Nationally Competitive Scholarships – General Information Sheet

All WSU students may receive mentoring from the Cohen Honors College as they apply for competitive national scholarships.

Some of the most prestigious awards are listed below and more are listed online [http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=honors&p=nationalscholarships/](http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=honors&p=nationalscholarships/).

The two most extensive national scholarship sites are maintained by Oberlin College ([http://www.scholarships.umd.edu/whatare.html](http://www.scholarships.umd.edu/whatare.html)) and the University of Maryland at College Park ([http://new.oberlin.edu/office/fellowships/index.dot](http://new.oberlin.edu/office/fellowships/index.dot)).

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**Before you Apply**

1. **Decide** what awards are interesting to you by visiting award websites and reading their mission, goals, and application information.

2. **Prepare**
   - an updated resume that includes the name and contact information of a faculty member who might write a recommendation and serve as a mentor through your grant process.
   - a one- to two-page statement that explains how your accomplishments and goals for the future fulfill the goals of the scholarship. You may want to start by simply making a list of ideas and/or courses you have taken that interested you the most.
   - a writing sample or research abstract.

3. **Meet** with the Dean of the Cohen Honors College at least four months and preferably six months before the application deadline. Bring copies of the materials you have prepared. To make an appointment with the Dean, stop by Shocker Hall A118 or call 316-978-3375.

**NOTE:** Successful applicants for competitive national scholarships or fellowships will have strong recommendations from several faculty members.

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**If you are interested in…**

**International Travel**

Consider the **Fulbright Summer Institute**

**Eligibility:** current freshmen and sophomores

**About:** Institutes take place in the UK. Most are 3-6 weeks in length and all occur in the summer. See the current list of institutes here: [http://www.fulbright.org.uk/fulbright-awards/exchanges-to-the-uk/undergraduates](http://www.fulbright.org.uk/fulbright-awards/exchanges-to-the-uk/undergraduates).

Consider the **Fulbright**

**Deadline:** early September deadline and requires work toward the grant by the spring of the junior year.
Eligibility: recent college graduates (and college seniors)

About: The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is the nation's largest study abroad fellowship program and is designed to give opportunities for international experience, personal enrichment and an open exchange of ideas with citizens of other nations. The full list of participating countries may be found in the link below. Look at the two main types of Fulbright grants: Fulbright Academic Study Grants and Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships online at http://us.fulbrightonline.org/index.php.

Graduate Study
Consider the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans
Deadline: November 1.
Eligibility: Must already have a bachelor’s or be a college senior and be no more than 30. To be eligible for the fellowship, one of the following five statements must be true:
- You have been naturalized as a US citizen either on your own or as a minor child under the application of one of your parents.
- You are – or will by the application deadline be – in possession of a valid green card.
- You are a US citizen by birth, but neither of your birth parents was a US citizen or eligible for US citizenship at the time of his or her birth, and at least one of them subsequently became a naturalized US citizen.
- You were born outside of the United States or one of its territories and were subsequently adopted by American parents and were awarded US citizenship as a result of your adoption. To the best of your knowledge, neither of your birth parents was a US citizen.
- You have been – or by the application deadline will have been – granted deferred action under the government’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

About: Each fellowship supports up to two years of graduate study—in any field and in any advanced degree-granting program in the US. Each award is up to $25,000 in maintenance grants and up to $20,000 in tuition and fees.

International Peace
Consider the Carnegie Junior Fellows
Deadline: early January.
Eligibility: college seniors
About: The award is a paid postgraduate internship program. Following graduation, fellows spend one year working as a research associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in one of their research divisions: Central Asia, Asia, Democracy and Rule of Law, Energy and Climate, International Economics, Nuclear Policy, Russia & Eurasia, South Asia, and the Middle East. Students who have a serious career interest in international affairs must write a two-page essay explaining their suitability for such an award. Positions are paid and full-time. Junior fellows are currently paid a gross salary of $3,000 per month ($36,000 per year). A full benefits package is also provided. Please see: http://www.carnegieendowment.org/about/index.cfm?fa=jrFellows.
Science, Engineering, and Mathematics

Consider the **Goldwater**

**Deadline:** early January

**Eligibility:**
- college sophomore or junior
- major in science, engineering, or mathematics
- 3.8 cumulative gpa

**About:** A written description of undergraduate research is an important component of the successful Goldwater applicant’s dossier. Before meeting the dean to talk about your application for this award, talk to your faculty mentor about a significant issue or problem in your field of study that is of particular interest to you and let your mentor know that you are thinking of applying for a Goldwater.

Find more information online: [https://goldwater.scholarsapply.org/yybull.php](https://goldwater.scholarsapply.org/yybull.php).

Public Policy and Public Service

Consider the **Truman**

**Deadline:** late January

**Eligibility:** college junior pursuing a bachelor’s degree full-time

**About:** Before meeting the dean to talk about your application for this award, take time to write down why you are committed to solving a public policy issue. Include the following in your explanation: a) a definition of the issue; b) how you might address the issue; c) what might stand in the way of your proposed solution(s); and d) what public figure is best suited to resolve the issue. Talk to your faculty mentor about your ideas. See this link for more about the Truman’s required “policy proposal”: [http://www.truman.gov/policy-proposal-tips/](http://www.truman.gov/policy-proposal-tips/).