Sample Characteristics of an Outstanding Student

- **PARTICIPATES IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**
  Such as athletics, community involvement and outreach, or campus activities
- **PARTICIPATES IN PROJECTS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE**
  This includes undergraduate research opportunities, study abroad or foreign language programs, or positions as community advisors, residence advisors, teaching assistants, mentors, etc.
- **DEMONSTRATES LEADERSHIP**
  Though holding an official position is not necessary, students should be active and engaged in extracurriculars. These activities should not distract students from scholastic achievement.
- **CONTRIBUTES FINANCIALLY TOWARD EDUCATION**
  Students who cannot become as engaged in extracurricular activities because they have to balance classwork with a job are also strong candidates for awards.

PREPARING FOR NATIONAL AWARDS

- Attend a general info session
- Establish relationships with faculty
  (see http://scholarships.honorscollege.pitt.edu/tips.html)
- Read award websites thoroughly
- Examine winners’ biographies
- Make a timeline
- Start **EARLY!**

Applying for Competitive National Awards

ARE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITIONS FOR YOU?
If you have educational aspirations beyond your undergraduate coursework at Pitt, competitive national awards can help make these become a reality. National awards are available for students in any academic year, as well as recent graduates. They span a variety of disciplines and offer the institutional connections, funding, and valuable training and experience to begin transforming your major into a career.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS
The enclosed is only a sampling of the external awards available. Visit http://scholarships.honorscollege.pitt.edu to search for more opportunities. It is strongly recommended that students initially seek the advice and guidance of the University Honors College for all awards, including direct-apply opportunities. Also, please note that many awards have campus-specific deadlines not listed on the foundations’ websites that must be met in order to be eligible.

THE FIRST STEP
Students interested in national scholarships should attend a general info session. For the schedule of these sessions and instructions on how to RSVP, go to: http://scholarships.honorscollege.pitt.edu/calendar.html

Judy Zang
Director of National Scholarships
University Honors College
1229 Cathedral of Learning
412-624-3697 • jaz36@pitt.edu

Ross Reilly
Program Manager
University Honors College
1229 Cathedral of Learning
412-624-3698 • rreilly@pitt.edu

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Humanity in Action welcomes sophomores, juniors, seniors, and recent graduates (up to 2 years after graduating) in all fields of study. The Fellowship is an intensive five-week program in Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, or New York focusing on human rights and minority issues. Non-U.S. citizens are eligible.

Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation
For juniors with extensive community involvement and leadership backgrounds who are interested in a career in the public sector. Each participating institution can nominate up to four candidates for this award.

The Udall Scholarship awards sophomores and juniors (including 4th-year students on 5-year tracks) who demonstrate a commitment to environmental or natural resource issues. Native American or Alaskan native students are eligible for fields related to tribal healthcare or tribal policy. Each institution can nominate up to six candidates for this award. Winners receive up to $5,000.

International Study/Research Opportunities
The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship provides assistance to Pell Grant recipients to study abroad. U.S. citizenship required.

The Boren Awards for International Study provide funding for language and cultural immersion for countries critical to U.S. security. U.S. citizenship required.

DAAD
To study and conduct research in Germany. DAAD offers a number of fellowship opportunities for all levels and disciplines.

The Fulbright US Student Program provides research, study, or English teaching grants in over 150 countries for seniors, graduate students, and alumni for one year. U.S. citizenship required.

The Gates Cambridge Scholarship is a highly competitive award for graduate study at the University of Cambridge.

The Marshall Scholarship is a highly competitive award available for seniors and recent graduates.

The Rhodes Scholarship Program is a highly competitive award for seniors and graduate students that want to study at Oxford. U.S. citizenship required.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Fields
DAAD RISE (Research Internship in Science and Engineering) is a summer internship program for research in Germany, 1.5 to 3 months, for undergraduates from the U.S., Canada, and the UK in biology, chemistry, physics, earth sciences, and environmental science. No prior knowledge of German language is required.

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship is a scholarship for sophomores and juniors who plan to be full-time undergraduate students majoring in the sciences, mathematics, or engineering.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Arts Award enables students of recent achievement in the arts to pursue up to three years of study at an accredited graduate institution in the U.S. or abroad. Awards can be as much as $50,000 annually.

The Beinecke Scholarship is a highly competitive merit and financial-need scholarship for juniors. Each scholar receives $4,000 immediately prior to entering graduate school and an additional $29,000 per year for five years at graduate school. Funding must be used within five years of completion of undergraduate studies. The University of Cambridge may nominate 2 applicants.

The Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship is for juniors studying international affairs, international security, or related disciplines. Winners receive full tuition, related educational fees, and a yearlong appointment as an analyst with the U.S. Department of State. Seniors, please note that there is also a SMART Fellowship for Graduate Study.

The Jackknife Foundation Graduate International Study/Research Opportunities
The National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships Program provides three years of support for seniors and graduate students who are in the early stages of their graduate study. It provides support for graduate study leading to research-based master's or doctoral degrees.

The Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Defense Education Program is for undergraduates pursuing degrees in disciplines of particular interest to the Department of Defense. Winners receive funding for full tuition, related educational fees, and living expenses and are placed in civilian laboratory positions upon graduation. Seniors, please note that there is also a SMART Fellowship for graduate study.

Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
The Beinecke Scholarship is a highly competitive merit and financial-need scholarship for juniors. Each scholar receives $4,000 immediately prior to entering graduate school and an additional $29,000 per year for five years at graduate school. Funding must be used within five years of completion of undergraduate studies. The University of Cambridge may nominate 2 applicants.

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NOTE: Go to scholarships.honorscollege.pitt.edu for a list of more than 75 award opportunities, links to scholarship databases, and more.