Towson University

Distinguished Scholarships, Internships, and Awards

What are distinguished scholarships, internships, and awards?

They are highly competitive awards and opportunities available to students nationally and sometimes globally. Awards are available to support undergraduate or graduate study in the US or abroad, research, or public service. Some examples include the Rhodes Scholarship or the Fulbright Program.

Why should I apply?

Receiving a distinguished scholarship opens extensive opportunities for growth and learning. The application process itself is also a valuable experience. By applying for distinguished scholarships, students learn how to present themselves professionally, develop time management and organizational skills, and gain experience interviewing and articulating their ideas and vision.

What is involved in applying?

Successful applications typically include:

- A well-planned proposal for research or study during and after the scholarship/ fellowship period
- ◆ An impressive academic resume (typically a 3.5 cumulative GPA or higher; often a 3.8 is needed for the most competitive scholarships)
- Strong letters of recommendation from faculty
- A personal statement that is clear, succinct, and focused

Do I qualify?

Preparation for highly competitive awards begins long before the application process. Most successful applicants have a college resume that includes *academic excellence* and several of the following:



How do I learn more?

The Honors College provides advising for all students who are interested in pursuing distinguished scholarships, internships, and awards. Each semester an interest meeting will be held for students considering any of the programs. The back of this document also lists examples of scholarships and a timeline for application.

Contact the Honors College at 410-704-4677, email honors@towson.edu, or make an appointment in person at the Honors College suite, Stephens Hall 302.

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Some examples of distinguished scholarships and internships include:

 Mitchell Scholarship for graduate study in Ireland.

Deadline: Late September

 Rhodes Scholarship provides students with academic the opportunity to earn a graduate degree at the University of Oxford.

Deadline: Early October

 Marshall Scholarship for graduate study in UK.

Deadline: Early October

- ◆ Gates Cambridge Scholarship provides funding for select US graduate students to attend the University of Cambridge. Deadline: US Citizens- Early October | Non-US Citizens- December
- Critical Language Scholarship is an overseas language immersion program. Deadline: Mid-November
- ◆ Goldwater Scholarship supports two years of undergraduate study for outstanding math and science majors. TU contact: Dr. Shields Deadline: Late January
- NIH Summer Internship Program gives undergraduate students an opportunity to spend a summer working at the NIH with the top researchers. Deadline: Early March
- ◆ Fulbright Program offers fellowships for study, research, and/or teaching English abroad. TU Contact: Dr. Ebacher Deadline: Internal-Late April | Fulbright- October

What is the timeline for requesting assistance for my application from the Honors College?

For programs with fall deadlines:

- Mid-March: Interest meeting
- March- May: Individual meetings with interested candidates
- April 24: Internal Fulbright Committee deadline
- First Friday in June: Internal Honors deadline for all information for review; nomination permission and waiver due
- June- July: Review materials and feedback process
- August- September: Interview practice with faculty

For programs with spring deadlines:

- September: Interest meeting
- September-October: Individual meetings with interested candidates
- Last Friday in October: Internal Honors deadline for all information for review; nomination permission and waiver due
- November-Early December: Review materials and feedback process
- December-January: Interview practice with faculty

Questions?

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