

Ola Lorens Memorial Travel Scholarship (OLMTS) Application Suggestions

The Ola Lorens Memorial Travel Scholarship is offered in memory of Design major Ola (Alexandra) Lorens (1991-2014) through the generous gifts of Patrick and Ewa Lorens Kinney, Molly Kinney and family, and Ann & Mike Savageau. Please see the flyer and departmental website for the current description of the scholarship's purpose, requirements, application process, and deadline.

1. Connect the dots for your readers. Make everything clear to your audience on a first reading, using language and structure that are as clear as possible.
2. Make clear why and how this opportunity is important. What's your rationale? What makes this special? How will it be an occasion for experiential learning beyond the classroom? Be specific, so that it is obvious to others.
3. If you are applying in response to a juried selection process in which you have been selected to participate, say so. If you have any details about its status in the field or competitive acceptance rate, make them clear.
4. What will the "takeaway" from your experience be? How is it unlike anything you might do on campus, or at home? If it is an example of experiential education, emphasize that aspect and its uniqueness.
5. *How does this contribute to the person you want to become?* Be thoughtful about this question. Does it help you to better understand your career path? Does it help you to demonstrate, learn, or practice something that will distinguish you from others in the work you hope to do as a designer? If so, please consider sharing details.
6. The selection committee sometimes funds partial awards so that the Ola Lorens Memorial Travel Scholarship can have an impact on as many worthy awardees as possible. Your budget should be honest and true. If you could still participate in this opportunity without the budget being fully funded, what

amount would meet your minimum needs? Indicate that amount in your application, and detail how you would find other needed funds.

7. Identify a faculty mentor who can support you and answer questions while you write this application. Acknowledge and thank them in your application.

8. Successful applications clearly define the student's outcomes and needs. "Need" may include financial considerations but the definition of need is not limited to finances.

9. BUDGET FAQ:

A) The cost of travel, accommodation, and other expenses on my budget will exceed \$1,000. Given that this exceeds the amount of available OLMTS funding, should the budget only account for that amount, or should it reflect all costs?

When writing a grant application like this it makes sense, when possible, to indicate how you will cover additional costs. This can include paying expenses out-of-pocket yourself, applying for additional grants, taking family gifts or loans, etc. If you have additional grant funding it is important to acknowledge that in your budget. Sometimes events, experiences, and conferences offer opportunities for students to volunteer labor in exchange for reduced registration rates. Occasionally there are student stipends or scholarships available. Ask the organizers if they offer anything or know anyone who does.

B) How do I budget for meals and lodging while traveling?

We suggest using the US federal government per diem allowances, recognizing that these are MAXIMUM rates, and that resourceful student travel will find cheaper ways to live on the road:

<https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>

C) The cost

We suggest finding online bookings from airlines or trains. For mileage in your own vehicle, consult a service like Google maps to calculate the mileage and consult the US federal government mileage reimbursement rates.

<https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/transportation-airfare-pov-etc/privately-owned-vehicle-pov-mileage-reimbursement-rates>