

Welcome!  
We'll begin shortly!



Loyola Marymount University  
National & International  
Fellowships

# 2023 Goldwater Scholarship Informational Webinar

# Ice Breaker

- Mentimeter

<https://www.menti.com/aldofbbqoqhi>



**Dr. Cassidy Alvarado, ONIF Director**

# What is ONIF?

- [Fellowship Advisement Appointments](#)
- [Funding Friday newsletter](#)
- [Info Sessions & Workshops](#)
- General Application Advice
- Letter of Rec Advice
- [Student Spotlights](#)
- Free Thank You Cards
- Online Resources through ONIF's website and social media
- LinkedIn Group: [ONIF Connections](#)



# What is the



**BARRY GOLDWATER**  
SCHOLARSHIP & EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION



- Founded 1986 to honor Senator Barry Goldwater, who served his country for 56 years as a soldier and statesman, including 30 years of service in the U.S. Senate
- The purpose is to alleviate a critical current and future shortage of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineers
- Created to encourage outstanding students to pursue research careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering and to foster excellence in those fields

# Scholarship Benefits

- ◎ Each scholarship covers eligible expenses for undergraduate tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to \$7,500
  - Junior level scholars are eligible for a max of two years of support
  - Senior level scholars are eligible for a max of one year of support
- ◎ It is possible to accept the award/honor, but not the money
- ◎ Additional professional development & mentorship opportunities



# Eligibility

- Current sophomore or junior standing
  - Intentions of pursuing a career in research (PhD or master's for engineering)
  - 3.0 Cumulative GPA or above (Recommended 3.50+).
- In the 2021 Goldwater competition, GPAs ranged from 3.37 to 4.0*
- Be a United States citizen or a Permanent Resident
  - Recommended: undergraduate research experience
  - Students who plan to pursue a PhD/MD are eligible only if they plan a research career **rather than a career as a practicing physician with emphasis on the clinical practice of medicine and patient care**



# COVID-19 Impacts

## **Narrative endorsement letter written by LMU:**

1. Has COVID-19 or other hardships affected your research career plans?
2. How has LMU responded to the pandemic, such as how grades were handled, how long laboratories and field experiences were closed to undergrads, and relevant info that is unique to the student's individual challenges

## **Research expectations:**

- Students are encouraged to describe/participate in any faculty-mentored research experiences, including lit reviews, design of experimental protocols, analysis of existing data sets, computational studies, and writing research proposals



# Fields of Study Examples

## Undergraduate Major:

**Astrophysics**

**Applied Science**

**Biology**

**Chemical Engineering**

**Chemistry**

**Computer Science**

**Electrical Engineering**

**Mathematics**

**Mechanical Engineering**

**Physics**

## Career Objectives:

**Astronomy**

**Medical research**

**Agricultural/environmental science, Genetic engineering, Immunology, Molecular biology, Biomedical technology**

**Research in chemical kinetics**

**Research in environmental chemistry, Nutritional chemistry, Biotechnology/biochemistry**

**Artificial intelligence research**

**Solid states research**

**Applied math in operations research, Math analysis or topology, Statistical population research, Robotics**

**Development of micro and nano technologies**

**Physical oceanography, Alternate energy source, Nuclear physics, Theoretical physics, Environmental physics**



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# Additional Scholarship Info

- ~400 scholarships are available  
Intentions of pursuing a career  
in research ( PhD or master's  
for engineering)
- 1256 applications received &  
406 awarded in 2021
- Average applicant GPA in 2019  
was 3.85
- Recommended: undergraduate  
research experience
- LMU may nominate up to four  
students for the national  
competition  
*A fifth student may be nominated if they  
transferred to LMU*
- Login or online application  
(technical) difficulties, email  
[goldwater@ScholarshipAmerica.org](mailto:goldwater@ScholarshipAmerica.org)



# Benefits of Applying



**Elena Martinez '22**

BS Applied Math, Computer Science

2021 Goldwater Scholar



**Kevin Chang '21**

BS Biochemistry

2020 Goldwater Scholar



**Dillon Rinauro '19**

BS Biochemistry

2018 Goldwater  
Honorable Mention

# Application Components

- ◎ Pre- Application Due **December 1, 2022**
  - [Create your online account](#)
  - Complete pre application, including:
    - ◎ Basic biographical info
    - ◎ Names and emails of (3) prospective recommenders\*
- ◎ If you meet the eligibility requirements, ONIF will grant access to the remaining application components

*\*You can change your recommenders after this date.*



**ONIF**

# Application Components

- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Strongest letters come from those who know and who have served as your research mentors
- Letters from non research mentors should come from individuals who know the student well and can provide specific examples of attributes that will contribute to the applicant's ability to have a successful research career
- A letter of recommendation from an individual outside of **STEM** is not as likely to convince a Goldwater reviewer that the student is headed toward a STEM research career
- Discuss via Zoom or in-person meeting using ONIF's LOR Request Form
- Letters must be **emailed to Dr. Alvarado** by **January 6, 2023**.

# Application Components

## Research Essay- Email to Dr. Alvarado by **January 6, 2023**

- The strongest Research Essays students submit are based on a prior research project
- Include a description of the issue or problem, a discussion of the research methodology, and discussion of your findings
- Clearly state what YOUR specific contributions to the project were and indicate what specific skills/expertise you developed
- If you have not been involved in a research project, you can develop your Research Essay on a “proposed” research project
- Put forward a possible research problem, discuss an idea for a research project that could have a significant impact on the issue or problem, describe the methodology that you would use and discuss anticipated results

# Application Components

## Research Essay Format

- ⦿ Page length, including bibliographic information & references, must not exceed 3 pages
- ⦿ Single spaced
- ⦿ Use 12-point Arial font
- ⦿ Margins should be 1 inch on all sides
- ⦿ Include your name and your academic institution in the header at the top of each page
- ⦿ May be formatted in either one or two columns on a page
- ⦿ As appropriate, utilize graphs, tables, and figures to explain or clarify results
- ⦿ Figure and caption options may use 10-point Arial font
- ⦿ If mathematical equations are used, LaTeX or other document preparation software may be used to properly format the equations

# Application Components

## Short Answer Questions

- ① Career goals, professional aspirations, motivation, & personal information
- ① Research activities
- ① Research skills
- ① COVID-19 impact- how the pandemic affected the student's academic, research, and career plans

# Application Components

## Unofficial transcript(s)

- ◎ Should you receive LMU's nomination, ONIF will upload your transcript to the site
- ◎ Transfer course grades must appear on your LMU transcript, or you will need to provide ONIF a PDF copy of your transcripts from previous institutions
- ◎ Order your LMU PDF transcript here\*:  
<https://registrar.lmu.edu/services/transcripts/>

*\*There is a \$2.40 processing fee. If this is cost-prohibitive for you to apply, please contact ONIF and we will cover the costs.*



# Past Goldwater Reviewer Feedback

- “Research experience was described as limited with no products at this time...”
- “The reviewers did not find the letters of reference helpful...none of the letters really describe [the student’s] potential for becoming a research scientist and they do not offer any real evidence of this potential.”
- “The essay should be written either as a manuscript for publication or as a research proposal.”
- “I don’t feel [the student] did a very good job of justifying the need for the MD degree to do what [the student] wants to do.”



Announcements ▾

## Welcome to the ONIF Fellowship Support Hub! ▾ ×

Cassidy Alvarado posted on Jul 28, 2021 12:24 PM



Dear Lions,

Welcome to the Fellowship Support Hub!

Think of this Brightspace "course" as a library of resources, advice, and guidance as you apply to various scholarship and fellowship opportunities. Within this space, you will find examples of successful applications, workshop and deadline reminders, and more!

Calendar ▾

Wednesday, September 22, 2021 ▶

Upcoming events ▾

SEP 1:00 PM  
24 Mitchell National  
Deadline - Due

SEP 4:59 PM  
28 Marshall National  
Deadline - Due

OCT 8:00 PM  
6 Rhodes National

# Application Timeline

- Oct-Dec:** Enrollment in Fellowship Support Hub
- December 1:** [Pre Application due](#)
- Nov/Dec:** Application workshop TBD
- January 6:** Campus Deadline, **ALL** app components due in online portal
- January 9-13:** Goldwater Scholarship Committee convene
- January 13:** Applicants learn if they received LMU's nomination
- January 14-27:** Nominated students continue to edit their essays
- January 27:** Goldwater Scholarship National Deadline
- Late February:** Nomination packets reviewed
- Late March:** Scholars announced

# Additional Resources

- ◎ Goldwater [website](#)
  - [Application tips](#)
- ◎ ONIF [website](#)
  - [Fellowships advisement appointments](#)
  - Email [fellowships@lmu.edu](mailto:fellowships@lmu.edu) to access the Fellowship Support Hub in Brightspace
- ◎ [NSF REU search engine](#)
- ◎ [LMU Faculty](#)

# Questions

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