Davidson Institute
Fellows Scholarship

2027 Davidson Fellows Scholarship
Outside the Box Requirements Checklist

Deadline: February 17, 2027, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time

ARE YOU APPLYING AS A TEAM?
Email
DavidsonFellows@DavidsonGifted.org
for *team-specific instructions*
BEFORE you apply!!!!

Outside the Box projects must be university graduate level work, or comparable, and completed with the supervision of an expert or experts.

IMPORTANT!

- If you are doing graduate level work and **your project fits into one of the other Davidson Fellows categories, please apply in that category.**
- ***READ THIS!*** *The Davidson Fellows Scholarship does **not** accept applications in community service, visual art, photography or performing arts categories such as dance, drama, vocal, etc. These projects are **not** considered Outside the Box. Additionally, describing a future major or occupation is not an eligible project, including in the Outside the Box category.*
- School assignments are not eligible submissions.

Please specify subject(s) or area(s) of study:

Domain(s)	Specific Field(s)

❑ **Portfolio Components**:
- *OPTION 1:*
  - Table of contents
  - A formal research report including a bibliography. This report should demonstrate the applicant's breadth and depth of knowledge in a specific subject area at university graduate level or beyond.
  - Any other supplemental documentation that may help explain your submission materials (i.e., computer or physical model, etc.)

- *OPTION 2:*
  - Table of contents
  - A portfolio of work that demonstrates breadth and depth of knowledge in a specific subject area at university graduate level or beyond.
  - Any other supplemental documentation that may help explain your submission materials (i.e., computer or physical model, etc.).

Please note:

- All pages of your submission must be typed in English, in an 11 or 12 point standard font.
- The formatting of the bibliography should follow the *American Psychological Association Publication Manual* or any other recognized style guide.
- The word count or length of the submission is up to the applicant.
- Google documents and video are NOT accepted.

IMPORTANT: Projects involving live vertebrates are **not** eligible.

Projects involving the following live invertebrates like C. elegans, Drosophila, Hydra, Mosquitoes are eligible. Additionally, projects involving zebrafish no older than 168 hours post-fertilization are eligible. Projects using human subjects are eligible – IRB paperwork **must** be submitted with the initial portion of the application.

Projects using commercially available cell lines are eligible.

Tissue-related projects are eligible if:

1. the materials were collected for other purposes;
2. no embryos were sacrificed;
3. the student is collaborating with a qualified lead scientist; and
4. the applicant provides approval from a recognized Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Scientific Review Committee (SRC).

Please submit documentation (ISEF forms are accepted) with the initial portion of the application for review by the Davidson Fellows program to ensure eligibility. Do you have questions about the eligibility of your project? Contact us! DavidsonFellows@DavidsonGifted.org or 775-852-3483 option 1

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❑ **Two Nominators Required**

Two individuals who are familiar with your work must each submit a Davidson Fellows Nominating Form. *Family members/relatives may not serve as nominators.*

Nominator forms will be automatically emailed to your nominators upon approval of the initial portion of your application.

Forms must be submitted directly by the nominator to the Davidson Fellows program on or before the submission deadline of February 17, 2027, 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time. Both nominators are required. Applications with missing Nominating Forms as of the February 17, 2027 deadline will be disqualified.

Attachments to the Davidson Fellows Application

All attachments are to be completed by the applicant. The word count or length of the attachments is up to the applicant.
Note: Applicants in all categories must submit attachments.

❑ **ATTACHMENT ONE:** Process Essay

- **Part One**: Please answer the following questions:
  - What inspired you to pursue this work?
  - How much time (hours/days/months) did it take you to complete this work?
  - How did you organize the work that went into doing it?
  - What difficulties did you encounter and how did you handle them?

- **Part Two**: Please answer the following questions:
  - Where was the work completed?
  - Who supervised your work? (Provide name(s), title(s) and e-mail(s))
  - What help have you received in doing this work?
  - List who helped you and what assistance he/she provided. (Please include individuals who offered equipment, ideas, critiques, materials, methodology, etc.)
  - Was your project completed through a paid program/mentorship? If yes, which one, who did you work with and in what capacity?

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❑ **ATTACHMENT TWO:** Significance and Benefit to Society Essay

Please explain why your submission qualifies as a significant piece of work, as defined by at least one of the following criteria:

- exceptional creativity
- a new idea with high impact and/or broad implications
- an innovative solution with regional, state and/or national implications
- an important advancement that can be replicated and built upon
- an interdisciplinary discovery with the potential to effect positive change
- a prodigious performance

Also, please explain how your work may make a positive contribution to society or has social relevance.

❑ **ATTACHMENT THREE**: Video Describing Work

Submit a maximum 10-minute, home-production quality video. Think of this as the conclusion of your application. You can speak freely or from a script; you can be as creative as you wish. This video is a chance to talk about anything not addressed in other parts of your application. Or, you can emphasize aspects of your project you feel are especially important.

Suggestions (these are only suggestions, feel free to use some, all or none) for the video:

- You can briefly summarize your submission, why it was done, its significance, its social relevance and any other details you'd like to highlight.
- You can describe how you became interested in this project, how it evolved and how working on it has helped you develop as a student and a person.
- You can also describe how your submission fits into the larger context of the field of study and describe any ideas/people/theories that influenced your work.

You can discuss if you'll continue with this project, future work and plans, anything else you'd like to add to round out your submission.

*YouTube video upload instructions:

- Go to www.YouTube.com
- Either create an account (it's free) or sign in
- Click "Upload" in the top menu bar and follow the directions here, to make the video **UNLISTED**. (The Unlisted setting ensures that your video will only be viewed by the Davidson Fellows Program and its judges, or anyone else you send the URL to.)
- Copy and paste the link to this video as Attachment Three.

- **Tip**: do **NOT** make your video private, if it's private, we can't view it.
- **Tip**: double check the link to make sure it works.