

# USC Dornsife

Dana and David Dornsife  
College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

## The Michael B. Preston Scholarship in Urban Politics and Civil Rights 2026–2027 Application

USC Dornsife is honored to be the home of the Michael B. Preston Scholarship in Urban Politics and Civil Rights. Dr. Preston was a valued professor and administrator who left behind a great legacy of teaching, scholarship, and service. This fund will benefit undergraduate students in Political Science studying urban politics or civil rights, and will serve as a testament to Dr. Preston's many contributions to USC Dornsife, throughout the university and the community.

Recipients of the award must be full-time undergraduate students in the 2026–2027 academic year who are majoring in Political Science. Students graduating in Fall 2026 are eligible to apply. Students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, be in good academic standing, and be making satisfactory progress toward the completion of their academic program. The scholarship committee anticipates a total of \$5,000 in awards to be made in 2026–2027.

To apply, send the following information to the email listed below by **5 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2026**.

**Send application materials to:**

[scholarships@dornsife.usc.edu](mailto:scholarships@dornsife.usc.edu)

**Subject line: Preston Scholarship application**

- This **application form**, printed and signed. You may scan the form to create a pdf copy to send with the rest of your application, or you may take a photo of the form and email the photo along with the rest of your application.
- A one page **statement** that explains your background, research, coursework, and/or work experience that underlies your interest in urban politics or civil rights
- A **resume** (include information regarding your academic achievements, involvement in campus and community organizations, work experience, and notable interests)
- A printout of your most recent **STARS report**, available on OASIS through the myUSC portal
- One **letter of recommendation** from a USC faculty member (faculty can send letter separately to the above email)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ USC ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Declared Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Class standing in 2026–2027: \_\_\_\_\_

All the information provided by me in my application is correct and I hereby give permission to the USC Dornsife Continuing Student Scholarship Committee to verify my academic and financial aid status.

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

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

If you have questions, contact USC Dornsife Admission and Student Success at [scholarships@dornsife.usc.edu](mailto:scholarships@dornsife.usc.edu).