Goldwater Scholarships 2012

NMSU Office of National Scholarships and International Education
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Barry Goldwater

- 1909-1998
- Military pilot in World War II
- Ran for President in 1964, lost to Lyndon Johnson
- Strong supporter of NASA, NSF
Goldwater Scholarship Program

- Established by Congress in 1986
- Goal: To provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, engineers, and mathematicians by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in those fields
- Widely considered the most prestigious award in the U.S. for college undergraduates studying science, engineering, and mathematics
Eligibility, 1

- **Junior** – student who plans one more year of full-time undergraduate study beginning September 2013 (Graduating May 2014)

- **Sophomore** – student who plans two more years of full-time undergraduate study beginning September 2013 (Graduating May 2015)

- Be a full-time junior or sophomore
Eligibility, 2

- Have a highly competitive GPA
- Major in the Natural Sciences, Mathematics, or Engineering
  - Students planning to study medicine are eligible only if they plan a research career rather than a career in medical practice
- Be a US citizen or a permanent resident
- Obtain institutional nomination (4 nominees)
Criteria

- Research experience
- Leadership and community service
- Intend to pursue a doctoral degree
- Strong commitment to a career in math, the natural sciences, or engineering
- Potential for significant future contribution in your chosen field
Awards

- Up to $7,500 for tuition, fees, books, and room/board
- Senior-level scholarship: 1 year of support (Aug 2013 – May 2014)
Application timeline

- 2 November 2012: Draft application essay due
- 30 November 2012: Confirmation of recommenders
- 18 January 2013: Final draft essay due (ONSIE)
- 28 January 2013: Applications due online
- Late March 2013: Scholars announced on Goldwater web site
Application elements

• Online application (complete by 2 November)
• Endorsement from ONSIE
• College transcripts
• Three recommendations (online)
  – 2 academic references: your potential for a career in math, science, or engineering
  – Another individual who can attest to your potential
• Essay (really a miniature proposal)
Essay
2 pages, 2 columns, 11 pt font

- Describe an issue or problem in your field
- Discuss a research idea that could impact the issue or problem
- Describe an aspect of the research in which you would be involved
- Explain the relevance of the issue or problem
- Include bibliography, illustrations as appropriate