Frequently Asked Questions for ICSP Applicants

When is the deadline to apply for the scholarship?
The deadline for ICSP Applications (2011-2012) Tuesday, February 1st, 2011.
If you submit an ICSP application after that date, you may possibly receive secondary
consideration, if there are un-filled positions, but yours will not be considered until timely
applications are reviewed.

New Students: applications to the University should be submitted prior to, but no later than
February 1st, 2011 for full consideration for the following fall start date.

Where do I submit my application?
Please mail or leave it at the front desk at 444 Snell Hall. You will receive a confirmation
email that your completed application has been received. If it is not complete, you will be
notified of what is missing. Email applications may be sent (with original letters of
recommendation to follow by post) to: seif.bokri@oregonstate.edu

What if I do not have everything in by the due date?
Everything, including letters of reference, must be in by 5:00 p.m. on the due date if you
wish to be given primary consideration. You may fax or have references fax or email
materials if you wish, but they must be received by 5:00 p.m. If you fax any piece of
your application, original copies must be received by our office within 2 weeks. Please
fax to: (541) 737-6482 and indicate “ICSP APPLICATION” on the cover page.

Can you look over my application or help me fill it out?
Please take your time to ensure that everything is complete, and if you have concerns or
questions, you may email Seif Bokri at: seif.bokri@oregonstate.edu with specific
questions.

If you are an OSU student and wish to speak with the Director, please plan to attend a
Scholarships 101 workshop. Check with the ISFS office in Kerr (541-737-6310) to learn
when the next workshop is scheduled.

When will you be making a decision about who receives the scholarship?
We expect to review applications in March, conduct interviews in April, and make offers
from late April to mid May. Telephone interviews with overseas applicants occur anywhere
between March and May. We will contact YOU (please do not call or email to see if you
can schedule an interview).

What if I’m out of town during the interview or notification period?
Please note your unavailable dates on your application. Some interviews will be
conducted by telephone (so that candidates out of the area may receive full
consideration). If you have a contact email or number where you can be reached during
the months of March, April or May, you should be fine.

How much will the scholarship award be?
Awards are generally about $4000 per term (3 terms) for the first year. They are
renewable yearly, if you meet all program requirements, including GPA (minimum 2.5 for
undergraduates, 3.0 for graduate students), 80 hrs/year of community service yearly, and adherence to contractual program requirements.

**How many people from my country are you going to take?**
There is no set number of “spaces” for people from particular countries. We seek a diverse range of geographic, gender, academic and cultural presentation abilities or skills, academically meritorious students, and award as much as possible to those with financial need. Some years we have multiple students from particular countries. Some years we do not accept any students from a particular country, if we do not have a need or qualified applicants.

**Do you select alternates? If so, what does that mean?**
Yes, we usually offer 2-4 students positions as an alternate. Being chosen as an alternate gives you a good chance of being selected for ICSP for the following fall (we often have students who are offered ICSP but receive other funding or attend another University), but it is not a guarantee. You will be notified if you are chosen as an alternate, and you will be notified as soon as we hear that there is an opening if you are subsequently offered a “primary” position on ICSP.

**If I’m selected as an “Alternate,” what are my chances of receiving an ICSP award?**
Every year Alternates are offered positions on ICSP, but we do select between 4-8 alternates, so the likelihood is good, but the “odds” change year to year, and with the circumstances presented to the Director in any given year. Please have patience and know that if a position becomes available, you will be notified as soon as possible.

**Can I receive ICSP if I am a Graduate Student getting an Assistantship from my Department?**
No, you are not eligible for both at the same time, because both provide tuition remission awards, which would provide double-coverage of your tuition.

**What if I’m offered an Assistantship after I start ICSP?**
Then you must choose whether to go with the assistantship (and permanently revoke your ICSP scholarship) or stay with ICSP. If you have not yet started with ICSP, you may re-apply for future years. If you start and quit the ICSP program mid-year for an assistantship, you may not re-apply.

**I am considering (or planning on) doing an internship mid-year. Can I still apply?**
You should indicate this, in as much specific detail as possible, on your application, and the Director will speak to you to discuss your situation. Sometimes students on internship are still allowed an ICSP award, in extenuating circumstances.

**What if I only need one (or two) more terms of funding?**
Then you should seek funding elsewhere. We ask for a one year commitment, as you will undergo training, observations of other student speakers, and we advertise your speaking abilities within the community. We do not make partial-year awards, except for students completing their program and continuing on ICSP.

**Can I apply for and receive the Van der Water scholarship if I’m just applying to ICSP fall (could I receive both, if it’s my first year for both?)**
No. The Van der Water scholarship is for students who have completed at least a year of ICSP, so you would not be eligible until you became part of the program. You may apply in subsequent years if you are a continuing ICSP student.

**Are there other awards for which I am NOT eligible if I’m receiving ICSP funds?**
Good question! You are not eligible for other “remission” awards such as the OSU Provost award, but private scholarships are OK. Graduate Assistantships and Provost awards are not awarded in conjunction with ICSP awards. Oregon Laurels awards (for graduate students) ARE allowed to be paired with ICSP, but the total amount of funds cannot exceed the cost of your tuition. Please make a note on your application if you are receiving an Oregon Laurels award.

**Someone has applied for Permanent Residency (PR) on my behalf. Am I disqualified?**
Not immediately. If you fail to notify the ICSP Director of your pending PR, you will be immediately dismissed. If you notify the Director and keep her apprised of the status of your application (i.e. alert the ISFS office and ICSP Director if you receive a notice that your PR is approved, even if your green card will not come for ___ weeks/months), you may remain on ICSP until the term after your PR is awarded. Once you have PR, you have many more financial aid options, which is why you are no longer eligible for an ICSP award.

**My brother/sister/Mother/Father/Aunt/Uncle was on ICSP. Can you give me special consideration? I already know what to do – they told me everything.**
While we are delighted to see alumni’s family members choose OSU, there are many qualified applicants for ICSP, so your application will be reviewed alongside those that were also submitted by the due date.

**Can I see the Director to explain my situation in person? It’s complicated.**
Due to the large volume of inquiries we receive this time of year, we regret that the Director cannot receive each and every application in person, nor meet with every applicant.