The President’s Leadership Council Scholarship is one of the most prestigious scholarships at USAO. It is not only awarded in recognition of academic excellence, but also for demonstrated potential for leadership and service. Recipients become members of the President’s Leadership Council (PLC). This scholarship is awarded to a limited number of selected high school seniors entering each fall. The President’s Leadership Council Scholarship includes a partial tuition waiver in the amount of $3,800 per academic year and the value of a double occupancy room in Sparks Residence Hall (the equivalent amount may also be applied towards Lawson Court Apartments). The scholarship is renewable for up to 4 years (8 semesters, fall and spring only) and the estimated value per year is $6,560; based on the 2014-15 year.

ELIGIBILITY
All applicants must apply and be accepted for admission to USAO as entering freshmen prior to the scholarship deadline.

Applicants must have a high school GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and a composite ACT score of 24 (1090 SAT) or higher.

Applicants must be residents of Oklahoma, live on campus and be full-time degree seeking students.

Applicants must maintain the contract requirements (GPA, attendance, leadership positions, participation, etc.) for renewal each year.

SELECTION CRITERIA
Finalists are selected on the basis of their written application; providing evidence of academic accomplishments, intellectual and creative distinctions, extracurricular activities with leadership, service or scholarly components, and original essays. Finalists are required to visit our campus for an interview as well as other scheduled activities with current PLC recipients, sponsors and the selection committee. Scholarship award winners will be selected from the finalists based upon their written applications and on-campus interviews, usually held in late February. Not every applicant will be selected as a finalist and move on to the personal interview, and not all finalists will be selected to receive the President’s Leadership Council Scholarship. Applicants not selected will receive the scholarship for which they would automatically qualify based on their academic profile.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION
Your application and all supporting documents must be received in the Admissions Office no later than 5:00 p.m. CST on February 10, 2015.

Mail your application packet to:
Admissions Office
1727 W. Alabama
Chickasha, OK 73018-5322

PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING:
A single envelope (packet) containing one copy of each of the following 7 items, in the order listed. Please do not staple the materials together. All items must be single-sided.

1. A completed USAO President’s Leadership Council Scholarship Application (the final page of this document).

2. An official and certified 6 semester high school transcript if one has not been provided with the Admissions Application.

3. ACT and/or SAT Scores if they were not provided with your Admissions Application.

4. A list of your high school senior-year classes if they do not appear on the transcript.

5. An academic statement:
Describe how you intend to combine your academic interests, collegiate extracurricular activities, and your own personal strengths towards your development as a scholar and a leader at USAO and beyond. (1 page, 400 words maximum).

6. One essay in response to one of the three options (1 page, 500 words maximum):
   a. Write an original and imaginative essay addressing the prompt: “They said it couldn’t be done”.
   b. In your opinion, what is the greatest challenge your generation will face? What ideas do you have for addressing this issue?
   c. Select a creative work; a novel, film, poem, musical piece, painting or other work of art that has influenced you significantly. Discuss the work and the effect it has had on you.

7. Include a single-sided 8.5” x 11” sheet of paper with almost anything you want to provide to the review committee. (Please do not include photos of the applicant or improperly referenced copyrighted material). Color originals are acceptable, but know that we will photocopy this page in black and white for the selection committee. Examples of possible inclusion are original art, poetry, musical scores, photos taken by the applicant, newspaper clippings, mathematical derivations, code algorithms, technical drawings or a collage.

Questions about the scholarship:
Phone: (405) 574-1357
Fax: (405) 574-1220
E-mail: usao-admissions@usao.edu
1. What are my chances of getting this scholarship?
Each year we have awarded 10-12 PLC Scholarships. Your chances depend on the number of applications received in the year you are applying. The detail and effort on your application, the ability to communicate your leadership experiences and skills, and the ability to interact with those involved in the process are significant in determining the recipients.

2. What if I plan to re-take the ACT/SAT to improve my score?
We will only consider the official scores that are received before the scholarship deadline.

3. Are home-schooled applicants accommodated?
Yes, home-schooled students have historically been successful in this process. All applicants will be reviewed using the same criteria and process.

4. Is my high school GPA and ACT/SAT score important?
Yes. The GPA and ACT/SAT score is important in establishing eligibility to apply for the PLC Scholarship. After the student has met the eligibility criteria of a 3.5 un-weighted GPA and a 24 ACT (1090 SAT) or higher, the PLC Scholarship Application will be reviewed in addition to the academic criteria.

5. Does the size of my high school matter?
No. Awards can be made to students from all school sizes. The selection committee also recognizes and considers that students will experience different opportunities or limitations according to the size of the school.

6. How important is the application and accompanying materials?
The written materials are very important and crucial to your selection as a finalist and consequently your selection for the scholarship. All submitted complete applications will be reviewed and a group of finalists will be selected on the basis of their written application.

7. What are some tips for completing the application and materials?
- Read the directions carefully and use the list of required documents to guide you in the process.
- Write legibly or type per the instructions.
- Start early so you have time to create a quality expression piece and write essays that demonstrate your leadership skills and attitudes.
- Complete all blanks, sign as requested and submit all paperwork.
- Be prepared to meet the deadline early to accommodate unforeseen circumstances that interfere with timeliness.

8. How should I format my essays?
Single-spaced, 12-point font, one essay per page. In general we do not count words, but a 500-word essay should not exceed one page.

9. May I submit my application by fax or e-mail?
Yes. You may fax the complete application to 405-574-1220, Attention: Admission Office or e-mail the complete application to usao-admissions@usao.edu. Be sure the complete application is received prior to the deadline of 5:00 p.m. on February 10, 2015.

10. What does it mean to be a Finalist?
Finalists will be invited to a personal interview that is usually held about two weeks after the scholarship deadline. The recipients of the scholarship will be selected after all finalists have been interviewed.

11. What happens if I am not selected as a finalist or as a recipient?
Students who are not selected will receive an award letter with an offer of the scholarship they automatically qualify to receive.

12. What should I expect at the personal interview?
If you are selected as a finalist, you will receive a call inviting you to attend an interview and an appointment time will be scheduled. You will be asked to arrive 30 minutes prior to the interview time. During that time you will interact with current PLC members. You will have the opportunity to ask them questions, play games and get acquainted. The Selection Committee will meet with you for approximately 15 minutes.

13. How can I prepare for the personal interview?
This is a leadership position, so be prepared to discuss your leadership experiences and demonstrate your leadership personality traits. Relax and be yourself.

14. If I am awarded a President’s Leadership Council Scholarship, what are the rules for renewal?
- Stay in good standing with the university and maintain a yearly retention GPA of 2.75.
- Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must reside on campus during the academic year. Seniors may request to live off campus pending approval from Student Services. Seniors or others approved to live off campus will forfeit the room portion of this scholarship.
- Must be a full-time student, enrolling in a minimum of 12 credit hours each fall and spring, completing 24 credit hours successfully each academic year.
- Recipients must schedule an appointment with the PLC advisor each fall and spring.
- Be involved on campus (specific requirements are available from PLC advisor)
- Attend all PLC meetings and on-going PLC projects/events/programs.
- Participate in on-going student services sponsored events/programs.

15. What happens if I do not meet the renewal requirements?
The renewal criteria is reviewed each year at the end of the spring or summer semester for each academic year and is canceled if a student has not met all of the requirements. There is no probationary period or method of reinstatement after the scholarship is canceled, so the student needs to remain aware of their own progress and participation responsibilities.

16. Does the scholarship cover the summer term?
No, the PLC Scholarship is awarded for up to four academic years, fall and spring semesters. For the summer term, check out the Fast Track Scholarship which covers 12-14 hours of tuition, provided all requirements have been met. Information on the Fast Track Scholarship is available in the online USAO Catalog.
PART I—INFORMATION
Please print legibly or type.

Name ____________________________________________
  Last          First          MI

Last four digits of Social Security No: ____________

Address __________________________________________
  ____________________________  __________________
  City                  State        Zip

Home Phone ___________  Cell Phone ___________

High School __________________________________________

Home Town __________________________________________

High School GPA ___________  Class Rank ___________ out of ______

Graduation date: __________________________

Intended College Major: __________________________

List up to 5 of your significant community or public service activities, including summers (mark all years that apply):

1. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

2. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

3. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

4. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

5. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

List up to 5 of your most significant awards or recognitions not listed above (mark all years that apply):

1. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

2. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

3. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

4. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

5. __________________________
   ☐ FR ☐ SO ☐ JR ☐ SR

I hereby verify that the information herein is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the application and required supporting documents must be received in the Admissions Office no later than 5:00 p.m. CST on February 10, 2015.

Signature (Required) __________________________

Date: __________________________