

HOW CAN I GET A SCHOLARSHIP?

We are often asked by students “How can I apply for a scholarship? I’ve got good grades...why don’t I have a scholarship?” Hopefully, this article will address these questions. For students enrolled at AU, there are four types of scholarships available: University, AU College of Engineering, AU INSY Departmental Scholarships, and external scholarships. Our department is proactive in helping our qualified students receive scholarships.

University Scholarships

The best way to obtain information about these scholarships is to explore the website at this location <http://www.auburn.edu/scholarship>.

College of Engineering(COE) Scholarships

To be eligible for these scholarships, you must be a student in the COE, i.e. you must have declared an engineering major (like PIE or PME) or be an undeclared engineering major (PN). The website for these scholarships is <http://eng.auburn.edu/admin/ess/schfi/index.html>.

Departmental Scholarships

This website link <http://eng.auburn.edu/admin/ess/schfi/dept/ise.html> connects you to the list of AU INSY Departmental Scholarships. All of these are funded by an external source and are available only to IE majors (except for the Automotive Scholarship, listed also as NSF Automotive). The department’s scholarship committee (appointed by our department head) meets after grades are posted for Fall and Spring semesters, December and May. The scholarship committee is currently composed of Ms. LuAnn Sims, Dr. Saeed Maghsoodloo, and Dr. Alice Smith. All IE students are considered for departmental scholarships and no separate application process is required (except for the Automotive). The decision to award a scholarship is primarily based on GPA (cumulative and semester) and whether the student has other scholarships from the University or from the COE. Our goal is to award scholarships to our top students who have little or no other scholarship support. The students awarded departmental scholarships for the 2006-2007 academic year had cumulative GPAs ranging from 3.65 to 4.00.

The “Automotive” (also known as CSEMS) scholarships mentioned previously, funded by the National Science Foundation, are also administered by our department and are available to qualified IEs or Mechanical Engineers (MEs). Students must apply for these scholarships during the open application process, in November-December and again in April-May. The scholarship committee consists of Ms. Sims, Dr. A. Smith, Dr. John Evans, and Dr. Peter Jones. More extensive information is available on the website <http://www.eng.auburn.edu/department/ie/csems/index.html>.

External Scholarships

There are many scholarships outside the University that students may apply for directly, sometimes after being recommended by a faculty member. In recent years, our students have applied to the Institute of Industrial Engineers, Alpha Pi Mu, Society of Women Engineers, Association of Textile Industrial Engineers, etc. Our applicants have a high level of success rate of being awarded these scholarships – and they are competing with students from all over the United States! We are always on the lookout for external scholarship opportunities for our students. And students, if you find a scholarship opportunity yourself, please see Ms. Sims for letters of recommendation, application help, etc. The university scholarship website whose link is given above has links to external scholarship search engines.