



## UNM Preliminary Deadline: October 31, 2024

### I. Eligibility

- Be a full-time junior or sophomore - Graduating between December 2025 and August 2027
  - Be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
  - Have a highly competitive GPA
  - Major in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering
- Obtain **institutional nomination** – Submit [UNM Preliminary Application](#)  
[NISF.unm.edu](#) → **Prestigious Awards** → **Goldwater Scholarship** → **Application Form**

### II. Awards and Benefits

- Up to \$7,500 for tuition, fees, books, and room/board (400 scholarships)
- Junior level scholarship: 2 years, Senior level scholarship: 1 year

### III. Criteria

- Research experience
- Strong commitment to a career in math, natural sciences, and engineering
- Potential for a significant future contribution in the chosen field
- Intend to pursue doctoral degrees (Ph.D.)

### IV. UNM Process

- Online Application
- Supportive documents
  - UNM unofficial transcript
  - 3-page research proposal
  - A letter from your research mentor
- The selection is based on:
  - **Research experience**
  - Other activities - Leadership/community service experience
  - Potential and intent for a career in mathematics, natural sciences, or engineering disciplines that contribute significantly to technological advancements
  - Quality of essay: intellectual intensity in the chosen field & potential for a significant future contribution

V. Goldwater Application (**After you become UNM nominee**)

- Online Application <https://goldwater.scholarsapply.org>
- Research essay (<https://goldwater.scholarsapply.org/developing-the-research-essay/>)  
“Whether your essay is based on prior research or is a proposal, it is important that your essay clearly describes 1) your intellectual contribution or expected contribution to the work, 2) the skills you brought to the work from prior research or course experiences, and 3) the skills you have or expect to obtain from participation in the project.”

VI. Supporting Documents (**After you become UNM nominee**)

- College/university transcript(s)
- Three recommenders
  - a. Two faculty members who can discuss your potential for a career in math, science, or engineering. At least one of them must be a faculty member in your field of study.
  - b. Another individual or faculty member who can attest to your research potential.
  - c. If you have been involved in research, one of your recommendations must come from the individual who supervised your work.
  - d. Letters from former high school teachers, coaches, or family friends are generally of little value.

VII. Selection Process

October 31, 2024 – UNM Preliminary Application Due

November 21, 2024 – UNM Nominees Announced

December 18, 2024 – First Draft Due

January 24, 2025 – Submit Rec letter and non-UNM transcripts to CAELD office

**January 31, 2025 (4 pm MT) – Deadline of Online application**

March 28, 2025 (10 am MT) – Announcement of recipients online

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1,353 nominated applicants from 446 academic institutions in 2024

437 scholarships awarded

- 187 men/236 women
- 57 Math & CS /236 Natural Sciences Sciences/80 Medicine/64 Engineering
- All intend to obtain a Ph.D. as their degree objective

UNM – Recent recipients

2024: 3 scholars in Biochemistry, Chemical Engineering, & Chemistry

2023: 2 scholars in Physics, & Chemistry

2022: 1 scholar in Chemical Engineering

2021: 4 scholars in Biochemistry, Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, & Biology

2019: 1 scholar in Physics

2018: 2 scholars in Physics & Biochemistry

2017: 2 scholars in Biochemistry (honorable mention: chemical engineering)

2016: 1 scholar in Chemical Engineering (honorable mention: biochemistry)

2015: 1 scholar in Physics