator	Email Addresses
HCT Abu Dhabi Men's Campus	Ashwini Naik	anaik@hct.ac.ae
HCT Abu Dhabi Women's Campus	Emma Blakemore	eblakemore@hct.ac.ae
HCT Al Ain Men's Campus	Sana Tobeh	stobeh@hct.ac.ae
HCT Al Ain Women's Campus	Al Jazia Al Etaibi	aaletaibi@hct.ac.ae
HCT Dubai Men's Campus	Khalid Al Noaimi	kalnoaimi@hct.ac.ae
HCT Dubai Women's Campus	Dina Abuljebain	dabuljebain@hct.ac.ae
HCT Sharjah Men's Campus	Hamda Lootah	hlootah@hct.ac.ae
HCT Sharjah Women's Campus	Hana Baroud	hbaroudi@hct.ac.ae
HCT Fujairah Campuses	Ayesha Al Mesmari	aalmesmari@hct.ac.ae
HCT Madinat Zayed Campuses	Nuha Zaghari	nzaghari@hct.ac.ae
HCT Ras Al Khaimah Campuses	Khadija Al Tenaiji	kaltenaiji@hct.ac.ae
HCT Ruwais Campus	Sadhavi Rane	srane@hct.ac.ae



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## ➤ United Arab Emirates University Students

- o Deadline for dossier submission: **Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019**
- o Please submit completed dossiers to the appropriate administrator:

College	Designated Administrator	Contact
College of Business & Economics	Amna Al Nuimi (Females) and Fauzeyya Mefleh (Males)	a.alnuimi@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 6502 and fauzeyya.m@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 5290
College of Engineering	Noura Al Eisaei	naleisaei@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 5301
College of Food & Agriculture	Hamda Almatroushi (Females) and Sara Al Junaidy (Males)	hamda.j@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 6553 and sara.Aljunaidy@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 4569
College of Humanities & Social Sciences	Mariam Alhassani	m_alhassani@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 6417
College of IT	Mariam Al Shamsi	m.alshamsi@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 5524
College of Law	Khulood Al Jaber (Females) and Hamdy Ebrahim Oreiba (Males)	kh.aljaberi@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 6602 and fsl.adviceunit@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 5379
College of Science	Jawaher AlShamsi	J.AlShamsi@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 6352



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College of Education	Salama Al Kendi	kendi@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 6233
College of Medicine and Medical Sciences	Khadija M. Al Blooshi	k.alblooshi@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 7130
Student Exchange Unit (Admission Section)	Rana Al Katheeri	SMSP@uaeu.ac.ae rana_kathiri.s@uaeu.ac.ae 03 713 5816

### ➤ **Zayed University Students**

- o Deadline for dossier submission: **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 3:00 pm**
- o Please submit completed dossiers to the appropriate administrator:

Campus	Designated Administrator	Room Location
Abu Dhabi Men's Campus	Charif Rabah	M3.0.016
Abu Dhabi Women's Campus	Alyaziah Al Hashmi	ADM-2-037
Dubai Men's and Women's Campuses	Fanny Coutinho	R-GF-077

- o If you have any questions regarding dossier drop-off at ZU, please contact **Alyaziah Al Hashmi** on Alyaziah.AlHashmi@zu.ac.ae.



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### PHASE 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-April.

### PHASE 3: SELECTION DAYS

Finalists will be invited to participate in Selection Days—a rigorous two-day national competition on Monday and Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 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.



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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 passport including page with unified number and valid UAE visa (if applicable)
- ☐ 5. Personal statement from the nominee (limit of 850 words)
- ☐ 6. Description of a project completed by the nominee
- ☐ 7. Video summary of the project completed by the nominee
- ☐ 8. Brief self-description (biography) of the nominee (limit of 120 words)
- ☐ 9. Color photo taken within the last year
- ☐ 10. 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
- ☐ 3. Official academic transcript (unofficial school transcripts will not be accepted.)



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### A.1. Biographical Information Form (to be filled out by student)

Full Name (as in passport): \_\_\_\_\_

Male/Female: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of University/Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Address (now through August 2019): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Date of Birth: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee is a citizen of: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Email Address (valid through August 2019): \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be in a Higher Diploma or a Bachelor's Degree program in the academic year 2019-2020? \_\_\_\_

How many years of university have you completed? \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Graduation Date : Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ (Student must have at least one semester to complete at their home university during the 2019-2020 academic year)

Expected Degree to be awarded: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Major: \_\_\_\_\_

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

If yes, have you previously attended Selection Days? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about SMSP? \_\_\_\_\_





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## 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. during the spring semester of 2020 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, 2019.

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 2019-2020.

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

<b>Nominee's Name (Please print)</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Parent/Guardian's Name (Please print)</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>



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### A.3. CURRICULUM VITAE

Please prepare your *curriculum vitae* for submission as a nominee for the SMSP Class of 2019-2020 using the following format:

#### Section 1 - Heading

Name, address including P.O. Box (now through August 2019), 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.



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**A.4. COLOR COPY OF PASSPORT PHOTO PAGE** - include photo page, and visa if applicable.

**A.5. PERSONAL STATEMENT FROM THE NOMINEE** - up to 850 words, in English, describing the following: (1) why you would like to be a Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Scholar, (2) what leadership skills or attributes you hope to improve or develop through the program, and (3) how you see the relationship between the Program and your academic trajectory and career goals.

**A.6. DESCRIPTION OF A PROJECT COMPLETED BY THE NOMINEE** - (or presentation of its results) that demonstrates your interests, intelligence, creativity, and academic or artistic accomplishment. Examples might include an essay, story, painting, drawing, print, photograph, website project, laboratory/scientific/research project, or similar undertaking.

**A.7. VIDEO SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT COMPLETED BY THE NOMINEE** - in a one-minute video, summarize your project (the project you described in A.6) and why it was important to you. Be sure to start the video by introducing yourself.

**A.8. 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 you be selected as a Finalist or Scholar. NOTE: Program administrators may need to edit this for style or consistency.

**A.9. COLOR PHOTO**

**A.10. 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.



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**B.1. UNIVERSITY NOMINATION AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE CERTIFICATION FORM  
(TO BE FILLED OUT BY UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATOR[S])**

**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):



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2. Nominee's potential for growth and development:

3. Impact of this nominee on his/her school and/or community:



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4. What this nominee has done that might be considered creative or exceptional:



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### **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:

- ❖ An academic course covering an aspect of governing in a changing world. Recent topics have included a course on U.S. Foreign Policy taught by author and foreign policy expert James Traub and a course on the Challenges of the New Political Economy taught by Ambassador Michael Corbin. The course options for 2019-2020 will be announced in September 2019.
- ❖ A class entitled, "What Makes a Great Leader?"
- ❖ Public Speaking and Public Presentations class
- ❖ Critical Thinking and Persuasive Writing class
- ❖ Cross-cultural experiences with students from throughout NYU's Global Network University



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- ❖ 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
- ❖ Nine-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 as assigned. 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?





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2. QUANTITATIVE EVALUATION: Please assess candidate's ability in each category below:

	Below Average	Average	Good	Very Good	Superior	Unable to Judge
Analytic ability	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Creativity	1	2	3	4	5	NA
Integrity	1	2	3	4	5	NA

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.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_