



Barry Goldwater Scholarship Program

The [Barry Goldwater Scholarship Program](#), one of the oldest and most prestigious national scholarships in the natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics in the United States, seeks to identify, encourage, and financially support college sophomores and juniors who show exceptional promise of becoming this Nation's next generation of research leaders in these fields.

The characteristics the Foundation seeks in a Goldwater Scholar include:

- strong commitment to a research career in the natural sciences, mathematics and engineering,
- effective display of intellectual intensity in the sciences, mathematics and engineering, and
- potential for a significant future contribution to research in their chosen field.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Accredited 2- and 4-year U.S. academic institutions that have a Foundation identified Goldwater Campus Representative may nominate up to four currently or previously matriculated students annually. A student may not be nominated by more than one institution in a competition cycle. A four-year school may nominate a 5th student if one or more of the nominated students is a transfer student or U.S. Veteran. They may nominate up to six students if they have both a transfer student and a U.S. Veteran. No direct student applications or nominations by campuses without a Goldwater Campus Representative will be considered.

To be eligible for nomination for a Goldwater Scholarship, a student must:

1. Be a matriculated sophomore or junior pursuing a degree at an accredited 2- or 4-year institution of higher education and be a full-time matriculated student during the academic terms when receiving scholarship support from the Foundation.



2. Intend to pursue a research career in a natural science, mathematics or engineering¹
3. Have a college grade point average of at least a 3.00 on a 4.00 scale², and
4. Be a U.S. citizen or national from the 50 States, District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, United States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and any other territory or possession of the United States; or a permanent resident. A permanent resident must submit a photocopy of their Permanent Resident Card, also known as a Green Card. Definition of terms³

DEFINITION OF TERMS

¹ The natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics fields and sub-fields used by the Goldwater Foundation to determine eligibility are those used by the National Science Foundation for its Graduate Research Fellowship Program. These include: Chemistry, Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering, Engineering, Geosciences, Life Sciences, Materials Research, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Astronomy, and Psychology. To view a field's sub-fields, click on the field in the table below. While research in medicine is not supported by the National Science Foundation, students interested in pursuing careers in medicine or veterinary medicine are eligible for a Goldwater Scholarship IF RESEARCH IS A CENTRAL PART OF THE STUDENT'S CAREER GOALS.

² In recent Goldwater competitions, GPAs have ranged from 3.3 to 4.95 on a 4.0 scale.

³ DEFINITION OF TERMS

Definition of a Sophomore:

A "sophomore" for the purposes of a Goldwater nomination is defined as an undergraduate who has a minimum of three but not more than four semesters left of full-time undergraduate study beginning September 2025. A sophomore who is awarded a Goldwater Scholarship can expect to receive a maximum of two years (4 semesters) of support.

Definition of a Junior:

A "junior" for the purposes of a Goldwater nomination is defined as an undergraduate who has a minimum of one but not more than two semesters left of full-time undergraduate study beginning September 2025. A junior who is awarded a Goldwater Scholarship can expect to receive a maximum of one year (2 semesters) of support.

Definition of a Transfer Student:

For the purposes of a Goldwater nomination, a "transfer student" is defined to be a student who began their college career at a 2- or 4-year college or university other than the academic institution that is nominating the student for a Goldwater scholarship. An associate degree or a minimum amount of time in residence at another institution is not required. High school students who have taken college classes prior to enrolling in a college degree-granting program are not considered to be transfer students.

Definition of a U.S. Veteran:

According to 38 U.S.C. § 101(2), the term "veteran" means a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service, and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.

Definition of Addresses:

Current Address: The mailing address you use when you are at school. The address at which you expect to receive mail. This is the address the Goldwater Scholarship Foundation and Scholarship American will use to mail you correspondence.

Permanent Address: The mailing address the Foundation might use at a future date to locate you. This is typically the address of a parent or legal guardian.

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AMOUNT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

Each Goldwater Scholar annually receives an amount equal to the cost of tuition, mandatory fees, books, and room and board minus the amount of support provided for by other sources, up to a maximum of \$7,500 per full academic year. Scholars who receive the award as sophomores can expect to receive support for a maximum of two years (4 semesters) or until graduation, if sooner. Scholars who receive the award as juniors can expect to receive support for a maximum of one year (2 semesters) or until graduation, if sooner.

NOMINATION RULES AND DEADLINES

In order to be nominated to the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, CSUB students must first apply to the Office of Grants, Research, and Sponsored Programs (GRaSP). The Office of GRaSP will accept and review applications and then make recommendations. Students will then be informed of how to apply to the Barry Goldwater Foundation.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

For the CSUB application, students must complete an InfoReady application at <https://csub.infoready4.com/#> with the following nomination materials (Student Questionnaire, Research Essay, Contact information of three Recommenders, Transcript(s), Institutional Nomination Form and, when applicable, a copy of the student's Permanent Resident Card) by **December 2nd, 2024 by midnight pacific time**. Incomplete nominations or nominations that are not uploaded by this date and time will not be reviewed. We recommend students complete their application at least 5 days before the deadline to ensure a successful submission.

DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS/APPLICATION

- A. Online questionnaire/application
- B. Research essay
- C. Names, Titles, and Contact Information for Recommenders (Those that would write letter of recommendation)
- D. Transcript(s) – Official
- E. Eligibility Statement and Supporting Documentation- Provide a statement and documentation that verifies the following -
 - i. Be a matriculated sophomore or junior pursuing a degree at an accredited 2- or 4-year institution of higher education and be a full-time matriculated student during the academic terms when receiving scholarship support from the Foundation.

Legal Address: This is the address you use to vote. The Foundation will use this address to identify your Congressional House and Senate members. Beginning in 2018, the Foundation notified Senate offices of Goldwater awardees from their state. In 2020, The Foundation also began notifying House offices of scholarship winners from their congressional district.

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- ii. Intend to pursue a research career in a natural science, mathematics or engineering
- iii. Have a college grade point average of at least a 3.00 on a 4.00 scale, and
- iv. Be a U.S. citizen or national from the 50 States, District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, United States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, and any other territory or possession of the United States; or a permanent resident. A permanent resident must submit a photocopy of their Permanent Resident Card.

DEVELOPING THE RESEARCH ESSAY

Formatting Guidelines:

- Single-spaced
- 12-point Arial font
- 1-inch margins on all sides
- Page length, including bibliographic information, must not exceed 3 pages.
- In the header at the top of each page, you must include your name and the name of your academic institution.
- The essay must include a title.
- Format your Research Essay in either one or two columns on a page.
- As appropriate, utilize graphs, tables, and figures in the essay to explain or clarify results.
- Figures, table captions and bibliographic citations may use 10-point Arial font.
- Research essays that use mathematical expressions may use LaTeX or other document preparation software to enable proper formatting.
- Do not include hyperlinks. Materials that are hyperlinked to your research essay will not be read.
- Save and upload your Research Essay as a PDF file.

The Essay:

The Research Essay provides the Foundation with particularly important insights into your motivation, background, experience, skills, and interest in pursuing a research career. This does not mean that you should simply state that you have these characteristics but that you demonstrate them through your work.

Whether your essay is based on prior research or is a proposal, it is important that your essay clearly describes:



Your intellectual contribution or expected contribution to the work. The skills you brought to the work from prior research or course experiences. The skills you have or expect to obtain from participation in the project.

As such, your research essay needs to be more than just a technical paper. Do not repurpose a “slightly expanded” abstract as your Research Essay. While your Research Essay might come from an abstract you have written earlier, the Research Essay needs to be much more.

The additional information that is sought aids Goldwater Scholarship reviewers to evaluate your potential for becoming a research scientist, engineer, or mathematician. Where appropriate, you are encouraged to use the word “I” as opposed to “we” or “our team” in your essay to help clarify your specific role in the work. It is important for our reviewers to know what you contributed to the research.

It is also helpful for you to demonstrate that you “think like a scientist.” If you are describing a research project that you conducted, consider discussing additional work that you might do or, if you have completed the entire project, describe a new project that might be undertaken. In the latter case, explain how the skills you learned while working on your project will set the stage for a successful new work.

Regardless of whether the Research Essay reports on previous work, or is a proposal, include a bibliography that uses up-to-date, refereed journal articles. Use diagrams and figures, as appropriate, but not at the expense of a quality narrative.

While the disciplinary reviewers who will be reviewing your essay and application will be broadly familiar with work in your discipline, it is unlikely our reviewers will be experts in your sub-field. Furthermore, if your application needs to undergo a secondary review, the review may be done by an individual from another discipline. Write your research essay and other materials for individuals who are broadly trained in the sciences, engineering, and mathematics, not for subject matter experts.

Use space judiciously. Balance the various elements of your essay so that no one section dominates the essay. Reviewers find a short opening paragraph that provides a “broader picture” that explains the importance of your research and your motivation for doing the work to be helpful. Again, when describing the project, be certain to talk about your specific contributions to the work and the skills you acquired. As reviewers seldom open links to other work, you are encouraged not to incorporate them into your research essay.

Finally, while you must write the Research Essay, you can work with your faculty and research mentor(s) to ensure your Research Essay is scientifically accurate, uses appropriate scientific format, and provides an appropriate balance among the various elements that make up the Essay. Always anticipate the need to write multiple drafts, reviewed by your faculty mentor and, when possible, by a non-expert in the field. Write, rewrite, and then rewrite again your research essay. Reviewers have a limited time to read the essay, so you want to make certain your essay makes your points clearly and succinctly.

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NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION:

Notices will be announced via email to student applicants in the month of December 2024. Note- a nomination to apply to the Barry Goldwater Foundation is not a guarantee of a scholarship offer. The foundation will review and award applicants as appropriate.

HUMAN OR ANIMAL SUBJECTS RESEARCH:

All applications are reviewed to ensure research compliance. The compliance team will review each proposal for Human or Animal subjects research compliance and provide directives accordingly. SRS applicants will have their proposal be assessed and be provided directive to ensure IRB or IACUC approval or exemption. Applicants should abide by the resulting directive and complete the necessary work to have research approval or exemption by August 2024. Contact Gwen Parnell, Research Compliance Analyst, should you have questions at gparnell@csub.edu or 661-654-6712.

Are humans or animals involved as subjects in your research project? If so, please supply an IRB (humans) or an IACUC (animals) authorization letter with your application if available.

Human Subjects: please see definition of human subjects research at the following link:

<https://www.csub.edu/grasp/human-subjects-institutional-review-board.shtml>

Animal Subjects: the principal investigator on every IACUC protocol, as well as others having substantial contact with the animals must be certified as having appropriate training in the Humane Care and Use of Animal Subjects (HCUAS). Training materials for this purpose are available online:

<https://www.csub.edu/grasp/institutional-animal-care-and-use-committee.shtml>

QUESTIONS

Questions can be directed to Manuel Barrera, Office of Grants, Research, and Sponsored Programs at 661-654-3534 or mbarrera@csub.edu. The GRASP office is located in DDH 108D.