



Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP (www.act.org/goldwater)

CAMPUS APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND ADVICE

CAMPUS APPLICATION DEADLINE: 30 NOVEMBER 2009

SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY AS EMAIL ATTACHMENT TO goldbeja@lafayette.edu

CAMPUS APPLICATION MATERIALS A completed application consists of the following:

- ◆ A PDF Application Form including the research essay (see “application instructions” and the “application notes from national selection committee readers” below)
- ◆ College Transcript/s (N.B. If you are one of our nominees, you will also need to submit high school transcripts.)
- ◆ Three (3) academic/research/professional letters of recommendation from professors and/or research/internship mentors (see “letters of reference/information for referees” below)
- ◆ A detailed CV/resume that may be more than a page in length.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- ◆ At this time, you will use the Goldwater application found on the website. HOWEVER, you MUST NOT submit the application to Goldwater until we give you the go ahead to do so. Simply “save and print” your application and deliver it to Dean Goldberg.
- ◆ Letters of recommendation MUST be submitted to Dean Goldberg for the purposes of the Campus Selection Committee. These letters may be emailed to goldbeja@lafayette.edu or may be submitted as paper copies for the Campus Selection Committee. **DO NOT have recommenders upload their letters to the application proper at this time!!!!**
- ◆ Letters of recommendation MUST NOT be submitted on-line using the Goldwater application form at this time!
- ◆ DO NOT submit anything on-line to the Goldwater Scholarship at this time. If you are one of our nominated candidates, you will be provided with full details regarding the on-line submission process.

Submit Completed Applications as email attachments to goldbeja@lafayette.edu.

APPLICATION NOTES FROM NATIONAL SELECTION COMMITTEE READERS

- ◆ Evaluation Criteria:
 - Academic: Grades; Level/difficulty of courses; Awards; Scholarships
 - Progress Toward Research Goals: Research activities; career goals; coursework
 - Research Essay: Technical content, bibliography, organization/grammar; balanced detail (background, study, results, next step & implications of research)
 - Letters of Recommendation: Comment on applicant’s commitment to research, intellectual curiosity, potential for research contributions (see “letters of reference” below)

- ◆ Scholar Characteristics:
 - Coursework consistent to meet graduate school goals (Make sure to have PhD level goals!)
 - Research experience OR well developed research plan (Include research publications/presentations, including those in-progress/to be presented)
 - Application where EVERY response suggests a research career (Provide detailed account of professional aspirations)
 - STRONG letters of recommendation (Research activities on application must match up with letters of recommendation; obtain appropriate letters!)

- ◆ Research Activities:
 - Outline EACH activity, on- & off-campus, summer programs, research component(s) of internships, etc.
 - Identify research that leads/led to presentations, publications, etc.

- ◆ Professional Aspirations:
 - Detail current & future academic programs that lead to career goal
 - Outline plans for graduate school at PhD level (identify possible graduate schools &, if appropriate, postdoc experiences)
 - Indicate sources of research experience (e.g., independent study, internships, honors thesis, REU/SURF/EXCEL, etc.)

- ◆ Personal Information: (Although optional, it should be completed)

- ◆ Research Essay:
 - Essay must demonstrate knowledge base and reinforce research career
 - Write to the expertise of the reviewer (detailed, technical language is expected; bibliography including journal references)
 - Diagrams & figures can be helpful
 - Background should not exceed 50% of essay; interpretation of obtained/expected results is an important part of the essay
 - **Faculty input and review are essential: Work with your faculty prior to completion of essay!!!**

LETTERS OF REFERENCE/INFORMATION FOR REFEREES (ADVICE FROM NATIONAL SELECTION COMMITTEE): (PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR RECOMMENDERS!) FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE LETTER SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS MAY NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE QUALITY OF YOUR APPLICATION.

APPLICANTS: DO NOT FILL IN THE NAMES OF RECOMMENDERS ON THE GOLDWATER APPLICATION FORMS AT THIS TIME!

RECOMMENDERS: PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION ELECTRONICALLY AS AN EMAIL ATTACHMENT TO GOLDBEJA@LAFAYETTE.EDU BY **30 NOVEMBER 2009. PLEASE, PLEASE, DO NOT SUBMIT LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION ON-LINE USING THE GOLDWATER GENERATED RECOMMENDATION LINK AT THIS TIME. WE WILL NOTIFY YOU WHEN YOU MAY UPLOAD YOUR LETTERS LATER IN THE PROCESS. ~THANK YOU.**

- ◆ Goldwater expects detailed 1 1/2 to 2 page letters.
- ◆ Letters should concentrate on applicant's motivation and potential for a research career (OK for applicant to be a 'nerd'; applicant's success in referee's class is assumed).
- ◆ Letters must speak to/about the applicant's research and be consistent with the applicant's claims throughout his/her application.

- ◆ Letters that compare applicant to others who have gone on to outstanding PhD programs/research careers can be beneficial.
- ◆ For Campus Selection purposes, please do not submit your letter of recommendation electronically to the applicant's Goldwater application. Instead, submit letter to Dean Goldberg as an email attachment (goldbeja@lafayette.edu) by **30 November 2009**. If the applicant is selected by the Campus Selection Committee, you will be provided with instructions regarding the submission of your letter of recommendation. However, as the nominee may be asked to revise significant aspects of his/her application, we do ask that you refrain from electronically submitting your letter of recommendation to Goldwater until the committee gives you the "OK."
- ◆ We thank you for your patience and compliance with our Campus Selection procedures. Goldwater's electronic application is new this year. We ask that referees as well as applicants refrain from submitting materials electronically to the system until the end. Please "save" but do not "submit" at this time.

CAMPUS DEADLINE: 30 NOVEMBER 2009

Submit application materials electronically as email attachments to goldbeja@lafayette.edu.

QUESTIONS: Please contact Dean Goldberg (x5521, x5080, goldbeja@lafayette.edu)