

Killam Fellowship Program at Memorial:
Tips for Application, Course Selection and Credit Transfers (updated 10/25/16)

Applying for a Killam Fellowship:

- Start your application well in advance as the process (especially course selection) takes time!

- Typing is preferable to handwriting, so wherever you can, try to type up your application. This is particularly relevant to the personal statement and reference sections.

- Your references should come from diverse areas of your life (professors, coaches, employers, music teachers, etc.). They have an option to write a letter for you in addition to filling out the reference form, and this is highly encouraged.

- The process of organizing transfer credits can be daunting, but don't let it overwhelm you- it does work out in the end! It has a lot of different components and you're going to have to do some leg work to find descriptions and/or syllabi of specific courses you would want to take at your chosen university. The best thing to do is to tentatively research courses during your application process. You need to bring the course description to your advisor. The application process happens so early that most universities won't have their courses for the following year listed, so you may not even end up taking the courses you put down on your application. Don't waste *too* much time at this point because you don't even know whether you will be selected, let alone which university you will be attending in the United States.

- Keep in mind that the courses you select during your application process are not set in stone. There's no reason to worry excessively about the courses at this point. Right now, Killam just wants a tentative idea of what you'd like to take, and a signature from an advisor to confirm that you'd be receiving transfer credits.

- The Killam/Fulbright selection committee looks for strong, persuasive, particularly academic reasons as to why you deserve a Fellowship. The personal statement is your opportunity to really make your case for why you want to attend a particular university in the US. It's great to talk about your strength as a leader and your love for travel, but you also need a solid academic reason as to why you should be selected for this program. Think about what unique opportunity/experience you would gain from the program and why you in particular should be chosen.

Good reasons would be, for example, if you were interested in a particular academic area in which your host university excels, or if a particular town/state in America is important to you for a career down the road.

Furthermore, the selection committee loves to see a desire to experience American culture and to build bridges between Canada and the United States. It's very helpful to talk about this cultural bridge while writing your personal statement. You might also want to focus on Canadian/American relations and how the transfer of knowledge between the two countries will benefit you and others.