

Solicitation for the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship And Excellence in Education Program

Drake University students interested in a career in mathematics, the physical sciences, natural sciences, or engineering are invited to apply to the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program.

Established by Congress in 1986, the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation operates an educational scholarship program designed to provide opportunities for outstanding U.S. students with excellent academic records and demonstrated interest in, and potential for, careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, the physical sciences, and engineering.

In April 2010, the Foundation will award scholarships to students who will be college juniors or seniors during the 2010-2011 academic year. In order to be considered for an award, students must be nominated by their institution. The national DEADLINE for RECEIPT of all nominations is February 1, 2010. There are earlier on-campus deadlines however. Please note them below.

The scholarship award covers eligible expenses up to a maximum of **\$7,500.00** per year. Junior scholarship recipients can expect to receive a maximum of two years of support. Senior scholarship recipients are eligible for a maximum of one year of support.

Who is eligible to apply?

1) Any Drake University student pursuing a career in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering is eligible if he or she majors in mathematics, physical sciences, or natural sciences.

2) Students must currently be full-time sophomores or juniors pursuing a baccalaureate degree.

3) Students must have a cumulative Drake G.P.A. of 3.75 or better.

4) Students must be a U.S. citizen, resident alien, or U.S. national.

*5) Students who plan to study medicine are eligible **only** if they plan a research career rather than a career as a medical doctor in a private practice.*

6) Strong candidates may have had the opportunity to participate in research or held internships in research facilities, either industrial or academic.

The application consists of a 600-word student essay on a research problem in science, three letters of recommendation, most likely from Drake University faculty, transcripts, and a nomination from the Goldwater Scholarship Faculty Representative (Dr. Gholam

A. Mirafzal). *In the case of students with research experience, one of the three letters of recommendation must come from the research advisor.*

Application materials are available on the web at: www.act.org/goldwater

Drake University can nominate only four individuals. Qualified individuals will submit their essay to Dr. Mirafzal. They will then be read by the Drake Goldwater Scholarship Committee. From this pool of essays, four will be chosen and will be forwarded to the national scholarship committee. The internal review of essays will begin **December 11th, 2009**.

To be considered, interested sophomores and juniors should contact: Dr. Mirafzal, (Department of Chemistry, 213 Morgan E. Cline Hall of Pharmacy and Science, x4811) no later than **November 13th, 2009**. I would encourage you to speak to me earlier than that, however, to get a start on the essay and on the other application material.

Several Drake students have received this scholarship in recent years and our hope is for that to continue. The scholarships are prestigious and the students that have received them have gone on to well known institutions for graduate studies.

Thank you and I hope you consider applying!

Dr. Mirafzal

Gholam A. Mirafzal, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Chemistry
Drake University
213 Cline Hall
2507 University Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50311

Phone: (515)271-4811
Fax: (515)271-1928
E-Mail: Gholam.Mirafzal@Drake.Edu