

Goldwater Scholarship Application Process

(Faculty Representative: Karen Havholm, havholkg@uwec.edu, 836-2945, HSS 170)

Once a student is accepted for one of the 4 institutional application slots, the following are the steps in the application process.

1. The student goes to www.act.org/goldwater and clicks on the link “2008 Goldwater Scholarship Application.” This site has four documents to read/print.
 - a. Checklist of application/supporting documents
 - b. Information and instructions for student candidates
 - c. Secondary school transcript request form
 - d. Voluntary survey form
2. Click on “Apply Now” to set up an account with a username and password and begin the application process. Components of the online application are:
 - a. Nominee profile
 - b. Schooling
 - c. Programs and activities – this is where the student can highlight past research experiences and other experiences that show their abilities and dedication to their chosen field.
 - d. Recommendations – the student asks three people to write recommendations for him/her. At least one of the recommenders should have supervised the student in research. All recommenders should be able to assess the student’s personal characteristics, motivation, and potential for a career in natural science, math or engineering. Within 24 hours of the student entering the recommenders’ names online, the recommenders will receive an email with instruction of how to submit a recommendation online. The student should follow up with the recommender to be sure the email notification was received and the recommendation submitted.
 - e. Certifications and release – this section authorizes UW-Eau Claire to release the student’s transcript, and also certifies that the student intends a career in natural sciences, math or engineering, and that all statements in the application are true.

When the online component is complete, the student should submit it. If changes need to be made after that time, the Faculty Representative can electronically allow the student to make further changes.

3. The paper part of the application includes an original and one copy of:
 - a. Application/supporting documents checklist
 - b. Student essay — a well-researched and carefully written essay that illustrates a student’s knowledge in an academic area and describes planned future research; essay should be two pages (one side of page only) maximum, 11pt font minimum
 - c. Current college transcript
 - d. Other college transcript(s)
 - e. High school transcript(s) and ACT/SAT test scores – the student should use the secondary school transcript form to obtain these documents

Additional documents:

 - f. Optional: voluntary survey form (original only)
 - g. If not a U.S. citizen: Copy of permanent resident form and letter of intent to become a U.S. citizen

4. Deadlines

- a. Online components of the application must be ready for review by the Faculty Representative by Jan. 15, 2008.
- b. Student essay must be submitted via e-mail attachment to the Faculty Representative at havholkg@uwec.edu by Jan. 22, 2008.
- c. All paper components of the application must be delivered to the Faculty Representative by Jan. 28, 2008.
- d. Electronic component of the application must be finalized by the student by Jan. 29, 2008, to be submitted by the Faculty Representative by Jan. 30. This allows 24 hours to attend to any problems with the online submission system prior to the final deadline on Jan. 31.

5. Eligibility

- a. Student must be a sophomore or junior. A sophomore is defined as a student who plans two more years of full-time undergraduate study beginning in Sept. 2008. A junior plans one more year of full-time undergraduate study beginning in Sept. 2008.
- b. A candidate must plan a career in natural sciences, math, or engineering. Students who plan careers in medicine are only eligible if they plan a career in research. Students who plan a career in pre-college math/science education “are not considered strong candidates.”