



THE UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA

Office of Nationally Competitive Scholarships



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Competitive Scholarships

ABOUT THE OFFICE OF NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS (ONCS)


ONCS is dedicated to assisting undergraduate students, graduate students, and alumni in competing for a wide array of prestigious national scholarships annually. These sought-after external awards, typically sponsored by esteemed foundations or government agencies, offer not only financial support but also mentoring and networking opportunities.

Scholarships for Sophomores and Juniors

- Goldwater
- Astronaut
- Udall
- Truman
- Voyager
- Gilman
- CLS
- Boren

Scholarships for Seniors




- Fulbright
 - Marshall
 - Rhodes
 - Churchill
 - Pickering & Rangel Fellowships
 - Knight-Hennessy Scholarship
 - Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship
 - McCall-MacBain Scholarship
 - Samvid Scholars Program
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How do students find NCS?



Your first stop should be ONCS. We will guide you on next steps and answer any questions you may have.

Although we don't know every single opportunity that exists, we are connected to a network of fellowship advisors across the country who may know of additional opportunities that we can share with you.



Developing Strong Applications Requires:



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- Thinking carefully about why you are applying
 - Understanding the mission, values and stated goals of the funding organization
 - Connecting the dots between the two

What are the mission, values, and stated goals of the funding organization?


- Consider the type of funding organization (federal government, non-profit, et al.)
- Analyze information shared on funder websites: what are they about? Who/what kinds of projects have they funded in the past? Do they have priorities that morph over time?
- Reach out to organization representatives as needed to clarify questions

Connect the Dots

- Your reasons for applying and goals for the funded experience should align with the granting agency's mission and goals
- What does the granting agency get out of funding you and your work?
- Your ability to speak clearly and convincingly will influence the success of your application


Becoming Competitive



- Reflect on your long-term goals
 - Pursue what really interests you
 - Take advantage of research, service, internship and on-campus funding opportunities
 - Get to know your professors and employers
 - Maintain a strong academic profile
 - Strongly consider language study & travel
 - Take on leadership roles on campus and in the community
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Letters of Recommendation



- Plan ahead – get to know faculty and staff
 - First inquire if they're able to write you a strong LOR (this should be one of the first things you do)
 - Organize and allow plenty of time for the writer (make sure you provide any documents that may need to write a strong LOR)
 - Follow-up
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THANK YOU!



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