Grand Challenges Scholars Program

Submitting Success – How to Write and Prepare your Designation Application

Myra Fernandez, Associate Director

Undergraduate Programs and Women in Engineering
Grand Challenge Scholars Program

► Provides an opportunity for undergraduate engineering students to gain greater understanding of the challenges and move towards creating potential solutions
  ▶ For example: The National Academy of Engineering and the Grand Challenges Scholars Program teamed up to tackle the COVID-19 with its Call to Action. The Call to Action brings engineers, medical, and scientific expertise to address our current COVID-19 crisis.

  ◀️ https://www.nae.edu/230195/COVID19-Call-for-Engineering-Action

► Recognition is given to students at graduation by the school and the NAE
  ▶ Students must complete 5 components/mindsets:
    1. Talent/Research
    2. Multidisciplinary
    3. Entrepreneurship
    4. Multicultural
    5. Social Consciousness
Application Components

- Basic Information (Name, USCID, USC Email, etc.)
- International Student Status
- First destination questions
- 5 Competencies
- Supplemental questions
- STARS Report
- Resume/CV
Application Tips

► Describe your contributions towards addressing the grand challenges. Be specific as possible!
► Make sure to write more than a few sentences (approx. 200-300 words). Take your time.
► Name experience, what you did and how it pertains to the Grand Challenges.
► Meaning and impact!
  ► How have your activities made a difference? How have they transformed you?
  ► What impact did this experience have on the community served, and on you personally?
► You can mention more than one experience in 5 areas.
Successful applicants will:

- Identify how the grand challenge or theme relates to achieved competencies
- Be evaluated based off completeness of the responses
- Be able to communicate their experiences to a variety of audiences
- Be able to successfully describe their engagement with the GCSP over the last 2-4 years in a holistic manner
Designation

- Recognition at Viterbi Undergraduate Awards
  - Opportunity to obtain the Albert Dorman Grand Challenge Scholar Award
- Recognition at Commencement
- Transcript notation on final transcript
- Recognition by National Academy of Engineering
- Join world-wide network of GCSP Scholars
GCSP Designation Timeline

► Review/update your GCSP Action Plan
► Schedule meeting with GCSP Coordinator (see below) or GCSP Faculty Director, Professor Meshkati to review or discuss your GCSP application
  ► [https://calendly.com/myrafern/gcsp](https://calendly.com/myrafern/gcsp)
  ► [meshkati@usc.edu](mailto:meshkati@usc.edu)
► Apply for Senior Designation: [Application](#)

Deadline: **Friday, February 11th, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.**

Applicants will be notified Mid-late March
Questions?
myrafern@usc.edu
meshkati@usc.edu