

Obtaining a passport

By Marty Cherrix

Many students have the opportunity to travel to a foreign country at some point in their lives. Every individual who travels, regardless of age, needs a passport in order to get into a foreign country. The process by which one applies for a passport is relatively simple.

First of all, the individual should go to the downtown post office in Asheville. This facility acts as a clearing house for the Western North Carolina area. He should ask for the passport clerk. The clerk gives the individual an application form to be completed and signed in his presence.

Next, the person needs to have two photographs taken of himself. These photographs must measure two inches by two inches. One of the photographs will be used on the passport and the other one is filed with the application. The person applying for the passport needs to sign his name on the back of both photographs.

According to John Goldsmith, Passport Clerk at the downtown post office, a certified copy of the person's birth certificate must accompany the application. This copy of the birth certificate may be obtained at the Register of Deeds' office in the county of one's birth. Goldsmith said, "One very important thing to look for on the birth certificate copy is a file date which has to be on the certificate before it is considered valid for passport purposes." According to Goldsmith, a certified copy of the individual's birth certificate may also be obtained by writing the State Board of Health, P.O. Box 2091, Raleigh, N.C., 27602.

The applicant must also have his immunizations up to date. According to Helen Farrell, Chief of Adult Health Services at the Buncombe County Health Department, foreign countries, with the exception of Canada and Mexico, require that travelers be inoculated prior to entering the country. For more information, contact the Health Department as to the specific vaccines needed for travel to various countries. They schedule an appointment for the applicant to receive his vaccinations.

In addition to the application form, photographs, and birth certificate, the individual needs to show the Passport Clerk a valid driver's license or some other form of identification, preferably with a photograph.

At this time, the applicant pays a processing fee of \$15. The Post Office accepts cash or a personal check made out to the Passport Office.

Goldsmith mails applications daily to Washington, D.C. According to Goldsmith, the processing time varies. As a general rule, it takes four to six weeks for Washington to process the information.

Passports expire in five years and can be renewed thereafter. Also, no passports are issued to families as a group. Each individual family member must have his own passport, regardless of age.

After complying with the proper procedures, one can expect to receive his passport within four to six weeks. The passport will be mailed to the applicant's home address as listed on the application form.

Scholarships-from page one

point average of at least a "B" [or 3.0], be in the upper fourth of their class and be in a field of undergraduate study that will permit admission to a graduate program leading to a government career. Contact Dr. Gerald Gullickson, Professor of literature by October 31 if interested in applying.

Dr. Gullickson, who serves on the UNCA scholarship committee, is also the advisor on the Rhodes Scholarships. There are 32 Rhodes Scholarships assigned annually to the U.S. They are for two years of study at Oxford University and provide about 3,000 pounds a year [which is \$5,100 in U.S. currency on the current exchange rate].

Applicants must be between 18 and 24 by Oct. 1 of the year of application and must receive their Bachelor's degree before October, 1983. The application deadline is Oct. 15.

There are 500 awards available to 50 countries through the National Competition for Fulbright and other grants for graduate study abroad. Most of the grants provide round-trip transportation, tuition and maintenance for one academic year.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and must have a bachelor's degree or its equivalent before the beginning date of the grant. In most cases, students should be proficient in the language of the host country.

Creative and performing artists are not required to have a bachelor's degree, but they must have four years of professional study or equivalent experience. Selection is based on the student's academic and/or professional record, feasibility of the proposed study plan, proficiency in the language and personal qualifications.

Grants through the Fulbright competition have been awarded to eight UNCA students. Dr. Philip Walker, Professor of history, is the

Program advisor. Deadline for application is October 15.

Marshall Scholarships, providing for two years of study in a British university, will also be offered in 1983. The amount of the award tends to average 7600 pounds per year [or \$12,920 in U.S. currency].

Applicants must have a 3.7 grade point average, must not have reached their 26th birthday by Oct. 1, 1983 and must present a definite academic program designed to further their intellectual interests.

Married applicants have an advantage over unmarried applicants. Dr. Merritt Moseley, Director of the Office of International Studies, and Assistant Professor of literature, set Oct. 1, 1982 as the deadline for applications. As many as 30 Marshall scholarships will be awarded in 1983.

Rotary Scholarships for International Study may be used in any foreign country where there are Rotary Clubs. The purpose of the Rotary Scholarship is to further understanding and good will between the U.S. and foreign countries. The scholarships are for one year and cover travel, tuition, school fees, books and room and board.

Upon the student's return, the recipient must speak to Rotary clubs in this district about his or her experiences. Applications should be submitted to Dr. Moseley in early February.

Moseley said, "Students applying for these scholarships should be serious in their intent and willing to fulfill their commitment if chosen. We have a bad track record on the Rotary Scholarships of people pulling out. It is frustrating and a waste of time and money."

Moseley said students need to realize that, "if they are chosen, everyone else who applied is not." When a student forfeits a scholarship, it is wasted for that year.

Classifieds

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