



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

As of 5 December 2021

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 administrators regarding:

- The SMSP Selection Process
- Instructions for completing a dossier for nomination 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: [nyuad-smsp@nyu.edu](mailto:nyuad-smsp@nyu.edu) or 02 628 4885

**Noura Al Nuaimi, Naser Al Kaabi, and Bakheetta Al Mansoori**, Higher Colleges of Technology Administrators: [hct-smsp@hct.ac.ae](mailto:hct-smsp@hct.ac.ae)

**Rana Al Katheeri**, United Arab Emirates University Administrator: [SMSPI@uae.ac.ae](mailto:SMSPI@uae.ac.ae)

**Dr. Hisham Soliman**, Zayed University Administrators: [SMSPI@zu.ac.ae](mailto:SMSPI@zu.ac.ae)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Diane C. Yu'.

Diane C. Yu, Executive Director



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NYU ABU DHABI

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MOHAMED  
BIN ZAYED  
SCHOLARS  
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## Class of 2022-2023

### 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; students, 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 comprising three phases: The Nomination Stage, The Finalist Stage, and Selection Days.



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# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

### 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 via the NYU application system by the specified deadline (please see information below for each university)
- ❖ Each of the three universities reviews all of the submitted dossiers and nominates twenty complete and exceptional applications to the SMSP Office at NYU Abu Dhabi no later than Sunday, April 10th, 2022, 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**
  - Deadline for dossier submission: **Monday, March 14th, 2022**
  - Please consult with Noura Al Nuaimi, Naser Al Kaabi, and Bakheetta Al Mansoori on [hct-smsp@hct.ac.ae](mailto:hct-smsp@hct.ac.ae) about your application.
  - Please submit completed dossiers via this [link](#).
- ❖ **United Arab Emirates University Students**
  - Deadline for dossier submission: **Monday, March 14th, 2022**
  - Please consult with Rana Al Katheeri on [SMSP@uaeu.ac.ae](mailto:SMSP@uaeu.ac.ae) about your application.
  - Please submit completed dossiers via this [link](#).
- ❖ **Zayed University Students**
  - Deadline for dossier submission: **Monday, March 14th, 2022**
  - Please consult with Dr. Hisham Soliman on [SMSP@zu.ac.ae](mailto:SMSP@zu.ac.ae) about your application
  - Please submit completed dossiers via this [link](#).



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NYU ABU DHABI

THE SHEIKH  
MOHAMED  
BIN ZAYED  
SCHOLARS  
PROGRAM

# Dossier Information & Application Packet Class of 2022-2023

## 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 May.

## PHASE 3: SELECTION DAYS

Finalists will be invited to participate in Selection Days — a rigorous national competition during the week of May 23rd, 2022. 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.



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

Students and University Administrators 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 STUDENT:

- 1. Biographical Information
- 2. Signed Student/Parental Consent Form
- 3. Curriculum Vitae that follows the format indicated by SMS
- 4. Color copy of passport including page with unified number and valid UAE visa (if applicable)
- 5. Personal statement from the student (limit of 850 words)
- 6. Description of a project completed by the student
- 7. Video summary of the project completed by the student
- 8. Brief self-description (biography) of the student (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 ADMINISTRATORS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE STUDENT:

- 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.)



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

Please save your documents using exactly the following naming convention for each document, including the numbers:

Document #. Document Name— Your First Name(space)Your Family Name.

See examples below:

| Document   | Document Name Example   |
|--|---|
| Nominee and Parental Consent Form                        | A.2. Nominee and Parental Consent Form— Amir Al Shamsi                        |
| Curriculum Vitae   | A.3. Curriculum Vitae— Amir Al Shamsi   |
| Passport Copy  | A.4. Passport Copy— Amir Al Shamsi  |
| Project Video Summary                                    | A.7. Project Video Summary— Amir Al Shamsi                                    |
| Color Photo  | A.9. Color photo— Amir Al Shamsi  |
| IELTS/TOEFL Score  | A.10. IELTS/TOEFL— Amir Al Shamsi   |
| University Nomination and English Language Certification | B.1. University Nomination and English Language Certification— Amir Al Shamsi |
| Official Academic Transcript                             | B.3. Official Academic Transcript— Amir Al Shamsi                             |



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

### 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 may include a nine-day chaperoned trip to the U.S. during the Spring semester of 2023 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. . The Program reserves the right to cancel the trip.

I certify that I have read the "SMS Program 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 2022-2023.

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

---

Student Name (Please print)

Signature

Date

---

Parent/Guardian Name (Please print)

Signature

Date



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

### A.3. CURRICULUM VITAE

Please prepare your curriculum vitae for submission as a nominee for the SMSP Class of 2022-2023 using the following format:

#### Section 1 – Heading

Name, address including P.O. Box (now through August 2022), 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.



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

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

**A.5. PERSONAL STATEMENT FROM THE STUDENT** – 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 STUDENT** – (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, photography, website project, laboratory/scientific/research project, or similar undertaking.

**A.7. VIDEO SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT** – 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 STUDENT** – 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.



# Dossier Information & Application Packet Class of 2022-2023

**B.1. UNIVERSITY NOMINATION AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE CERTIFICATION FORM**

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.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## SUPPORTING COMMENTS

1. Student's strengths (academics, leadership, character, ability to gain from and contribute to the program):
2. Student's potential for growth and development:



# Dossier Information & Application Packet Class of 2022-2023



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

### B.2. FACULTY RECOMMENDATION LETTER

(Two faculty recommendation letters are required per student. This form is an example of the information that will be requested from your faculty. To submit their letter, faculty will receive a link from the NYU application system once you enter their details.)

Student'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:

- ❖ A course taught by former US Ambassador to the UAE Michael Corbin on the Challenges of the New Political Economy; OR (2) a seminar taught by noted journalist, author, and foreign policy expert James Traub, titled Crises in Context: The Forces that Shape the Great Events of Our Time.
- ❖ 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
- ❖ Roundtable meetings with global leaders from around the world
- ❖ Advice and counseling on graduate education options and admissions processes,
- ❖ 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. (Subject to change based on health and safety regulations for travel, and Program needs.)

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.

# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

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 student:
  - 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:

|                  | 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



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

- 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: \_\_\_\_\_



# Dossier Information & Application Packet

## Class of 2022-2023

**B.3. Official Academic Transcript** - must be emailed by your university coordinator to [admissions.docs@nyu.edu](mailto:admissions.docs@nyu.edu) before the application deadline.



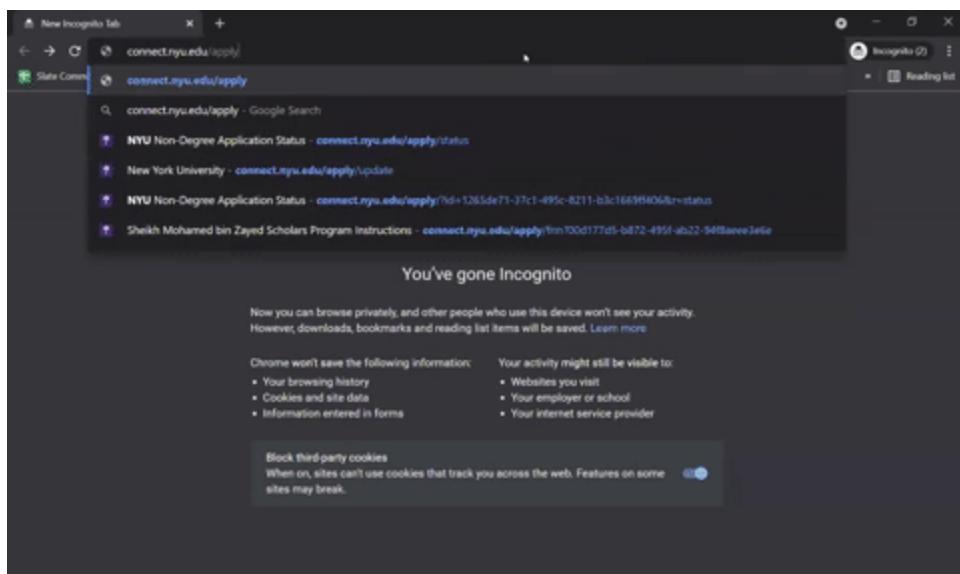
# Technical Guide

## Class of 2022-2023

Welcome to our friendly how-to page to help answer your frequently asked questions about the application and new student process. Below you'll find a guide to the application process (activating your Net ID, accessing your application, and accessing your admissions decision).

### How do I log into my application?

Students that begin a multi-step application like SMSP will receive an email titled “[Program Name] Next Steps!” This email will contain your login information for the application login page. You will be provided a temporary pin to complete the login process. After you have logged in, you will be able to continue your application.



### How do I activate my Net ID?

One of the first steps of setting up your account with NYU begins with the instruction of setting up your Net ID. In your “Your NYU ID Numbers and Status Page” communication, you should have received information about your Net ID and N#.

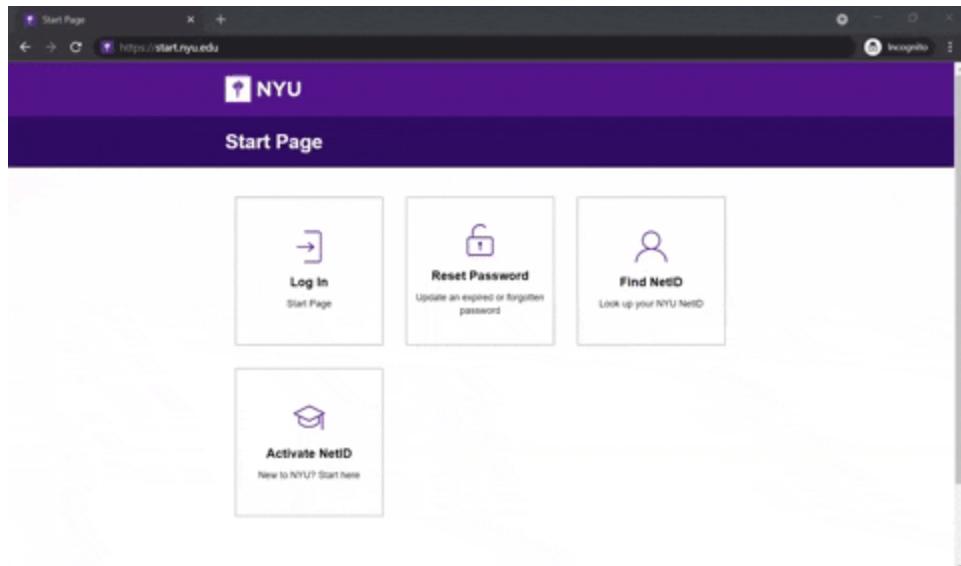


# Technical Guide

## Class of 2022-2023

You'll need to activate your NYU NetID and create your password by following the instructions on the [NYU Start Page](#). If your NYU account was activated previously, you may reset your password (if needed) by clicking Reset Password on the [NYU Start Page](#). If you cannot initially activate your credentials, we ask you to try again after 24 hours have passed. Below you'll see a short clip of how to enter your N# and birthdate to activate your Net ID.

**Please note:** the N# and birthdate entered below are for test purposes only. Your N# should be in the "Your NYU ID Numbers and Status Page" communication, and you should use your real birthdate.



### How do I log into my Slate status page?

Logging into your slate status page is easy! Simply login to the [applicant portal](#) using your Net ID and password that you created previously. Once you have logged in, select for the application that you wish to review. On your status page, you'll be able to see pending items or if your application is complete. For those that have had their applications reviewed, you will see an update to your application that indicates a decision.