Nationally Competitive Scholarships

Nationally competitive scholarships provide generous funding, and a large measure of distinction, for graduate or undergraduate study. Students cannot apply for these scholarships on their own, since the university must nominate students in order for them to be eligible. Many of these scholarships require careful planning and consultation with faculty and other mentors, with internal UAlbany deadlines typically preceding national deadlines by 1-2 months. Dr. Hui-Ching Chang, Dean of the Honors College, is the campus representative for the following awards.

Carnegie Junior Fellows Program/James C. Gaither Junior Fellows Program

Overview: James C. Gaither Junior Fellows work as research assistants to Carnegie’s senior scholars during the one-year fellowship in fields relevant to political science, history, global studies, and foreign policy, among others, in a full-time position that pays approximately $40,000 per year.

Eligibility: Applicants must be graduating seniors or students who have graduated during the last academic year. Anyone who has started graduate studies is ineligible for consideration (except in cases where the student has completed the bachelor’s portion in a joint bachelor’s/master’s degree program). All applicants must also be eligible to work in the United States for a full twelve months from approximately August 1 through July 31 following graduation.

Selection Criteria: Applicants should have relevant coursework experience as well as a strong interest and skills in research, data collection and analysis, and program coordination/administration.

Deadlines: The internal UAlbany deadline is mid-November, and the national deadline is generally in mid-January.

Goldwater Scholarship

Overview: The Goldwater Scholarship is geared toward students who wish to pursue a research career in the fields of math, natural science, or engineering. Established in 1986, this scholarship provides outstanding students a maximum of $7,500 a year for undergraduate education expenses such as tuition, mandatory fees, books, and room and board.

Eligibility: Eligible students must be full-time sophomores or juniors pursuing a degree at a 2- or 4-year accredited institution who are US citizens or US nationals. Eligible fields include: Chemistry, Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering, Engineering, Geosciences, Life Sciences, Materials Research, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Astronomy, and Psychology.

Selection Criteria: Students should be intending to pursue a STEM research career and have a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

Deadlines: The pre-application to apply is due in early October, the internal UAlbany deadline is mid-November, and the national deadline for the Goldwater Scholarship is generally due on the last Friday in January.

Marshall Scholarship

Overview: Marshall Scholarships finance young Americans of high ability to study for a graduate degree in the UK. Up to forty Scholars are selected each year to study at graduate level at an UK institution in any field of study.

Eligibility: Eligibility requirements include being a citizen of the US with a GPA equal to or above 3.7 who have not studied for or do not hold a degree from a British university. Students must hold their first undergraduate degree from an accredited 4-year university in the US by the time they take up the scholarship.

Selection Criteria: Marshall Scholars are talented, independent and wide-ranging, and their time as Scholars enhances their intellectual and personal growth.
**Deadlines:** The internal UAlbany deadline is in early September, and the national deadline is generally in early October.

**Mitchell Scholarship**

**Overview:** The Mitchell Scholarship Program, named to honor former US Senator George Mitchell’s pivotal contribution to the Northern Ireland peace process, is designed to introduce and connect generations of future American leaders to the island of Ireland, while recognizing and fostering intellectual achievement, leadership, and a commitment to community and public service. It offers students one academic year of postgraduate study in any discipline offered by institutions of higher learning in Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Mitchell Scholarship provides tuition, accommodation, and a stipend for living expenses and travel.

**Eligibility:** Eligibility includes being a US citizen, being between 18-29 years old, and having a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university before beginning study as a Mitchell Scholar.

**Selection Criteria:** Applicants are judged on scholarship; leadership; and sustained commitment to community and public service.

**Deadlines:** The internal UAlbany deadline is in early September, and the national deadline is generally in early October.

**Rhodes Scholarship**

**Overview:** The Rhodes Scholarships are the oldest and most celebrated international fellowship awards in the world. The Rhodes Scholarship provides full financial support to pursue a degree or degrees at the University of Oxford in the UK.

**Eligibility:** Eligibility includes being a US citizen or permanent resident who is between 18-24 years old who has completed (or will complete) their undergraduate degree from a US college or university with a GPA of 3.7 out of 4.0.

**Selection Criteria:** Each year 32 young students from the United States are selected as Rhodes Scholars. Rhodes Scholars demonstrate outstanding scholarly achievements, character, commitment to others and to the common good, and for their potential for leadership in whatever career they may choose.

**Deadlines:** The internal UAlbany deadline is in early September, and the national deadline is generally in early October.

**Truman Scholarship**

**Overview:** The Truman Foundation, created as a memorial to the 33rd President of the United States, offers students a scholarship up to $30,000 for graduate or professional school in the field of public service, plus leadership development, networking, and unique internship and employment opportunities with the federal government.

**Eligibility:** Eligibility requirements include being a US citizen or US national and a full-time student pursuing a bachelor’s degree with junior-level academic standing, or senior-level standing in the third year of college enrollment. Students who have already attended graduate school are not eligible for the Truman Scholarship.

**Selection Criteria:** Truman Scholars demonstrate significant public service and leadership experience and have a highly competitive GPA.

**Deadlines:** The internal UAlbany deadline is in early December, and the national deadline is generally in early February.
Udall Scholarship

Overview: The Udall Foundation awards scholarships of up to $7,000 for eligible academic expenses to college sophomores and juniors who exhibit leadership, public service, and commitment to issues related to Native American nations or to the environment. The Udall Scholarship also provides access to the Udall Alumni Network, which is an association of change-makers working in Indian country and environmental fields who share innovative ideas, professional advice, and job and internship opportunities. In addition, it provides resources for students to attend a five-day orientation in Arizona that trains them in valuable skills and extends their professional networks.

Eligibility: Eligible individuals include college sophomores or juniors who are working towards positive solutions to environmental challenges or to issues impacting Indian country; demonstrated commitment to these areas through public service; inspire and motivate others to take action; and are committed to making a difference through civility and consensus building.

Selection Criteria: Four principal categories are used to rank each applicant: commitment to the environment, health care, or tribal public policy; academic achievements; nominee’s personal essay; and personal characteristics as revealed by such evidence as volunteerism and testimonials in letters of reference.

Deadlines: The internal UAlbany deadline is early February, and the national deadline is generally in March.