

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS?

Scholarships are "gift aid" that recognize academic merit, athletic achievement or special talent, and do not have to be repaid. A FAFSA is not required for eligibility.

The University has a variety of programs to recognize superior academic achievement. Some are automatically awarded based on high school academic performance; others from the general University scholarship program are based on college GPA. Some scholarships reflect the University's commitment to achieving a student body that is broadly diverse (in terms of race, geography, gender, special skills and talents, leadership, and potential contribution to the academic community of the University). Still others are awarded by the University's Foundation and Alumni scholarship committees.

### **General University Scholarship Program**

The University has many individual scholarships established by donors, alumni, and friends of the University. These are available to all students regardless of major or college, and are primarily offered to entering freshmen and transfer students. These scholarships are renewed for the freshmen and sophomore years. Awards are based on academic performance and the criteria established by the donor.

### **College and Departmental Scholarships**

Scholarships are available to all students who have declared a major and are pursuing a degree in a particular college or department. Selection is made by the faculty of the respective area. Supplemental application information may be required by the college in addition to the general University scholarship application.

Continuing junior and senior students receive these scholarships through colleges and departments. By partnering with the colleges and departments for the upper division students, a multi-year scholarship may be possible if you received general University scholarships in your freshmen and sophomore years.

### **University Foundation and Alumni Scholarships**

These open, competitive scholarships are available to all undergraduate and graduate students who apply. Awardees are selected by the respective committees. Supplemental information may be required.

### **AWARD CRITERIA – PROGRAM SEARCH**

Our Web site allows you to access the award criteria for your specific scholarship by searching the scholarship name. As a recipient, each student is responsible for meeting the "Satisfactory Academic Progress" requirements for the scholarship(s) he/she has been awarded.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

You must be officially admitted to the University in a degree-seeking program. Since recipients have been selected primarily on academic merit, a high standard of academic performance is required.

Studies Abroad and National Student Exchange Program (Plan B only) students are eligible for University scholarships. Advance approval is required, so that disbursement can be arranged.

### **Credit Limit**

You remain eligible to apply for a general University scholarship until the maximum credit limit is reached or the requirements for the current degree are completed, whichever occurs first. Students who have earned 110 – 131 credits may receive half of the yearly amount of the scholarship paid in the fall semester. Students who have earned 132 credits or more not eligible for general University scholarships, but may be considered by their college or department.

### **Coursework**

Each recipient must enroll in a full-time course load that meets the requirements of the donor. Scholarships are awarded for full-time enrollment at this University. Coursework at another institution is not included in the minimum number of credits required. Courses must be selected from the Class Schedule published each semester. The Offer Letter directs you to review the award criteria page for enrollment and academic requirements. For multiple awards with differing requirements, you must adhere to the highest required grade point average and credit completion requirements.

## **ENTERING FRESHMEN**

### **General University Scholarships**

Scholarships are offered automatically to qualified students who are admitted by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Scholarships may be offered after that deadline if funds are available. There is no separate application for the University's General Scholarship Program. An academic index is calculated for each student using the high school GPA and the college entrance examination score, ACT or SAT (whichever is higher). This determines award eligibility and amount for the academic year. These are renewable awards for the freshmen and sophomore years to students who meet the academic criteria. A calculator is available to estimate the amount of the award by entering your un-weighted high school GPA and test score information. A matrix may also be accessed from our Web site.

<b>Silver and Blue Scholarship</b>	<b>Nevada Scholars</b>	<b>Pack Pride Scholarship</b>
Index 90 and above	Indexes 89-80	Indexes 79-70
\$2500 for the academic year	\$1500 for the academic year	\$1000 for the academic year

### **Presidential Scholarship**

If you have been admitted to the University by February 1, your application is reviewed for a Presidential Scholarship. An application for the Honors Program is required. Each year, a campus-wide faculty committee selects new freshmen to receive the Presidential Scholarship.

To be considered, you must have earned a minimum 3.50 high school cumulative GPA and a 31 ACT or 1360 SAT (V +M) or be a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist. The scholarship may be renewed for up to three additional undergraduate years of study.

If eligible, you may be initially awarded with a Silver and Blue scholarship. When the Presidential Scholarship recipients are selected, the Silver and Blue scholarship will be replaced with the Presidential Scholarship which is \$5000 for the academic year.

### **National Merit Scholarships**

Scholarships are available to National Merit finalists who are admitted to the institution and the honors program by February 1. The scholarship is \$15,000 per year for four years of undergraduate study which covers tuition, fees, room and board in the honors wing of Argenta Hall; and books. Recipients must have finalist status and declare UNR as their first choice. Undergraduate research and University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) experiences are also available.

### **Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program**

Program information and requirements are available on the Nevada Treasurer's Web site <https://nevadatreasurer.gov/index.html>

How the University Disburses the Funds:

- Full-time enrollment in a minimum of 12 credits of coursework is required. Remedial coursework may be included in the 12 credit requirement. However, the scholarship does not cover fees for remedial coursework.
- The amount is \$960/semester.
- If you are receiving the Millennium Scholarship, you may not receive the Millennium Scholarship at another college within the same semester.
- The scholarship is applied to your student account at the beginning of each semester to pay outstanding charges for fees, residence hall, etc.

## **TRANSFER STUDENTS**

Transfer students entering the University for the fall term with a minimum of 24 transfer credits may be awarded as follows:

<b>Silver and Blue Scholarship</b>	<b>Nevada Scholars</b>	<b>Pack Pride Scholarship</b>
4.00 – 3.75 GPA	3.74 – 3.30 GPA	3.29 – 3.00 GPA
\$2500	\$1500	\$1000

Mid-year transfers are eligible for consideration by completing a minimum of 12 UNR credits at the end of the spring term with a minimum 3.00 UNR GPA. Depending on your class standing at the end of the spring term, you may be considered for scholarships from the general program or your college or department. Award notification typically occurs after the end of the spring semester for the following academic year.

## **CONTINUING UNDERGRADUATES**

Many of the scholarships in the University's General Scholarship Program for undergraduates are awarded to entering students upon their admission to the University. However, there are some general University scholarships available to currently enrolled students each year. To be considered, you must have a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA and complete the General Scholarship Application by February 1.

Colleges and departments also have scholarships and are a primary source for upper division students. Many colleges use the information from the General University Scholarship Application to assist in their selection. They may also require a college-

specific supplemental application that can be linked from our Web site during the filing period.

## GRADUATE STUDENTS

Our office administers some scholarships for graduate students. To be considered, a continuing graduate student must complete the General Scholarship Application by February 1 for the following academic year. The Graduate School also awards some scholarships using this application as their selection tool.

Newly admitted graduate students are considered for scholarships on the academic credentials they present in their admission application.

For scholarships, full-time is considered 9 graduate credits. However, students taking 6 credits with an active assistantship in that specific term can be considered full-time. This does not pertain to financial aid.

## PRIVATE SCHOLARSHIPS

If your scholarship check is sent to the University, it will be directly applied to your University student account. Unless otherwise specified by the scholarship sponsor, awards \$500 or more are disbursed with half of the amount of the check deposited with the Cashier's Office for the fall semester and the second half for the spring semester. Awards of less than \$500 are disbursed in one lump sum in the fall semester. You can check ePAWS to see when the funds are available. During peak periods, it may take up to five business days for processing.

If your scholarship check is sent directly to you and made co-payable to you and the Board of Regents, endorse the check and submit it to our office for processing.

If a scholarship check is made payable to you only, it is your responsibility to pay your bill and to notify our office of that scholarship by submitting the "Reporting Resources and Changes" form.

### Scholarship Application Tips

The best advice in regards to applying for scholarships is to APPLY. Applying for scholarships takes time and effort but the rewards could be quite remarkable when you consider perhaps receiving a \$500 scholarship for an hour or two of application headache. That's \$250 an hour!

Here are some places to begin your search:

- Internet – [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com), [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com) (Never pay for a scholarship application. Watch out for scams.)
- Local libraries
- Newspapers
- Yellow Pages
- Labor Unions
- Churches
- Community/Civic/Business Organizations
- Local Chamber of Commerce
- National Foundations
- Volunteer Organizations
- Schools/Universities
- Parent's Employer
- Clubs
- Fortune 500 Companies
- Lenders/Guarantors