

Goldwater Scholarship 2027

The Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation was established by Congress to serve as a living memorial to honor the lifetime work of Senator Barry Goldwater. By providing scholarships to college sophomores and juniors who intend to pursue research careers in the natural sciences, mathematics and engineering, the Foundation helps ensure that the U.S. is producing the number of highly qualified professionals the Nation needs in these critical fields.

The Goldwater Scholarship Foundation identifies, encourages, and financially supports college sophomores and juniors who show exceptional promise of becoming this nation's next generation of research leaders. Goldwater Scholars have a strong commitment to a research career in the natural sciences, mathematics, or engineering; show intellectual intensity in those fields, demonstrated in coursework and research; and have the potential for a significant future contribution to research in their chosen field. The Goldwater Scholarship is one of the oldest and most prestigious national undergraduate scholarships in the natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics in the United States.

Scholarships of up to \$7,500 per academic year are provided to help cover costs associated with tuition, fees, books, and room and board. A sophomore awardee can expect to receive support for a maximum of two years (4 semesters), and a junior awardee can expect to receive support for a maximum of one year (2 semesters).

To be eligible for nomination for a Goldwater Scholarship, a student must:

1. Be a sophomore or junior during the 2026-2027 academic year
 - Sophomore – An undergraduate who has a minimum of three but not more than four semesters left of full-time undergraduate study beginning September 2027.
 - Junior – An undergraduate who has a minimum of one but not more than two semesters left of full-time undergraduate study beginning September 2027.
2. Have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA
3. Be a U.S. citizen or national, or a permanent resident
4. Intend to pursue a research career in a natural science, mathematics or engineering
5. Must be nominated by their academic institution. See the next page for details on the nomination process for the College of Natural Sciences.

Students interested in pursuing careers in medicine or veterinary medicine are eligible for a Goldwater Scholarship ONLY IF RESEARCH IS A CENTRAL PART OF THE STUDENT'S CAREER GOALS.

Please visit the [Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation](https://goldwaterscholarship.gov) website for more information on both the scholarship and foundation.

From <https://goldwaterscholarship.gov>

CNS Nomination Process

The College of Natural Sciences along with the College of Engineering and the College of Liberal Arts will identify and nominate up to four students to represent The University of Texas at Austin for the Goldwater Scholarship. CNS students interested in being considered for nomination by CNS must complete the CNS preliminary application.

A complete CNS preliminary application includes the submission of the [online Qualtrics questionnaire](#), current resume **AND** Research Essay. Please carefully read all instructions and information found on the online questionnaire. Both the resume and the Research Essay should be uploaded as PDFs via the Qualtrics form as prompted. Important instructions and details regarding the Research Essay are also included on the Qualtrics form.

Students may save their progress and return to the application as their time allows. There's no need to attempt to complete it in one sitting. **Please note** – once you have submitted the CNS online application, you **CANNOT** make changes to it, nor can you submit a second application. Only the first application submitted will be considered.

DO NOT complete the Goldwater Scholarship Student Interest Form and Student Profile found on the Goldwater website. Only students officially nominated by CNS will be required to complete the Student Interest Form and Student Profile. The Goldwater Student Interest Form cannot serve as a substitute for CNS' preliminary application process, and it will not be available to CNS during the nominee selection process.

CNS PRELIMINARY APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 19, 2026 - 11:59 PM Central

All parts of the application – questionnaire, resume and research essay- must be received by the stated deadline. Late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.

If you are selected to receive a CNS nomination, you will be required to complete the official Goldwater application. The official application consists of the official Goldwater online questionnaire, research essay, three letters of recommendation and official transcripts. Letters of recommendation and transcripts are not required for the preliminary application process and will not be considered during the preliminary review process.

Questions? Contact scholarships@cns.utexas.edu.