

Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

PRA Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0648-0568. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 12 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. All responses to this information collection are voluntary. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate, suggestions for improving this individual collection, or if you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual form, application or survey, please contact the NOAA Office of Education at john.baek@noaa.gov.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0568

Expires: 05-31-2026

Privacy Act Statement

Authority: The collection of this information is authorized by section 4001 of the America COMPETES Act (Pub. Law 110-69).

Purpose: NOAA's Office of Education collects contact information and associated background information of undergraduate and graduate students, as well as recent graduates, for the purpose of tracking scholarship recipients' academic progress, making annual financial awards, and tracking graduate studies and career progress.

NOAA Routine Uses: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a(e)(4) and (11), the Department of Commerce proposes to collect this information for the purposes of evaluating scholarship applicants and for determining educational and professional attainment of NOAA education program participants following graduation. This includes disclosure to other Federal agencies or contractors of the Department of Commerce as needed. Maintenance and disclosure of this information is subject to the routine uses identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notice entitled "COMMERCE/NOAA-14 Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program; Office of Education, Educational Partnership Program (EPP); Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program and National Marine Fisheries Service Recruitment, Training, and Research Program".

Disclosure: Furnishing this information is voluntary.



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OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application



Sign In

Email:

Password:

Login

[Forgot Password?](#)

[Create Login Account.](#)

System is temporarily open (September 23-25, 2025) for testing.



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Female
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OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

Create login account

First Name: *

Middle Initial:

Last Name: *

Email: *

Confirm Email: *

Password: (5 to 20 characters) *

Confirm Password: *

Security Question: (200 characters max) *

Security Answer: (200 characters max) *

U.S. nationals must select "Yes" on question 1 "Are you a U.S. citizen?" when completing the eligibility criteria page upon logging into the application system.

Program of Interest: * **Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program**
 Application Due: Jan. 31, 2026
<http://www.noaa.gov/hollings>

Demographic

What is your race and/or ethnicity?
Select all that apply and enter additional details in the spaces below.

American Indian or Alaska Native – Enter, for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, Aztec, Maya, etc.

Asian – Provide details below.
 Chinese Asian Indian Filipino Vietnamese Korean Japanese
Enter, for example, Pakistani, Hmong, Afghan, etc.

Black or African American – Provide details below.
 African American Jamaican Haitian Nigerian Ethiopian Somali
Enter, for example, Trinidadian and Tobagonian, Ghanaian, Congolese, etc.

Hispanic or Latino – Provide details below.
 Mexican Puerto Rican Salvadoran Cuban Dominican Guatemalan
Enter, for example, Colombian, Honduran, Spaniard, etc.

Middle Eastern or North African – Provide details below.
 Lebanese Iranian Egyptian Syrian Iraqi Israeli
Enter, for example, Moroccan, Yemeni, Kurdish, etc.

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander – Provide details below.
 Native Hawaiian Samoan Chamorro Tongan Fijian Marshallese
Enter, for example, Chuukese, Palauan, Tahitian, etc.

White – Provide details below.
 English German Irish Italian Polish Scottish
Enter, for example, French, Swedish, Norwegian, etc.

Sex

- Female
- Male

Date of Birth

Month Day Year

Decline to Answer

* Required fields.

[Back to main page...](#)

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OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

Hollings scholarship eligibility criteria

Name: **Test Csc**
Email: **test.csc@gmail.com**

- Are you a U.S. citizen? *
 - Yes
 - No
- Based on your official transcript(s) will you have junior status in Fall 2026 at an accredited four year college or university in the United States or U.S. territory? OR, if you are attending a community college, can you provide proof of application to a four-year institution for Fall 2026? *
 - Yes
 - No
- Do you have a 3.0 or higher cumulative grade point average (on a 4.0 scale)? *
 - Yes
 - No
- Is your academic major related to [NOAA's mission](#) (i.e. Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, Mathematics, Engineering, Computer and Information Sciences, Social Sciences, etc.)? [List of NOAA's related fields of study](#) *
 - Yes
 - No
- How did you learn about this program? **Check all that apply.** *
 - Academic/Research Advisor or Professor
 - Former Recipient
 - Family
 - Friend
 - Career Fair
 - National Conference
 - Magazine Advertisement
 - Website
 - Email Notification
 - Social Network
 - Other

Verify Information

Reset

* Required fields.

[Back to main page...](#)



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

[MyAccount Status](#) [General Info](#) [Contact Info](#) [Education](#) [Activities](#) [References](#) [Essay](#) [Submit](#)

Number of days left before submission due date: **129**

Program: **Hollings**

Instructions (.pdf): [Hollings Application Instructions](#)

General Info: **Incomplete**

Contact Info: **Incomplete**

Education: **Incomplete**

Activities: **Incomplete**

References: **Incomplete**

Essay: **Incomplete**

Submit: **Incomplete**

Application Status: **Incomplete**

Application Status Process: (Incomplete, Submitted, Processing, Selected or Not Selected)

Note: Click **Next to start or continue the application process.**

Next

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

- MyAccount Status**
- General Info
- Contact Info
- Education
- Activities
- References
- Essay
- Submit

First Name: *
 Middle Initial:
Last Name: *

Citizenship: (Only U.S. citizens are eligible for this program)

Yes, I am a U.S. citizen.

Academic Status Eligibility:

Yes, I will be an undergraduate at a four-year institution with junior class status in the Fall term 2026 OR I am currently attending community college and have applied to a four-year institution for Fall 2026.

Field of study: *

Degree in progress: * **Anticipated graduation date:** * (mm/yyyy)

Cumulative GPA: * (0.00)

Health Insurance: (You will not be denied the opportunity to apply to the program if you do not have health insurance; however, you must obtain health insurance by the start of your internship in order to remain in the program)

Company Name: **Effective Date:** (mm/dd/yyyy)

[Save General Information](#)

* Required Information

[Previous](#) [Next](#)



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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

- [MyAccount Status](#)
- [General Info](#)
- [Contact Info](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [References](#)
- [Essay](#)
- [Submit](#)

Current Contact Information

Street Address: *

Apt# / Unit:

City: *

State / U.S. Territory: *

Zip Code: * (00000)

Phone Number: * (xxx-xxx-xxxx)

Alternate Number: * (xxx-xxx-xxxx)

E-Mail: *

Permanent Contact Information

Street Address: *

Apt# / Unit:

City: *

State / U.S. Territory: *

Zip Code: * (00000)

Phone Number: * (xxx-xxx-xxxx)

Alternate Number: * (xxx-xxx-xxxx)

E-Mail: *

* Required Information

[Previous](#) [Next](#)



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OFFICE OF EDUCATION

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

- [MyAccount Status](#)
- [General Info](#)
- [Contact Info](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [References](#)
- [Essay](#)
- [Submit](#)

Total number of college/university semester or quarter hours completed based on your transcript.

Semester Hours: or Quarter Hours: *

School currently attending: (Remember to upload an official transcript from the school).*

Only official transcripts will be accepted. Submitting an unofficial transcript will result in disqualification of your application.

District of Columbia Howard University

City: Washington Zip Code: 20059-0001

Students currently attending a two-year institution must also submit documentation that they have applied to or been accepted at a four-year institution for Fall 2026. Combine the documentation with your transcript and save it as a PDF file, then upload.

Note: If your official transcript does not show you as a sophomore, you must submit a letter from your Department Chair or Academic Advisor confirming that you are officially in your sophomore year.

The letter must meet the following requirements:

- Be on official University letterhead.
- Certify that you are officially in your sophomore year of study.
- Include the anticipated date of graduation.
- Explain that your non-sophomore status is due to one or more of the following:
 - AP (Advanced Placement) credits or IB (International Baccalaureate) transfer credits, which are not used by the Hollings scholarship to determine academic status.
 - College level courses taken in high school (i.e., dual enrollment).
 - Having earned an associate degree through an early college high school.
- Signed by your Department Chair or Academic Advisor.
- Combine your transcript with the letter, save as a PDF file, and then upload.

Official transcript (.pdf): *

List any other technical schools, colleges, or universities you previously attended: (Upload an official transcript from each school).

Submitting an unofficial transcript will result in disqualification of your application.

Institution	From Date (mm/yyyy)	To Date (mm/yyyy)	Degree Awarded	Official Transcript
State: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
State: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
State: <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

List any formal and/or informal research experiences in which you have been involved. (Exclude class laboratory activities).

Position	From Date (mm/yyyy)	To Date (mm/yyyy)	Description
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Save Education Information

* Required Information

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

- [MyAccount Status](#)
- [General Info](#)
- [Contact Info](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [References](#)
- [Essay](#)
- [Submit](#)

Awards, Honors, and Activities - Academic and Non-Academic

Include names of organizations and award titles, dates (months/years), and responsibilities. Enter N/A if none. *

List may include:

- Honor and/or technical societies
- Scholarships/fellowships
- Service organizations
- Campus activities, including offices held, paid or unpaid volunteer and entrepreneurship activities
- Involvement in community-based organizations
- Other recognition

[Save Activities Information](#)

* Required Information

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

- [MyAccount Status](#)
- [General Info](#)
- [Contact Info](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [References](#)
- [Essay](#)
- [Submit](#)

Two references are required.

Reference one MUST be an academic reference. An academic reference includes either of the following:

- A professor, visiting professor, or lecturer who has taught you at the undergraduate level (lab courses are not acceptable) .
- A teaching assistant who has taught you at the undergraduate level (the reference form will require the supervising professor's contact information, such as name, title, and email).

Reference two may be any of the following:

- Another academic reference
- A person who can speak to your capabilities and interests as they relate to this scholarship.
 - This may include a mentor from a job, volunteer, internship or competition experience related to NOAA's mission.

We accept NOAA recommendations under the following conditions:

- Recommendations from NOAA staff are acceptable if that person served as your mentor during an internship or is a faculty member at your college or university.
- If the NOAA employee reference served as your mentor or a faculty member, then he/she must use their personal or school email, as a @noaa.gov email account is not allowed when submitting the reference form.

We do NOT accept references from:

- Former high school teachers
- Coaches
- Family friends

For questions regarding the reference eligibility, please contact studentscholarshipprograms@noaa.gov.

IF YOU DO NOT SUBMIT AT LEAST ONE ACADEMIC REFERENCE AND A SECOND REFERENCE MEETING THE ABOVE CRITERIA, YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE DEEMED INELIGIBLE.

Identify the name, title, relationship, and email address of your two references. Each reference will receive an email with a link to complete and submit a Reference Form through the application system on your behalf (**Reference Form is not available outside of the application system**).

Click the "Request" button to send a recommendation email to the associated reference who will receive instructions and a link to the online Reference Form. All Reference Forms should be submitted by **Jan. 24, 2026**, to ensure they are received prior to the application deadline of **Jan. 31, 2026, 11:59 p.m. EST. Reference Forms will not be accepted after the application deadline.**

Name: *	Title:	Relationship: *	Email: *	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	---Select relationship to applicant---	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Request"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	---Select relationship to applicant---	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Request"/>

Note: Check the MyAccount Status page as the References section will remain **Incomplete** until both references are received by NOAA.

Below are individuals who have submitted a Reference Form on your behalf.

No submitted recommendation.

Tips

Choosing a reference: 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 author to assist them in preparing a solid recommendation. References should be able to speak to your:

- Motivation and persistence toward academic and career goals
- Creative solutions to problems
- Ability to work with others
- Independence and self-reliance
- Leadership potential (strategic thinking, interpersonal communication, thoughtful decision-making)

- Understanding of fundamental knowledge of the field

Reference submission: If the application deadline is approaching and your references have not submitted, be sure to remind your references to do so OR identify a new reference. If they do not submit before the deadline, your application will be ineligible.

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* Required Information

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

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OFFICE OF EDUCATION

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

- [MyAccount Status](#)
- [General Info](#)
- [Contact Info](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [References](#)
- [Essay](#)
- [Submit](#)

Essay

The following questions include self-descriptions of your academic, research, if any, and career goals as they relate to NOAA's mission <http://www.noaa.gov>, and how your participation in the scholarship program will help you achieve those goals. Responses will be used to evaluate you as an individual, not necessarily as a scientist, and your motivation for applying for these scholarships. Responses should demonstrate your interest in NOAA's mission, creative solutions to problems, ability to overcome challenges, leadership potential (strategic thinking, interpersonal communication, integrity, thoughtful decision making), impact of this opportunity on your academic and/or career goals, and motivation to persist in career goals as it relates to supporting the NOAA mission.

Ethical use of A.I. You may not use generative A.I. technology to write your responses. Use of A.I. to check grammar and suggest edits is acceptable, but make sure your unique voice shines through, and remember reviewers want to hear from you.

NOAA organization of interest: *

Describe your academic, research (if any), and career goals as they relate to NOAA's mission. (Maximum 1,500 characters) *

What is your motivation for applying to the Hollings undergraduate scholarship? (Maximum 1,500 characters) *

Briefly discuss a scientific, environmental, or community challenge that NOAA's work could address and that you would like to address through the Hollings undergraduate scholarship. What is the problem, why is it important to you, and what are some ways you propose to address it? (Maximum 1,500 characters) *

Provide an example of a time when you've demonstrated leadership in which you utilized strategic thinking, strong communication with others, integrity, and thoughtful decision-making. (Maximum 1,500 characters) *

Provide an example of when you've had to persist through a challenge in reaching your academic goals. (Maximum 1,500 characters) *

How will the Hollings undergraduate scholarship help you grow personally and professionally, and what new opportunities would it allow you to explore? (Maximum 1,500 characters) *

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* Required Information

[Previous](#) [Next](#)

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



[Logout](#)

OMB# 0648-0568, expires May 31, 2026

Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program Application

- [MyAccount Status](#)
- [General Info](#)
- [Contact Info](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [References](#)
- [Essay](#)
- [Submit](#)

CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

I am aware that this program is supported by funding from the United States Government and, therefore, is subject to Federal law regarding false statements and fraud, particularly the criminal provisions of 18 U.S. Code Section 1001. I certify, under penalty of law, that the submitted student application contains no false or fraudulent representations, statements, or entries. An individual receiving a scholarship under this program shall be required to repay the full amount of the scholarship to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration if it is determined that the individual, in obtaining or using the scholarship, engaged in fraudulent conduct or failed to comply with any term or condition of the scholarship.

The information requested on the application materials will be used in connection with the selection of qualified applicants and may be disclosed to qualified reviewers and staff assistants as part of the review process; to the institution the applicant is attending or is planning to attend or is employed by for the purpose of facilitating review or award decisions, or administering the awards; to government contractors, experts, volunteers and researchers and educators as necessary to complete assigned work; to other government agencies needing data regarding applicants or as part of the review process, or in order to coordinate programs; and to another Federal agency, court or party in a court or Federal administrative proceeding if the government is a party. Information from this system may be merged with other computer files to carry out statistical studies, the results of which do not identify individuals. Disclosure may be made of awardees' names, home institutions, and fields of study for public information purposes. Submission of the information is voluntary; however, failure to provide full and complete information may reduce the possibility of receiving an award.

Under certain circumstances (such as an internship at a Government-funded facility), the U.S. Government conducts background investigations to establish that individuals are eligible for a required security clearance. The background investigations for national security positions are conducted to develop information to show whether you are reliable, trustworthy, of good conduct and character, and loyal to the United States. In addition to filling out a form (such as the Standard Form 86 which may be viewed at: <http://www.opm.gov/forms/html/sf.asp>, inquiries also may be made about a person's adherence to security requirements, honesty and integrity, vulnerability to exploitation or coercion, falsification, misrepresentation, and any other behavior, activities, or associations that tend to show the person is not reliable, trustworthy, or loyal.

NOTE: Application will be copied and used solely for the purpose of selecting scholarship recipients and administering the Undergraduate Scholarship Program. Disclosure of the information is subject to Public Law 93-579 (Privacy Act of 1974) and NOAA regulations.

Yes, I have read the above information and certify the accuracy of the information in my application. *

Date certified (mm/dd/yyyy) *

Please Note: Once you submit your application, you will no longer be able to make any changes.

[Submit Application](#)

* Required Information

[Previous](#)