Freedom & Citizenship Application Checklist

Personal and Family Information:

☐ Your name, address, email, date of birth, phone number, high school, GPA

☐ Your guardian’s name and phone number, highest lever of education

☐ Your family’s taxable income and household size

☐ Your fall schedule (or your current spring schedule, if it will be similar)

Short answer question:

☐ What civic engagement project do you want to work on during the academic year and why?
   Past projects have included:
   - Immigration
   - Human Trafficking
   - Domestic Violence
   - Refugees
   - Mass Incarceration
   - Gentrification
   - K-12 Education
   - College Affordability
   - Health Care
   - Gender Equality
   - Voting Rights
   - Global Warming
   - Mental Health
   - Disability
   - Gun Control

   *You CAN identify a new project we haven’t done before!

Attachments:

☐ High school transcript (most recent)

☐ Writing Sample: Please provide a copy of a graded and returned paper submitted to an English or Social Studies class during this school year. The sample should represent your best effort and should have teacher comments and/or a grade in the teacher’s handwriting. Please attach or write at the top of the paper the specific instructions that your teacher gave for the assignment.

☐ Essay: Respond to the following question with a typed essay of 500 words or less: Should citizens be required by law to vote in an election? Why or why not?

☐ Statement of Purpose: Attach a statement of purpose approximately 400 words in length explaining what you hope to get out of the program and what do you think you will contribute. Please make sure to consider BOTH the summer seminar AND the academic year civic leadership project.

☐ Email address of your letter of recommender: Ask a teacher or guidance counselor to email a confidential letter addressed to Jessica Lee at Jessica.Lee@columbia.edu speaking to your ability to handle a heavy academic workload, willingness to participate in class, commitment to academic improvement, and your engagement in social or political causes, as applicable. Letters should be sent by 11:59pm on 3/15/18