



ERNEST F. HOLLINGS UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

<https://www.noaa.gov/office-education/hollings-scholarship>

OVERVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

The Hollings Scholarship Program provides successful undergraduate applicants with awards that include academic assistance (up to \$9,500 per year) for two years of full-time study and a 10-week, full-time paid (\$700/week) internship at a NOAA facility during the summer.

The internship between the first and second years of the award provides the scholars with hands-on, practical experience in NOAA-related science, research, technology, policy, management, and education activities. Awards also include travel funds to attend a mandatory NOAA Scholarship Program orientation and the annual Science & Education Symposium, scientific conferences where students present their research, and a housing subsidy for scholars who do not reside at home during the summer internship.

Hollings Alumni report that the experience influenced their academic and career paths, expanded their professional networks and improved their skills for working in NOAA mission fields. 100% of Hollings Scholars surveyed said that they would recommend this opportunity to other students.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for the Hollings Scholarship, at the time of application (annually September through January) applicants must:

- Be a U.S. citizen.

- Be currently enrolled or accepted at an accredited college or university within the United States or U.S. territories as either: a full-time 2nd year student in a four-year undergraduate program, a full-time 3rd year student in a five-year undergraduate program, a community college or transfer student who is applying to a four-year institution
- Community college or transfer applicants must provide proof of application to a four-year institution when submitting their application for the scholarship.
- If accepted for the Hollings Scholarship, applicants must submit proof of acceptance prior to starting the program.

Earn and maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent on another identified scale) each term, as well as an overall GPA of 3.0 in your major field of study.

- The GPA requirement applies throughout the period of undergraduate studies: prior to and at the time of application for a scholarship, for the period between application and award notification, and after award distribution.
- Have and maintain a declared major in a discipline including, but not limited to: oceanic, environmental, biological, and atmospheric sciences, mathematics, engineering, remote sensing technology, computer and information science, physical and social sciences including geography, physics, hydrology, geomatics, or teacher education that support NOAA's programs and mission.
- For additional information regarding the Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program, view our frequently asked questions or email StudentScholarshipPrograms@noaa.gov.

HOW TO APPLY

1. To apply for the Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship, applicants must visit the [Hollings Scholarship website](#). The application is available annually from September through January. If you do not have internet access, please contact:

NOAA Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program,
 NOAA/Office of Education,
 1315 East West Highway,

Room 10734,
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Or call (301) 628-2913, or email: StudentScholarshipPrograms@noaa.gov.

2. What must I submit to apply?

Applicants are required to submit ALL of the following items for an application to be deemed complete and eligible:

A completed scholarship application form;

One essay; Official college transcript(s) (one for each institution attended; uploaded into the online application); and; Two references (see Who will NOAA Education accept references from and when are they due?)

FOR RECOMMENDERS

Two references are required. Applicants must identify the name, title, and email address of two individuals who will receive an email with a link to complete and submit a reference form through the application system on your behalf (the reference form is not available outside of the application system).

At least one reference form must be from a professor, visiting professor, or lecturer who has taught you at the undergraduate level, or a department chair, dean, or academic advisor within your major field of study.

The second reference may also be an academic reference or a character reference that can speak to your capabilities and interests as they relate to the scholarship. References from former high school teachers, coaches, family members, or friends will NOT be accepted.

Recommendations from NOAA staff are acceptable, if that person served in one of the capacities mentioned above. If the NOAA employee providing the reference is a faculty member then they must use a school email account when submitting the reference form. If the NOAA employee served as a mentor, then they must use their personal email. A @noaa.gov email account will not be allowed through the application system. If you have questions regarding the reference eligibility, please contact: studentscholarshipprograms@noaa.gov

REFERENCES THAT DO NOT MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL RENDER YOUR APPLICATION INELIGIBLE.

NOTE: A compelling reference will help reviewers understand how you stand out from other applicants. You may want to provide your transcripts and a statement of your accomplishments, experiences or goals to the individuals writing your recommendations to assist them in preparing a solid recommendation.