

The Conroy Honors Scholar Program

BE BOLD with your Education!

Are you intellectually curious and eager to develop your unique potential to change the world for good?

Are you an academic achiever looking for something more from your University experience?

Are you looking for an enriched education and not just harder-faster work?

Are you ready to commit to becoming an academic leader of the NMSU Honors community?

The Conroy Honors College at New Mexico State University is seeking our next cohort of top academic high school seniors to join our diverse and vibrant Honors community in Fall 2026. The Conroy Honors Scholar Program will be offering a limited number of four-year awards to new, first year students, with a desire to serve as models for what the life of a fully-engaged, academic all-star, student can be at New Mexico State University.

The Award

- A \$6,000 annual stipend for up to four years of undergraduate training in addition to the tuition and fee coverage (NM Residents) or eligible tuition support (out-of-state).
- A \$2500 Global Citizen Award to help fund a study abroad experience with Honors guidance.
- This is a higher value award and replaces the Hadley merit scholarship.

The Program:

To ensure that Conroy Honors Scholars receive personalized support from the Honors College staff and faculty across their full academic career at NMSU, Conroy Honors Scholars are required to:

- live in the Honors Living Learning Community for one year (unless a waiver to commute from home is approved);
- participate in the Fall Honors First Year Experience course;
- make annual progress towards University Honors graduation;
- and participate in research/leadership/service activities consistent with Honors values.

All Conroy Honors Scholars are being prepared to graduate with University Honors Distinction.

Selection:

Applicants should be 2025-26 graduating high school seniors with a 3.9 GPA or a 159 Academic Index. Conroy Honors Scholars will be selected competitively for the program based on evidence that they will model Honors core values and engage with the university through these kinds of high impact learning experiences:

- Participation in research, scholarship, and creative work with NMSU faculty;
- Leadership roles in the campus community (e.g., student organizations, residence life, to academic departments);
- Civic and service engagement to promote a healthier and more just world;
- Active global citizenship activities around issues of importance to the borderlands region and the world at large.

For priority consideration, applicants should submit the following materials by Dec 1:

- A Scholar Dollar\$ application to provide a wholistic view of their experiences and potentials.
- **IMPORTANT: A letter of interest to the Honors College Office (honors@nmsu.edu) explaining why they are a good fit for the Conroy Honors Scholar Program (additional guidance on following page).**

For more information about the Conroy Honors College and the Conroy Honors Scholar Program, please visit the NMSU Conroy Honors webpage at: <https://honors.nmsu.edu/>

It is our job to elevate all Honors students' excellence and achievement.

We expect the Conroy Honors Scholars to model academic excellence as the heart of the Honors community!

We are New Mexico's land-grant institution and a comprehensive research university dedicated to teaching, research and service at all levels. Recognized as a top-tier university by U.S. News & World Report, NMSU is a welcoming community of talented faculty, staff and students who are working together to make a difference. As a NASA Space Grant College, a Hispanic-serving institution and home to the first Honors College in New Mexico, NMSU offers an accessible education that shapes bright futures.

Eligibility and Application Guidance

All high school graduates entering NMSU with a 3.75 GPA are Crimson Scholars and are invited to participate in Honors College activities and complete the University Honors Program. All students with these academic credentials are already eligible for significant academic merit scholarships. However, the Conroy Honors Scholar Program is a competitive scholar program designed to provide a higher level of funding along with extra challenges and support for a smaller group of select students who meet the criteria listed below:

Eligibility and Application Requirements:

- Limited to 2025-26 High School graduates (including students that are simultaneously completing an early college degree).
- Admitted to NMSU with a 3.9 GPA or 159 Academic Index based on credentials submitted to the Admissions Office.
- For priority consideration, applicants should (1) complete the NMSU Scholar Dollar\$ application online **and (2) submit a letter of interest directly to honors@nmsu.edu. Priority Deadline for SD\$ and letter of interest is Dec. 1:**
 - Letters should explain why the applicants believe they are a good fit for the Conroy Honors Scholar Program.
 - Letters can overlap with information provided on the Scholar Dollar\$ application but should also include additional information about how their experiences and aspirations match program goals.
 - Statements should generally be between 500-1000 words long but the quality of the reflection is more important than the length of the response!
 - **Evaluation of both the Scholar Dollar\$ materials and the letter of interest will focus on evidence of academic promise consistent with the mission and goals of the Conroy Honors Scholar Program.**
- A small number of awards are reserved for NMSU partner programs and require a staff nomination.
- National Merit Semi-Finalists and Finalists will receive priority review. Please email Honors directly for alternate instructions.

Renewal Requirements:

Conroy Honors Scholars are required to make annual progress toward earning the designation as a University Honors Graduate by meeting the following requirements:

- Complete the first semester of college with a 3.25 GPA and pass 15 new main campus credit hours
- Maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA and pass 15 new Las Cruces campus credits per semester
- Complete the required First-Year Honors Seminar with a grade of B or better
- Demonstrate annual progress on the University Honors Program
- Submit a plan for Honors Capstone completion before the start of the Senior year

The Honors Office will complete an annual audit of Conroy Honors Scholars to ensure appropriate progress and excellence. We will offer guidance and advise if there are concerns about the student's success in the program. A one-semester probationary period may be offered for students that miss a requirement to ensure they receive the assistance needed for positive progress.

Program Expectations:

All Conroy Honors Scholars are encouraged to distinguish themselves in their program, personal goals, and the following high-impact learning activities:

- Work with NMSU faculty on research, scholarly, or creative projects.
- Engage with campus activities and assume a leadership role in at least one student organization or NMSU office.
- Identify a cause that matters and participate in NMSU sponsored activities to support outreach or serve a broader need.
- Complete a study-abroad or domestic travel experience to promote global citizenship and intercultural competence.

Strategies and opportunities to succeed in each of these areas, for students across all Colleges and majors within the university, will be introduced in the Honors First-Year Seminar.

Although the Conroy Honors Scholar Program has a limited number of awards to offer, all highly motivated students that fit this academic profile are welcome to participate in the same coursework and activities as members of the University Honors Program. We are committed to supporting all students that are willing to be BOLD with their University education!