



**Council of Fellows**  
**Conseil des lauréats**



**STLHE**  
**SAPES**

The Council of Fellows received feedback from students and others involved in the nomination process for the 2021 3M National Student Fellowship and wishes to provide this important update on the adjudication of dossiers and best practices for selecting and assisting applicants in 2022 and beyond.

The 3M National Student Fellowship welcomes and explicitly seeks applications from equity-deserving groups who have experienced and continue to experience marginalization. However, nominators and administrators are advised that students who identify as part of these groups should not feel pressured to recount instances and effects of oppression in their dossiers. Administrators and nominators should take care when approaching applicants from historically underrepresented groups about the 3M National Student Fellowship, that they are doing so out of a desire to highlight the student's educational leadership and accomplishments.

Additionally, crafting a “narrative of overcoming” (of discrimination, hardship, or any other challenges) should not be viewed as a recipe for success in the 3M National Student Fellowship. Students are free to discuss these issues if they form part of their educational leadership journey, but students should not feel like they must outline hardships faced in order to be successful.

The Council recognizes that the process of writing a dossier for the 3M National Student Fellowship can be difficult, especially for individuals who identify as part of an equity-deserving group. As a part of the institutional nomination process, we encourage administrators and nominators to connect students with appropriate resources for support and ensure that they feel a sense of safety and self-determination in the telling of their own stories.

Sincerely,

The Council of Fellows

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