FISHER FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION FAQs:

Q: How do I know if I am a first-generation student?
A: While a “first-generation student” is typically defined as “neither parent has attended or completed college,“ there are always individual circumstances that call for case-by-case evaluation. If you identify as a First-Gen student you should feel encouraged to apply! If you are unsure, email hippolit@usc.edu with questions or concerns.

Q: I am a first semester Freshman and do not yet have an official GPA – can I still apply?
A: Yes! Be sure to list your current courses and what grades you have received so far (if available). Grades are an important portion of the application process, but we understand that the first semester of your first year at USC is hardly a comprehensive representation of your academic potential. Likewise, if you are a Transfer student, you should supply your grades from your previous school.

Q: I am a Freshman or Transfer student and have not yet connected with USC faculty – how should I approach the recommendation portion of the application?
A: Do not be afraid to ask your current professors for a recommendation! If you are actively participating in class and attending office hours, you should have no problem asking your professor if you can list them. Alternatively, if you have a close relationship with a USC staff member, you may list a staff member (along with a faculty member, if possible) for your recommendations. You may also put down a former teacher or advisor from a previous (non-USC) school if you have at least one recommendation from a USC faculty or staff member.

Q: Aside from the requirements, what are you looking for in a Fisher Fellow?
A: We are looking for First-Gen students who are eager to help develop goals, establish traditions, and foster a unique community within the Fisher Fellowship Program and the University at large. Prospective Fellows should be academically curious, professionally ambitions, confident in their own ideas, and compassionate toward others.

Q: Do you prefer the application to be typed or handwritten?
A: If you have legible handwriting that’s fine, but typing may be preferable.

Visit our website for more details and the Application materials:
https://dornsife.usc.edu/fisher-fellows-program/

Questions? Contact Heidi Ippolito at hippolit@usc.edu or (213) 821-6248