

# SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FOR STEM MAJORS

Do your students have what it takes?

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation is seeking nominations from faculty for its 2011-2012 \$10,000 scholarship for an outstanding University of Michigan engineering math or natural or applied sciences major!

To join the elite ranks of Astronaut Scholars, students should exhibit motivation, imagination, and exceptional performance in their major.

## Submission Guidelines:

- Nominees must be entering their junior or senior year of study in the Fall of 2011
- **NOMINEES CANNOT APPLY DIRECTLY FOR THE AWARD,** they must be nominated by a faculty member
- Nominees must be United States citizens

All questions and nominations must go through the University of Michigan Astronaut Scholarship liaison Philip J. Hanlon at: 734-764-9290 or [hanlon@umich.edu](mailto:hanlon@umich.edu)

see liaison for a complete set of rules

# Astronaut Scholarship Foundation

## INSTRUCTIONS TO FACULTY MEMBERS FOR NOMINATING ASTRONAUT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION SCHOLARS IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation's (ASF) award is for outstanding students who exhibit motivation, imagination, and exceptional performance in the fields of engineering and natural or applied sciences at one of the twenty-five schools with which the Foundation has agreements. The award is for \$10,000.

It is the desire of the Foundation that the students nominated for Astronaut Scholarships be highly motivated, focused in their scientific objectives and possessed of intellectual daring. We recognize that these special students may be so involved, they excel in science and engineering although they may be somewhat less successful in general studies courses.

Because the junior and senior years are critical times of professional maturation, we restrict our awards to students enrolled at those levels. Thus, it is possible to nominate a currently enrolled sophomore for the award for their junior year. Further, if progress is satisfactory as indicated by official grade reports, and a renewal application, the award may be renewed for that student until the degree sought at the time of application is completed (up to two years). Although we wish to make it clear that the award will be made primarily on the basis of merit, financial need may be considered.

### Submission Guidelines:

- Students must be United States citizens (birth certificate, US passport or naturalization papers required)
- **STUDENTS CANNOT APPLY DIRECTLY FOR THIS AWARD**
- Students must be identified and nominated by at least one faculty member who knows the nominee *personally and well*
- Students must be entering their junior or senior year at the time the award begins
- The faculty member should, at a minimum, complete the scholarship nomination form with assistance from the nominee
- Two nomination letters from faculty members at the student's institution must be submitted to the Foundation; one letter must be from the nominating professor
- Students must submit a short, not to exceed one page of 12 point type, statement of personal interests, activities, hobbies and goals. The narrative letter supporting the nomination form should give examples of the involvement and commitment of the student to sciences or engineering beyond the formal classroom setting as shown on the transcript. Creativity is an important attribute to document
- An official transcript must be submitted
- Students must submit a current, personal resume
- Completed nominations should be submitted to the Astronaut Scholarship liaison at the applying school (check with school coordinator for internal deadline)
- Nominations will then be screened by your institution's regularly sitting scholarship committee or its equivalent and two nominations will be submitted to the Foundation by **March 25, 2011**

The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation retains the right to reject any and all nominees. ASF's Scholarship Committee will make the final selection.

Questions may be directed to Astronaut Scholarship Foundation Executive Director Linn LeBlanc at 321-455-7011 or e-mail [Linn@astronautscholarship.org](mailto:Linn@astronautscholarship.org).

**Participating Institutions Include:** University of Arizona, University of Central Florida, Clemson University, University of Colorado, Georgia Institute of Technology, Harvey Mudd College, University of Kentucky, Miami University (Ohio), University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, North Carolina State University, North Dakota State University, University of Oklahoma, Penn State University, Purdue University, University of Rochester, University of Southern California, Syracuse University, Texas A&M University, University of Texas, Tufts University, University of Virginia, Washington University (St. Louis), University of Washington and University of Wisconsin

[www.AstronautScholarship.org](http://www.AstronautScholarship.org)

## PHILOSOPHY AND PROCEDURES

### Applicable to Nominations for the Astronaut Foundation Scholarships, 2011-2012

**History:** The Astronaut Scholarship Foundation was created from the Mercury Seven Foundation that was formed in 1984 by the original class of American astronauts. In the beginning, the Mercury Seven Foundation depended largely on direct contributions resulting from the activities of the Founders. The Astronauts remain strongly committed to the Foundation and participate actively in building the best possible program dedicated to encouragement of outstanding young Americans to pursue careers in science and engineering, especially in fields with strong research and applied components. Just as they were pioneers in space, the Founders wished to encourage and nurture potential pioneers in all aspects of science and technology. The Mercury Seven have been joined in this endeavor by the Gemini, Apollo, Skylab and Shuttle astronauts to make the Foundation a true legacy of America's space pioneers. Many of the astronauts elected to the Hall of Fame participate in the Foundation—all are invited to do so.

**Institution Selection:** Identification of America's finest and potentially most creative and productive young science students is a challenging undertaking. Thus, it was decided early on to select institutions having strong undergraduate and graduate research programs with histories of producing significant numbers of professional scientists, academic scientists, engineers and researchers. Because it is impossible to predict the disciplines where cutting edge research is going to be, we seek nominations from all fields of science and technology. Further, because the best research laboratories and libraries are found in colleges and universities with full academic programs through the doctoral level, selections are limited to such institutions. In practice, and by intent, once selected to receive an Astronaut Scholarship, the institution remains in the program unless a cause may arise to terminate the association. Our cooperating selected institutions are assured that there is a continuing commitment to have an Astronaut Foundation Scholar on the campus. However, all commitments will be reviewed on a periodic basis, at least every five years.

**Institution's Role & Committee:** Institutions selected to participate in the Foundation scholarship program are expected to play an active role in the dissemination of information about the scholarship and in the selection process for the scholarship. The Foundation requires that the selection process on campus be undertaken with review of the nominees by an inter-departmental committee, usually comprised of 3-5 members, that includes several authorities in the science, engineering and math fields. The function of the campus committee is to select the two nominations to be forwarded by the institution to the Foundation Scholarship Committee for the final selection. In the unlikely case where neither nominee is acceptable to the Foundation, the scholarship will be withheld for that year. Two nominations meeting our requirements concerning citizenship and academic level, as well as a complete nomination package, are necessary before the Foundation can consider the nominations. Submission of unacceptable candidates for two consecutive years will result in termination of the program to that campus. For 2011-2012, the amount provided for a single scholarship is \$10,000.

**Scholarship Application Process:** Students may not apply directly for an Astronaut Scholarship Foundation award. A student must be nominated by a faculty member who knows the student well enough to identify a special drive or talent that foreshadows a creative career leading to advancement of scientific knowledge and technology. Accordingly, nominees must have proven themselves by both their academic and research achievements as full time undergraduate students at the nominating institution. Actual research accomplishments should be highlighted in student applications. Qualified undergraduates who have completed two years of full time study on the designated campus may receive scholarships for their junior and/or senior year. However, since the scholarship application must be submitted during the second semester of the year prior to the start of the scholarship, sophomores nominated to receive the scholarship as juniors must demonstrate truly exceptional accomplishments during their first three semesters to be considered. An awarded scholarship may not be transferred to another degree program or institution. We require that all nominees be American citizens.

The complete nomination package for two candidates is required for each institution. The selection of the two candidates is at the discretion of the campus selection committee. However, the Foundation recommends that

participating institutions receive at least ten student nominations from faculty members. A summary of all nominations reviewed by your committee, to include the student's name, grade level, department, and degree pursued is required. All candidates must be juniors or seniors at the time their scholarships begin. Although need is given consideration if both nominees are deemed equal, it is not a driving force in the selection process. It is the desire of the Foundation to encourage the most creative and innovative candidates who have the drive and ability to move into unknown territory. Please note that emphasis is placed upon demonstrated potential or ability and a drive to do research and to develop new ideas, inventions and innovative technology. Astronaut Scholarships are not awarded for pre-medical studies, so clinical medical research is not considered in the research selection criteria. However, biomedical research is definitely included.

**Scholarship Renewal:** A student receiving an Astronaut Foundation scholarship may have the scholarship continued to completion of the undergraduate degree program for which the award was made with a normal maximum of two awards. Renewal is based upon continued excellence in academics and research, as documented by the required reports. These are a current transcript documenting satisfactory performance and a letter report from the scholar directly and from the supervising professor after conclusion of the first term. Because a single scholarship resides on a campus at any one time, formal nominations are requested only when a new scholar must be named.

**Liaison Officer:** The Foundation requires that each institution maintain a Liaison Officer to be the sole correspondent with the Foundation. The liaison on each campus serves the critical functions of distributing information and nomination materials to science and engineering faculty, collecting and collating the nominations to determine that they are complete and will be acceptable. Once nominations are submitted, the selection committee should be convened to determine the two nominees to be forwarded. The checks for the scholarship and other correspondence will be transmitted via the Liaison Officer. Normally, the student grade and progress reports are also transmitted by the Liaison Officer, but the Foundation readily accepts reports transmitted by other administrative offices or faculty at the request of the Liaison Officer. Early in each calendar year the Liaison Officer of record is contacted by a Scholarship Committee representative to confirm the assignment of the scholarship and the identity of the Liaison Officer for the coming year. These informal conferences also provide an opportunity to share ideas and information about operation of the program. Please notify the Foundation office of any changes in the Liaison Officer in order to avoid unnecessary delays in communication.

**Scholar Status Reports:** The Foundation requires an annual and a terminal report including a copy of the Scholar's academic records, which must be released as a condition of acceptance. Informal reports are welcome from either the Scholar or professor at any time outlining the progress of the work or future plans as well as reports at the end of the term. Such reports, including recent developments or successes and any published papers, are most helpful to the Foundation for publicity purposes as it seeks to increase both the number and value of the scholarships.

**Scholarship Check Disbursement:** We wish to be apprised at once of any special problems with the enrollment of our Scholars. The Foundation will release funds in two equal parts during the academic year at the beginning of each term with first priority to tuition and fees. Should the total amount available exceed the demand for tuition and fees, the remainder is to be released to the student for purchase of books, personal equipment, attending scientific meetings, or other appropriate uses to meet other academic expenses. The checks for the scholarship are normally issued in August and December and are transmitted to the Liaison Officer of record in the Foundation office. The Foundation requires a statement from the advisor that the Scholar is still eligible under the Foundation's guidelines. Therefore, the Foundation wishes to be apprised when Liaison Officers are changed. *Please note that the Foundation pays no overhead expense and the full amount is an award to the student.* Participating institutions must certify to the Foundation the awarding of an Astronaut Scholarship will not in any way reduce other scholarship support to which the student had previously been entitled.

The Executive Director of the Foundation will provide some basic information for press releases when the scholarships are awarded. Please utilize the information provided to bring public recognition to your institution as well as the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation scholarship. Please submit copies of any reports of recognition given

to your institution related to the scholarship winner in the press or other publications. Such press releases are of value to the Foundation for raising money to support our growing scholarship program and should not compromise your institution's fund-raising efforts. The Foundation may opt to send a representative and/or an astronaut member to present the Scholar with their check at a public ceremony. The Foundation will aid as much as possible with media and on-campus awareness. However, we expect the university to use its best efforts in publicizing such an event on and off campus. Your assistance with such arrangements is much appreciated. If your university wishes to arrange for an astronaut to participate in a public program, the Executive Director should be contacted as soon as possible for detailed information.

**Astronaut Scholar Alumni:** Being selected as an Astronaut Scholar is the beginning of a life-long bond with the Foundation and other Astronaut Scholars. Past scholars, now over 250, representing all scientific and technological fields, have joined the Astronaut Scholars Honor Society Committee (ASHS), which allows them to maintain these relationships. They meet annually at the time of the Foundation Board of Directors meeting and the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame Induction in Florida and participate in special programs, including a technical conference. Some schools have chosen to fund their student for these activities. A tradition has developed for holding a luncheon limited to astronauts and Scholars where they can get acquainted with each other on a one-on-one basis and without external distractions from others. Scholars are important to the future of the Foundation, and two chairs on the Board of Directors are presently held by past Scholars. Participation is strongly encouraged whether by appearance at a meeting, an office visit or by e-mail.

We are pleased to have you in our scholarship program as we pursue the common goal of educating promising young American men and women in the fields of science and technology. Please feel free to call, e-mail or FAX our office should any questions or problems arise where we might be of assistance.

#### 2011-2012 ASTRONAUT SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION INSTITUTIONS

University of Arizona	University of Minnesota	Syracuse University
University of Central Florida	North Carolina State University	Texas A&M University
Clemson University	North Dakota State University	University of Texas at Austin
University of Colorado at Boulder	University of Oklahoma	Tufts University
Georgia Institute of Technology	Pennsylvania State University	University of Virginia
Harvey Mudd College	Purdue University	Washington University
University of Kentucky	University of Rochester	University of Washington
Miami University	University of South. California	University of Wisconsin
University of Michigan		

#### Contact Information:

Linn LeBlanc, Executive Director  
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321-455-7011  
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Dr. Jeffrey Hoffman, Scholarship Chair  
Astronaut Scholarship Foundation  
617-452-2353  
[jhoffma1@mit.edu](mailto:jhoffma1@mit.edu)

# Astronaut Scholarship Foundation

## 2011-2012 Scholarship Nomination Form

### Nominee Information

First, Middle and Last Name

University / College

Nickname (if applicable)

Place of Birth (or date of naturalization)

College Mailing Address

Permanent Mailing Address

College Mailing Address

Permanent Mailing Address

College City, State, Zip

Permanent City, State, Zip

College Phone

Permanent Phone

Major Field(s) of Study

Email Address

Fall 2011 Academic Status:  Junior  Senior

ASF Scholarship Status:  New  Renewal

Expected date of graduation from the degree program in effect Fall 2011: \_\_\_\_\_

The following must be submitted with this nomination form:

1. Nominee's financial summary form
2. Nominee's one-page statement of their personal interests, activities and career goals
3. Nominee's resume
4. Nominee's complete and most recent academic transcript(s)
5. Nominee's proof of citizenship (birth certificate, US passport or naturalization papers)
6. Faculty members' nomination letters

### Basis for recommending the nominee for an Astronaut Scholarship

(to be completed by nominating faculty member)

Indicate examples of innovation, creativity, exceptional performance, or unusual drive in a summary statement below. Please attach a nomination letter in explanation of the points made in this summary statement. A scholarship candidate must be nominated by a faculty member.

Nominating Faculty Member Name and Title

Nominating Faculty Member Office Phone Number

Nominating Faculty Member Signature

Nominating Faculty Member Email Address

Department Chair or Director's Signature

# Astronaut Scholarship Foundation

## Nominee's Financial Summary for the 2011-2012 Academic Year

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nominee's First, Middle and Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Costs

Tuition and Fees: \_\_\_\_\_

Books and Incidentals: \_\_\_\_\_

Housing and Meals: \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation: \_\_\_\_\_

Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

### Sources of Funds (should equal costs)

Tuition Waivers and Scholarships: \_\_\_\_\_

Stipend: \_\_\_\_\_

Work During Academic Year (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution from Savings: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions from Family: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Loans: \_\_\_\_\_

Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_