**Ellis R. Ott Scholarship Application Instructions**

**Selection Criteria**

The scholarship recipient must be a student who is planning to enroll or is currently enrolled in a master’s degree or higher level US or Canadian program that has a concentration in applied statistics and/or quality management. This includes the theory and application of statistical inference, statistical decision-making, experimental design, analysis and interpretation of data, statistical process control, quality control, quality assurance, quality improvement, quality management and related fields. The emphasis is on applications as opposed to theory.

Scholarship awards are based on (a) demonstrated ability in the above fields, (b) academic achievement, including honors, (c) career objectives, (d) faculty recommendations, (e) involvement in student or professional organizations, (f) teaching and tutoring, and (g) industrial exposure including part-time work and internships.

The Ott Scholarship Governing Board awards up to two scholarships annually to students pursuing either a master’s degree as their next academic goal or a doctorate degree.

Students enrolled in online programs and classroom programs are eligible. However, relatives of the Governing Board and of the ASQ Statistics Division Council members or previous winners of the award are not eligible.

**Instructions:**

* Applicants must complete the forms in the following pages and must assure that faculty members and other mentors receive copies of pages 2 and 3 of this document.
* Applicants are advised to read the biographical sketch of Ellis R. Ott (see page 4) as well as additional citations available through the Ott Scholarship home page, to assure an appropriate fit and to further guide the contents of their essays.

**Material**\* **to be sent no later than April 1**

* Typed application form (pages 5-6)– no handwritten forms, please.
* Resume
* An essay of no longer than one page, type written, no smaller than 10-point type, stating qualifications, career goals, reasons for seeking the scholarship. Comments should be consistent with the scholarship award criteria, above.
* Two letters of recommendation from professors or mentors in the current or intended field of study. Writers should include responses to rubric questions (page 3).
* Copy of a recent academic transcript

\* Send via email only to mvandeven99@gmail.com

**Guidelines for Recommendation letter writers:**

The Ott Scholarship Governing Board relies heavily on your recommendations while judging applications. It is important that the Board be persuaded by your comments that the student is truly qualified. Our past winners are those who have had the strongest letters of recommendation from their faculty mentors.

As you will notice from the “Selection Criteria” section above, the Board is seeking students who are well rounded and who demonstrate great potential for leadership in applied statistics and quality management to benefit society. Please complete the recommendation form, focusing your comments on these aspects of the student’s capability. The Board would also like to see your comments regarding academic achievements, especially those regarding innovation and strong leadership on the part of the student. Naturally, any additional comments you wish to offer will be appreciated.

More detail on next page ……

**Ott Scholarship Letters of Recommendation - Continued**

Using the following rubric, identify how confident you are that the scholarship candidate will solve real-world problems and integrate statistical theory and applications to benefit society. Provide evidence for your score in the spaces below. Incorporate this information in your letter of recommendation.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Score** | **1** | **3** | **5** | **7** | **9** |
| **Brief Descriptor** | **Hopeful** | **Optimistic** | **Positive** | **Confident** | **Certain** |
| **Practical Problem-solving** | Hopeful candidate will solve real-world problems of benefit to society | Optimistic candidate will solve real-world problems of benefit to society | Positive candidate will solve real-world problems of benefit to society; has the capability to accomplish it | Confident candidate will solve real-world problems of benefit to society; has seen do it on limited scale | Certain candidate will solve real-world problems of benefit to society; has capability and commitment to make it happen on a larger scale |
| **Integration of Application & Theory** | Hopeful candidate will integrate statistical theory and application to benefit society | Optimistic candidate will integrate statistical theory and application to benefit society | Positive candidate will integrate statistical theory and application to benefit society; has the capability to accomplish it | Confident candidate will integrate statistical theory and application to benefit society; has seen do it on limited scale | Certain candidate will candidate will integrate statistical theory and application to benefit society; has capability and commitment to make it happen on a larger scale |

Practical problem-solving (Score awarded \_\_) Justifying comments:

Integration of statistical theory and application to benefit society (Score awarded \_\_) Justifying comments:

**Please note that the rubric table shown above need not be included in the recommendation letter. It is sufficient to simply provide your scores and supporting comments in the recommendation letter.**

**Biographical Sketch**

Ellis R. Ott: Statistical Pioneer

Ellis Ott founded the Statistics Center at Rutgers University during the aftermath of World War II when veterans returned home and sought industrial careers. Ott, a Ph.D. mathematician, saw both their educational needs and the needs of American industry to improve quality, and he established a graduate education program to meet them. He made courses available late afternoons and early evenings to accommodate work schedules, and he staffed his department with professors who had extensive industrial experience. To be sure, he included a healthy theoretical balance. His curricula became the model for many academic institutions, and they remain in place to this day.

He regarded his graduate students as family, drawing no lines of ethnicity, gender, religion or otherwise. He nurtured, mentored, educated and provided access to real world problems in their natural environments, by coordinating with outside organizations to provide internship programs. His outreach extended to industrial and academic people of all stripes via all day conferences on quality issues and pioneering leadership in the American Society for Quality. All these activities were ahead of their time.

Ott understood statistical complexity together with the need to develop new, appropriate statistical tools and strategies for problem solving. But he also understood the need for statisticians to communicate statistical findings to those who were less statistically sophisticated. For statisticians to contribute meaningfully to society, they must assume leadership positions, encourage the use of the scientific method and promote statistical thinking widely. Inspired by his outlook, most of his students have gone on to similar leadership endeavors in applied statistics.

This biographical sketch provides information regarding the nature of the scholarship and the statistical education philosophy of Professor Ellis R. Ott. We highly recommend that you review it carefully to assure that your essay and accompanying information are consistent with the Ott philosophy.

Please make certain that the professors and mentors you choose to write letters of recommendation on your behalf have access to it. It will help them understand points needing emphasis.

**Application Form**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Office phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Last 4 Digits of SSN: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| College or University | Degree Awarded | Dates Attended | GPA\* | Honors Received |
| (Current) |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

\* on a 4.0 equivalent scale

Name and address of college and university where scholarship will be applied, if offered. (Include the address of the financial aid office and the name of the financial aid officer responsible for your account.)

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**Application Form (continued)**

**Supporting letters included in this application are written by:**

Title and Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if the next degree for which you are applying is a master’s degree.

☐ Check here if the next degree for which you are applying is a doctorate degree.

By April 1, email this form complete with your resume, an “unofficial” transcript and your essay to mvandeven99@gmail.com. Students should follow up with their faculty members to assure that letters of recommendation are emailed to the same address by the April 1 deadline.

If an unofficial transcript is not available, applicants may request that an official transcript be sent via the regular mail to:

Mark Vandeven

62 Raynor Road

Morristown, NJ 07960

(973) 610-3925

Notices will be issued on or about August 1.