THE BUCK FELLOWS PROGRAM

Expanding Educational Opportunities for High Potential Students
Launched in 2014 by the Buck Scholars Association, the Buck Fellows Program is designed to help talented Northern California high school students who demonstrate high academic and leadership potential, but who lack resources, support, and guidance to fully realize that potential.

The Buck Fellows Program offers Fellows expert guidance for applying to colleges, funding for academic and artistic enrichment opportunities, and workshops to cultivate resiliency and leadership. In addition, Buck Fellows have access to a thriving network of highly successful individuals in a diverse range of fields. All of these individuals grew up in Northern California and many of them—including doctors, actors, engineers, TV journalists, filmmakers, lawyers, writers, professors, and entrepreneurs—have dedicated themselves to individually mentoring Buck Fellows and helping them shape and pursue their dreams.

Strong candidates for the Buck Fellows Program are high school sophomores who excel in their classes, impress teachers with their enterprise and personal initiative, and set an example for their peers by overcoming challenges. Current Buck Fellows have led their schools’ sports teams, founded organizations at their school, and ranked high in their classes academically.

Applications for the Buck Fellows Program are available at www.buckscholars.org and are due on April 1, 2020. New Fellows will be announced in June 2020.
WHY BECOME A BUCK FELLOW?

Many students have high academic aptitude, strong character, and a commitment to improving their communities, but lack the resources, support, and guidance to fully realize their potential. These students would benefit from becoming Buck Fellows and receiving unparalleled one-on-one mentorship, funding for enrichment opportunities, and academic and career guidance.

Mentorship

This is the heart of the program and includes:

- **A primary mentor.** The Fellow will be paired with a mentor who will nurture the Fellow’s academic and professional growth.

- **A secondary mentor family.** Experts in various fields, such as medicine, technology, and art, will be available to assist the Fellow.

- **Access to the network of 250+ Buck Scholars** whose collective experience includes more than 95 institutions of higher learning and dozens of professional career paths.

Funding for Enrichment Opportunities

Every Fellow will receive $6,000 in funding support for enrichment opportunities after their sophomore year through which the Fellow can grow academically, socially, and personally. Such opportunities might include travel to a foreign country, academic enrichment on a college campus, SAT/ACT prep course, or a professional internship. The Fellow’s primary mentor will help the Fellow identify and apply for these opportunities.

Individualized Academic and Career Guidance

Buck Scholar experts will help Fellows think about college, prepare to apply to college, and develop the skills necessary to succeed in college.

- **Academic support.** Funding will be available to Fellows who would benefit from extra academic support, such as test preparation courses.

- **Local college visits.** Fellows will be invited in the spring of their junior year to visit a local college where they can speak to students and professors, and possibly attend lectures.

- **College application guidance.** Buck Scholar experts will be available to guide Fellows through revising essays, financial aid applications, and test-taking preparation.

What Is the Buck Scholar Network?

The Buck Scholar network encompasses the 250+ individuals who received scholarship funding from the Frank H. and Eva B. Buck Foundation.

Buck Scholars have a record of excelling in high school, college, and their professional careers. The collective talents and resources of this network offer Buck Fellows access to the world’s top universities, a range of professional careers, and internships and jobs with some of the nation’s most competitive employers. Below are examples of Buck Scholars who will mentor new Buck Fellows:


- **Phuoc Le** has degrees from Dartmouth, UC Berkeley, and Stanford Medical School. He currently practices medicine at UC San Francisco and serves as an Associate Professor at UC Berkeley and UCSF. Between 2014 and 2018 he co-founded the HEAL initiative and Arc Health program. Both programs focus on achieving health equity by providing healthcare services to underserved populations around the world with partnerships in 7 different countries and 1,000,000 patient visits per year.

- **Mia Saini Duchnowski** is the Co-Founder and CEO of Oars + Alps, a direct-to-consumer men’s grooming company. Previously, she was a TV reporter in Hong Kong and New York City with Bloomberg TV, covering business and finance. She holds degrees from Harvard Business School and MIT.
BUCK FELLOWS PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

YOU MUST:

• Live or attend school in Contra Costa, Napa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, or Yolo County.
• Be a high school sophomore.
• Submit a completed online application, along with your transcript and two letters of recommendation, by **April 1, 2020 at 11:59pm**.

YOU CAN DEMONSTRATE:

• A record of academic success and a desire for academic and intellectual challenges.
• Evidence of leadership, enterprise, and personal initiative.
• A commitment to succeed and improve your community.
• Personal resiliency, including the capacity to overcome adversity.

NOTE: Students whose parents did not graduate from college, have limited English ability, or have limited financial resources are especially encouraged to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

**Step 1** Determine if you meet the eligibility requirements and make a note of the submission deadline: **April 1, 2020 at 11:59pm**. This deadline applies to the completed application form, recommendation letters, and transcripts.

**Step 2** Register your two recommenders on our website at www.buckscholars.org/apply. Once registered, your recommenders will receive a digital form to fill out and submit on your behalf. Recommendation forms must be submitted online.

**NOTES:**
• One recommendation must be from a teacher and the other can be from a teacher, counselor, school official, volunteer coordinator, employer, or community leader.
• We recommend you complete this step as soon as possible to ensure your recommenders have ample time to complete the online form.

**Step 3** Complete the Buck Fellows online application form and upload your official transcript. (Hard copy application available upon request.)

**Step 4** Submit all of the following by **April 1, 2020 at 11:59pm**.

• Completed online application form
• Uploaded transcript
• Two completed online recommendation forms

**Step 5** Personal interviews will take place in Mid-May 2020. New fellows will be announced in June 2020.

To learn more, visit www.buckscholars.org or email humphrey.manacsa@buckscholars.org with any questions or comments.