

Additional Materials Required:

1. On a separate paper, please **write an essay** explaining why obtaining a degree in Geography is important to you and why you are applying for this scholarship. Please type this essay and submit it with this application. Applications will be considered incomplete without your written statement.
2. A copy of your **official transcript**.
3. A least one **letter of recommendation** in support of your application. Applications without a letter of recommendation are considered incomplete. Recommendations may be sent separate for the application. The recommendations should address the following:

- a. Evidence of the student’s intellectual qualities, motivation for academic work, the breadth and depth of intellectual interest and originality, independence, sensitivity, and capacity for growth. Does the student excessively have to be prodded, or is s/he genuinely interested?
- b. Has the student demonstrated a capacity and interest to pursue successfully independent study work?
- c. What is the quality of the applicant’s performance in extra-curricular, community, or work activities? Does the student have any unusual competence, talent, or capacity for leadership?
- d. What are your impressions of the applicant’s character? How do you and fellow students regard the applicant as a person compared with his or her peers? Does the applicant have any special strengths, weaknesses, and/or needs? What are the first words that come to mind to describe this individual’s personality?

Name of Person(s) preparing recommendation (minimum of one letter required)

_____	_____
Name	Title
_____	_____
Name	Title

Student must sign and date the application

_____	_____
Student signature	Date

Mail to: Western Illinois University, Department of Geography, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455-1390