

NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE

AWARDS ADVISING



WHO IS THE ADVISING FOR?

- ALL undergraduates (any major) on campus
- Eligibility depends on the award and may require a particular year, major, or US citizenship
- Recent graduates and alumni may also seek advising

WHY SHOULD YOU BE INTERESTED?

- You can go abroad for research or teaching
- You can get funding towards your undergraduate STEM degree
- You can win full funding for graduate school, domestically or abroad
- You can enter professional public service
- Other 49ers have won these awards, each worth thousands of dollars, and you can, too!

WHAT STUDENTS WHO HAVE APPLIED SAY:

- *“The biggest help was finding the opportunities and matching them with my interests.”*
- *“It was incredibly helpful to have real experiences (mock interviews, writing exercises) when it came time for my interviews.”*
- *“I received a lot of good advice on how to make the application a complete picture with an overarching theme.”*



YOU COULD APPLY FOR A ***NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIP***

SOME EXAMPLES OF AWARD PROGRAMS

- **Rhodes Scholarship:** A premier scholarship for a graduate program in any field at Oxford University in the United Kingdom; awarded on the basis of intellect, character, leadership and commitment to service
 - **Institute for Responsible Citizenship:** A high-level internship matching program for young African American men in Washington, DC, which also provides leadership and professional development workshops
 - **Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans:** Up to \$90,000 in funding for graduate school for students who are “New Americans” (i.e., either immigrants or children of immigrants)
 - **Goldwater Scholarship and Amgen Scholars Program:** Research scholarships for undergraduates in STEM fields, such as Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Physics and Optical Sciences
 - **Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship:** A multi-week international summer study program for students of color, taking place in the United States, South Africa and Ireland
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QUALITIES OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

- Outstanding academic record (e.g., 3.7 GPA)
 - Demonstrated commitment to community through active participation and/or leadership in campus organization involvement, city involvement, volunteering, internships
 - Proven interest in research, collaboration and/or creative expression
 - Strong ability to express, through writing, personal and professional interests, motivations and goals
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APPLICATION TIMELINE AND OTHER KEY DETAILS

- There are two major application cycles each year: one set of awards has deadlines in early fall (September to November), and another has deadlines in late winter/early spring (January to March)
 - For some awards (e.g., Rhodes, Goldwater), the University must make a campus endorsement for applicants, in which case an award will have a campus deadline several weeks before the national contest’s deadline
 - In most cases, students must request faculty to support their application with letters of recommendation
 - Early-entry graduate program status may render an applicant ineligible to apply to graduate program awards
 - UNC Charlotte offers a 1-credit course, Competitive Scholarship Workshop (HONR 2720), for applicants looking to sharpen their personal statements or other essays before a deadline cycle
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FOR MORE DETAILS, EMAIL [SCHOLARSADVISOR@CHARLOTTE.EDU](mailto:ScholarsAdvisor@Charlotte.edu) OR VISIT HONRSCOLLEGE.CHARLOTTE.EDU/ABOUT-US/ADVISING/NATIONALLY-COMPETITIVE-SCHOLARSHIPS