



UNM Preliminary Deadline: October 31, 2017

I. Eligibility

- Be a full-time junior or sophomore - Graduating between May 2019 and August 2020
 - 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 (260 scholarships)
- Junior level scholarship: 2 years, Senior level scholarship: 1 year
- Honorable Mention

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 brief letter from your research mentor
- The selection is based on:
 - **Research experience**
 - 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>
- Typed essay (12 point Arial font, 1 inch margins on all sides, max 3 pages)
“The strongest Research Essays students submit are based on a prior or current research experience. A Research Essay should include a description of the issue or problem, a discussion of the research methodology, and a discussion of the student’s findings. It is very important that the essay detail a student’s specific contributions to the project and indicate the specific skills/expertise the student developed as a result of participation in the project. To demonstrate that a student “thinks like a scientist,” the essay might, as an example, describe future work the experimental data suggests or describe an entirely new work that is based on the skills and insights the student learned from the experience.”

VI. Supporting Documents

- 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 these must be a faculty member in your field of study.
 - b. Another individual or faculty member who can attest to your 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, 2017 – UNM Preliminary Application Due

November 21, 2017 – UNM Nominees Announced

December 15, 2017 – First Draft Due

January 20, 2018 – Submit Rec letter and non-UNM transcripts to CAELD office

January 26, 2018 (5 pm CT) – Deadline of Online application

March 30, 2018 (11 am CT) – Post recipients online

1,286 applicants in 2017

240 scholarships awarded

- 133 men/103 women
- 22 Math /153 Science-related majors /51 Engineering /14 Computer Science
- All intend to obtain a Ph.D. as their degree objective

UNM – Recent recipients

2015: Physics

2016: Chemical Engineering (honorable mention: biochemistry)

2017: 2 Biochemistry (honorable mention: chemical engineering)