



UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

The Economics Department recognizes the many academic and extracurricular accomplishments of undergraduate students within the economics major with scholarships and awards that are based on set criteria. If you have questions about scholarships or awards that are not answered below, please contact our office at (217) 333-2682 or email econug@illinois.edu. Information is also provided on the Scholarship & Awards section of our website: <http://www.economics.illinois.edu/undergrad/students/awards/>

General Application Information: Please read the eligibility and application information under each scholarship/award carefully as they have different requirements. The nominee must be a declared economics major during the current semester (students recommending economics students do not need to be an economics major). Each student may apply for up to two scholarships, and up to two awards (each application must be submitted separately). Application materials are considered in their entirety. Numerous applications are submitted each year, so we encourage students to spend time on their submission materials, providing relevant information, and writing strong essays that support the application for a particular scholarship or award. Students are encouraged to use the writing/career centers and other resources to write compelling essays and resumes, but they should ensure that all words are their own, are truthful, and do not misrepresent works, experiences, or records.

Selection: Awardees are selected by the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Undergraduate Studies Staff, in consultation with additional campus staff and faculty. Application materials must be completed in full and submitted by the due date for consideration, and the materials of all applicants meeting the eligibility requirements will be reviewed. Nominees may be asked to provide additional information, invited for an interview, or asked to submit verification of accomplishments, as requested by the selection committee. Awards are subject to the final approval of the Department Head. All applicants will be notified following the selection, and additional information will be provided to awardees.

Spring 2017 Application Deadline: Sunday, April 23rd by 11:59pm

Applications Only Accepted Online:

Scholarship Application: <http://go.economics.illinois.edu/EconUGScholarships>

Awards Application: <http://go.economics.illinois.edu/EconUGAwards>

ECONOMICS SCHOLARSHIPS:

Applications for scholarships are solicited and awardees are determined each spring, unless otherwise noted. Specific eligibility requirements and instructions are listed under each scholarship or award. There are no country residency requirements, unless specifically noted. The Selection Committee makes the final determination on the number of scholarships awarded, and the monetary amount of each scholarship (if variable), based on the scholarship funds available each semester. Awardees are recognized at the May Banquet, are listed in the Economics Department Convocation booklet in May, and are posted on the Department's website. Scholarships are one-time monetary awards, dispersed through student accounts.

Robert L. and Amelia Louise Rivers Scholarship (up to \$1,000)

The Robert L. and Amelia Louise Rivers Scholarship is a monetary scholarship awarded to up to two undergraduate Economics majors on the basis of merit. The award is comprised of \$500 from endowed scholarship funds and \$500 from the Economics Department. This scholarship was established in 2005 by a gift from Amelia Louise Rivers as a memorial for her husband, Robert L. Rivers, who died at the age of 83 in November, 2003. Robert Rivers received an M.S. and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Illinois in 1947 and 1957, respectively. He retired as the UPS Professor of Transportation at North Carolina A & T State University.

Students meeting the following qualifications are eligible to apply:

- declared Economics major;
- completion of at least 60 hours of coursework, including at least 18 hours of economics;
- attained a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average in all UIUC economics/statistics courses;
- and a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average overall.

Application: Students complete the Economics Department Scholarship Form, provide a resume, and submit a personal statement of 250-500 words addressing the following question: "What distinguishes you as a student of economics?" The essay may include your interest in economics and the steps that you have taken beyond your classes to further your study of economics. *Self-nominations only*



Michael and Christine Kolbuk Undergraduate Scholarship (\$1,000)

The Michael and Christine Kolbuk Undergraduate Scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate Economics student of good academic standing, with first preference given to first generation students. Michael Kolbuk earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the department in 1971, and both he and his wife, Christine, are committed to supporting hardworking and meritorious students at the University of Illinois.

Students meeting the following qualifications are eligible to apply:

- declared Economics major;
- completion of at least 60 hours of coursework, including at least 18 hours of economics;
- attained a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average in all UIUC economics/statistics courses;
- and a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average overall.

Application: Students complete the Economics Department Scholarship Form, provide a résumé, and submit a personal statement of 250-500 words addressing the following: "Describe a past experience that influenced your interest/development in economics."

Self-nominations only

GPA Scholarships for Graduating Students (Automatically Awarded by Department*)

2017 Convocation Speaker GPA Scholarship \$250

Graduating student with the highest Overall UIUC GPA and UIUC Econ Major GPA

Dr. Maria Otoo 2016 Convocation Speaker GPA Scholarship \$250

Graduating student with the second highest Overall UIUC GPA and UIUC Econ Major GPA

Justice Rita Garman 2015 Convocation Speaker GPA Scholarship \$250

Graduating student with the third highest Overall UIUC GPA and UIUC Econ Major GPA

Economics Academic Scholarship \$150

Graduating students with high Overall UIUC GPA and UIUC Econ Major GPA

**Note that these awards are determined by the Economics Department based on official campus reports of UIUC Econ Major GPA and UIUC GPA. Self-nominations will not be accepted.*

Honors Research Scholarship (up to \$1,000)

This scholarship is to be awarded to a student who has completed or who is currently showing great promise conducting economic research under the supervision of an economics faculty member.

Eligibility: Declared Economics student who has completed at least 60 credit hours. **Criteria 1**

(completed project): Students who completed an exemplary advanced thesis, research paper, or project focusing on an area within Economics and who are nominated to graduate with distinction by the faculty member supervising the project. **Criteria 2 (ongoing project):** Students with an economics research project underway that is supervised by economics faculty as a for-credit independent study (ECON 399), who shows significant progress towards completion, in cases where the scholarship funds would significantly support and enhance the student's research experience.

Application: Faculty/Staff Nomination: The Director of Undergraduate Studies works with the faculty to identify students who are eligible to receive this award and reviews both a faculty recommendation and either the completed project or an overview of research-in-progress. For ongoing projects, submit also a research plan, a timeline for completion, and a 250-500-word essay describing how this scholarship will help support the student's research experience (including, e.g., information on the costs of conferences, travel, data, etc...).

Faculty/staff nominations only.

Scholarship to Support Postgraduate Education (up to \$2,000)

Scholarships to support undergraduate students who are entering a program of postgraduate education.

Eligibility: Current Senior who is graduating in May or August of the year of application for the award (specifically, the student must be within 9 hours of degree attainment by the end of the current semester), who has been accepted into a graduate program.

Application: Complete the Economics Department Scholarship Form, submit a résumé /CV, the letter of acceptance into the graduate program, and an essay of 250-500 words about both your plan of graduate study, and future life pursuits. In addition to the required application materials, you must also provide an official communication demonstrating your commitment to the postgraduate institution one week prior to the spring awards banquet.

Self-nominations only



Scholarship to Support Undergraduate Education (up to \$1,500)

These scholarships are for economics students with unmet financial need to help support their education, either alleviating existing financial costs of study or providing funding towards additional academic experiences. These grants supplement other funding students may receive for costs associated with their undergraduate education. The funds are distributed in a single lump sum into the student's University account.

Eligibility: A currently declared economics student who has completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC with unmet financial need, who demonstrates that the funds would go to support general educational attainment, alleviate some financial burden, and/or provide funding assistance towards an additional academic experience.

Application: Submit an Economics Department Scholarship Form, a résumé/CV, and two essays of 100-500 words each. Essay 1: Describe how your experience as an Economics Major informs your life's journey; Essay 2: Describe how this scholarship will help advance your education.

Self-nominations only.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AWARDS:

Awards are given to students who have provided leadership and excellence and have demonstrated involvement and community within the Department of Economics, throughout campus, and within the Champaign-Urbana area. Examples of involvement include attending events, volunteering, providing leadership, interning, student employment, class participation or achievement, assisting fellow students, or participating in other Departmental activities.

Awardees: Students receiving awards are recognized at the May Banquet, are listed in the Economics Department Convocation booklet in May, are posted on the Department's website, and may be eligible for special opportunities within the Department. The awards are one-time monetary awards, dispersed through student accounts.

Nominees: Students nominated for these awards by their peers are invited to attend the Spring Banquet in May, receive a nomination certificate, and are listed on our Departmental website and awards booklet.

Eligibility: Specific requirements are listed below under each award. All awards allow student, faculty and staff nominations. Awards other than the Peer Recognition award also accept self-nominations.

Application: Complete the online application (<http://go.economics.illinois.edu/EconUGAwards>) with all required materials (application requirements provided under each award below). *Students may either self-nominate or be nominated/recommended by others for all awards except the Peer Recognition Award.*

Diversity and Inclusion Award (up to \$100)

The student demonstrates a commitment and dedication to promoting the ideals of diversity and inclusion on the UIUC campus. Commitment may be shown by involvement in pertinent student groups and organizations or through independent or organized activities on the UIUC campus.

Eligibility: Must have completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC by the time of application and be an Economics major.

Application: Submit the Undergraduate Awards Form, résumé /CV and name(s) of Professional References, and an Essay of 250-500 words. The essay should show why the nominee should be selected for this specific award, providing specific examples of how they demonstrate the qualities within this area.

Economics Community Award (up to \$100)

The student demonstrates service and dedication to their peers in the UIUC Economics major through their involvement in Departmental activities and related initiatives. Examples include working in the tutoring center, serving as an unpaid Teaching Assistant, enthusiastic participation in Economics-focused student groups (note this does not require a leadership position), serving as an Econ Ambassador, and other volunteer service that assists with Department activities.

Eligibility: Must have completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC by the time of application and be an Economics major.

Application: Submit the Undergraduate Awards Form, résumé /CV and name(s) of Professional References, and an Essay of 250-500 words. The essay should show why the nominee should be selected for this specific award, providing specific examples of how they demonstrate the qualities within this area.



Economics Leadership Award (up to \$100)

This student demonstrates strong leadership in their University of Illinois Economics community. Leadership may be demonstrated in many ways, including positions with clubs and student organizations that are relevant to the discipline of Economics.

Eligibility: Must have completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC by the time of application and be an Economics major.

Application: Submit the Undergraduate Awards Form, Résumé/CV and Name(s) of Professional References (for *self-nominations only*), and an Essay of 250-500 words. The essay should show why the nominee should be selected for this specific award, providing specific examples of how they demonstrate the qualities within this area.

Peer Recognition Award (up to \$100)

These students promote involvement in the activities of the Economics Department, provide informal knowledge or academic help to peers, and otherwise help and welcome students to the department by their own initiative. This student selflessly goes above and beyond to help their fellow students achieve their academic, career, or personal goals. Formal activities that this student may engage in include mentoring and tutoring, but informal assistance may also be considered.

Eligibility: Must have completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC by the time of application and be an Economics major. *NO self-nominations accepted for this award*

Application: Submit the Undergraduate Awards Form, Résumé/CV and an Essay of 250-500 words. The essay should show why the nominee should be selected for this specific award, providing specific examples of how they demonstrate the qualities within this area.

Service Award (up to \$100)

The ideal awardee has demonstrated involvement in volunteer and service efforts throughout their time on campus. Organizations may be at any level and have a variety of foci, but the student must demonstrate high involvement and a sincere desire to volunteer.

Eligibility: Must have completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC by the time of application and be an Economics major.

Application: Submit the Undergraduate Awards Form, Résumé/CV and Name(s) of Professional References (for *self-nominations only*), and an Essay of 250-500 words. The essay should show why the nominee should be selected for this specific award, providing specific examples of how they demonstrate the qualities within this area.