

# Department of Mathematical Sciences

## Undergraduate Scholarship

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The Department of Mathematical Sciences at New Mexico State University is pleased to offer an undergraduate scholarship for prospective and newly declared Mathematics majors. This document outlines the scholarship details, eligibility, and maintenance requirements.

### Scholarship Overview

**Award Amount:** \$1,500 per academic year, distributed as \$750 each semester.

**Duration:** The scholarship can be renewed for up to 4 years, provided the maintenance requirements are met.

### Eligibility Criteria

The scholarship is intended for students that are beginning their major in mathematics at NMSU and includes students from the following groups:

- Incoming high school students,
- Transfer students from other institutions whether they were math majors or not at their previous institution
- Current NMSU student who recently (or soon will) declared a major or double major in mathematics.

### Maintenance Requirements

To continue receiving the scholarship in any given semester, recipients must:

- Be a declared Mathematics Major (or double-major)
- Maintain a cumulative overall GPA of at least 3.0.
- Maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 across all MATH and STAT courses taken at NMSU.
- Enroll in and successfully complete at least one MATH or STAT course each semester
- Continue making adequate progress towards their mathematics degree.
- Meet with a member of the Undergraduate Majors and Minors Committee once per semester to discuss and advise on course selection for the following term.

### How to Apply

To apply, please complete the attached application form and submit it along with your personal statement, reference information, and transcripts to Prof. Louiza Fouli at [lfouli@nmsu.edu](mailto:lfouli@nmsu.edu). This reference should be a person that is familiar with your math background and they should send a letter on your behalf to the same e-mail address.

### **Additional Opportunities**

We highly encourage our students to get involved in the department. There are a number of other programs that are available to our majors.

### **Peer Learning Assistants**

After their first year, Mathematics majors become eligible to serve as Peer Learning Assistants (PLAs) to help other students in Friday labs attached to math classes. These are paid positions (often about \$2000 a year, depending on duties) and are consistently found to be very enjoyable. Serving as a PLA looks excellent on a resume, as it demonstrates strong communication skills and the ability to interact effectively with others.

### **Research Experience for Undergraduates**

We run a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) each summer. The topics vary. A group of undergraduate students work with a faculty member on a topic chosen for the year. These can be an excellent way to learn new, current topics in mathematics, and to get a taste of what research in mathematics is about. The REU is 9-5 daily for about 5 weeks and comes with a stipend of about \$4000 for the participants.

## Undergraduate Scholarship Application Form

### Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Target Degrees and Concentrations (Include intended Mathematics concentrations and any other majors/minors if applicable):**

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### Academic Background

**Mathematics Classes Taken and Where (e.g., High School, specific Colleges):**

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**AP Exams (Subject and Score):** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACT or SAT Math Scores:** \_\_\_\_\_

### References

Please list at least one person who can serve as a reference (e.g., a former math teacher or professor). This person should send a letter on your behalf to lfouli@nmsu.edu

**Reference Name, Relationship, and Contact Information (Email/Phone):**

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### Personal Statement

Please provide a statement (1-2 paragraphs) below or attach a separate sheet. Indicate why you want to study mathematics and describe your eventual career goals after graduating from university.

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## Sample Scholarship Award Letter

[Date]

[Student Name]

[Student Address]

[City, State, Zip Code]

Dear [Student Name],

Congratulations! On behalf of the Department of Mathematical Sciences at New Mexico State University, I am thrilled to inform you that you have been selected to receive the Department of Mathematical Sciences Undergraduate Scholarship starting in the upcoming academic semester.

This scholarship awards \$1,500 per academic year, distributed as \$750 per semester. It is renewable for up to four years, provided you continue to meet the maintenance requirements.

To retain this scholarship each semester, you must meet the following criteria:

- Remain a declared major or double-major in mathematics
- Maintain a cumulative overall GPA of at least 3.0.
- Maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 in all MATH/STAT courses taken at NMSU.
- Enroll in and successfully complete at least one MATH or STAT course per semester.
- Continue to make progress toward your mathematics degree.
- Meet with a member of the Undergraduate Majors and Minors Committee once per semester to discuss course selection.

We are very excited to welcome you to the department and look forward to supporting your mathematical journey at NMSU. Please review, sign, and return the enclosed acceptance form by [Deadline Date] to confirm your acceptance of this award.

Please note that once you have been in our major for a year, you are eligible to apply for a Peer Learning Assistant (PLA) position helping other students. These positions pay around \$2000 per year, depending on the number of hours worked.

Sincerely,

Professor Louiza Fouli  
Chair, Undergraduate Majors and Minors Committee  
Department of Mathematical Sciences  
New Mexico State University