

MOUNT HOLYOKE
CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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BARRY M. GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIPS

(Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship web site: <http://www.act.org/goldwater>)

We encourage all applicants to visit this website for more detailed information about the program

Application forms for the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships are available on-line at the above web site. Nominations must be submitted to the Career Development Center on the official forms provided by the Foundation, on photocopies of these forms, or on copies from the Foundation's web site. If you wish to apply, please contact the Pre-Health and Science Advisor (Dr. David Gardner) in the Career Development Center to discuss your plans.

TYPE: Nomination by Mount Holyoke College is required and all nominations must be submitted electronically from the Foundation's website. Mount Holyoke may nominate up to four candidates for this award. Apply as Sophomore/Junior.

PURPOSE: The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was authorized by the United States Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate. The creation of this program pays tribute to his leadership, courage, and vision and was created to encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering and to foster excellence in those fields.

ELIGIBILITY: Basic eligibility requirements are:

- U.S. citizenship or be a permanent resident (permanent residents must include a letter of the nominee's intent to obtain U.S. citizenship and a photocopy of the Permanent Resident Card, formerly known as the Resident Alien Card)
- Must be a full-time Sophomore or Junior
- GPA of at least "B" (or the equivalent) **and be in the upper fourth of her class**

SELECTION CRITERIA: Nominees for Goldwater Scholarships must include in their nomination materials a statement of interest in a career in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering, detailing how their academic program and their overall educational plans will prepare them for their chosen career goal. Most successful candidates possess undergraduate research experience in their field of interest. It is expected that students selected as scholars will pursue advanced degrees. The GPA of a typical Goldwater recipient is 3.75 or higher. About one-third of winners are sophomores, the remainder juniors.

AWARDS: The Trustees intend to award up to 300 Goldwater Scholarships. The number of scholarships to be awarded per state will depend upon the number and qualifications of the nominees from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and, considered as a single entity, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Each scholarship covers eligible expenses for undergraduate tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to a maximum of \$7,500 annually. Junior-level scholarship recipients are eligible for a maximum of two years of scholarship support, and senior-level scholarship recipients are eligible for a maximum of one year of scholarship support. Following the recommendation of finalists in February and selection of Goldwater Scholars and Honorable Mentions in mid-March, nominees and their faculty representatives are notified of their status in the Program in late March, 2009.

SPECIAL NOTES: Students who plan to study medicine are eligible for a Goldwater Scholarship only if they plan a research career rather than a career as a medical doctor in a private practice. Please note that Mount Holyoke requires that students consult a faculty member about their application. This "mentor" should be a specialist in your field of research, and can be one of your recommenders. Although you alone are responsible for researching and writing your application, you should show an application draft to your mentor so that he/she can provide you with feedback. You may also invite your mentor to your interview with the fellowship committee. Drafts of your research essay should be made available to all your recommenders, so that they can comment on the quality and promise of your work. Start drafting your application early, and if you make any major changes to your essay, make sure to let your recommenders know.

PREVIOUS GOLDWATER SCHOLARS: Since the program's inception in 1988, twenty-four Mount Holyoke students have won a Goldwater Scholarship. Three students won scholarships in 2001; one student from the class of 2006 won in 2004 for her work and promise in biochemistry; two students won in 2005 to pursue careers in the fields of geochemistry and energy

development; two students won in 2006, pursuing careers in biology (immunology research) and computational chemistry; and two students won in 2007, pursuing careers in physics and biochemistry.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Students must submit a preliminary application and supporting materials to the CDC by the campus deadline. They will then be asked to participate in an interview with the fellowship committee. The committee will decide after the interview whether to support a student's candidacy. Once they are nominated, students will have a few weeks to finalize their applications. On the national level, applications are sorted according to candidates' state of residence, and are evaluated by experienced researchers in each candidate's field of study.

PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE, LAMINATE OR BIND ANY PART OF THE APPLICATION FORM OR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, AS THEY WILL BE COPIED FOR REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE ON FELLOWSHIPS!

NOMINATION PROCESS & DEADLINES:

September, 2008 - Online application will be available for download from the Foundation's web site.

Thursday, November 7, 2008 (7:00 p.m.)

- Required workshop for Goldwater applicants in Cleveland L-1.

Wednesday, December 3, 2008

Submit the following documents to the Pre-Health and Science Advisor (Dr. David Gardner) in the Career Development Center:

- **Nominee Information Form and Application** affirming your wish to be considered for the scholarship; inclusive of biographical information about your background, interests, and plans; a statement describing your intent to enter an appropriate career in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering and specifying how your educational plans will provide preparation for that career.
- **Essay** of approximately 600 words detailing the candidate's research experience and describing the project to be undertaken with a Goldwater fellowship, providing a well developed research plan.
- **Three letters of recommendation** from a faculty member who can discuss your potential for a career in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering; a faculty member in your field of study; and another individual/faculty member who can attest to your potential. **It is imperative that recommenders address the applicant's research essay in their letters.** The online process requires that students list three recommenders and their email addresses in the application. The system will then generate an email to each recommender giving them instructions on completing their online recommendation. **Your recommenders should not submit their online letters until approved by the Pre-Health and Science Advisor. This will take place subsequent to your interview.**
- **Official transcripts from each institution attended, including study abroad, including fall semester if available, and a transcript of your high school grades** (note: MHC unofficial transcripts may be submitted to the Committee on Fellowships for the interview, however if nominated, official transcripts will be required for final application submission). Transcripts are to be sent directly to the CDC.
- **Copy of the nominee's Permanent Resident card and letter of intent to become a U.S. citizen, if nominee's citizenship status is permanent resident.**

Monday, December 08, through Thursday, December 11, 2008

The fellowship committee interviews candidates and selects nominees.

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Final application, materials, and transcripts are due to the Career Development Center.

Friday, January 30, 2009

Final application and materials must be received by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. Nominees submit online application only after receiving approval from the CDC. The Career Development Center will mail all supporting documents.

Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that each portion of the application, including letters of recommendation, is received by the appropriate deadline. If you will be requesting transcripts from other institutions or letters of recommendation from outside the College (particularly outside the U.S.), please do so immediately, as these materials can take several weeks to reach us. If you anticipate a problem meeting a particular deadline or have any questions concerning your application, please contact the Pre-Health and Science Advisor (Dr. David Gardner) at (413) 538-2080.

