

Barry Goldwater Scholarship

Screening Timeline for 2025-2026 Competition

September 2025: Goldwater scholarship application materials available from the Goldwater Website.

Sept/October 2025: Students who meet the qualifications begin the online application process, which includes completing Student Profile and Pre-application, and identifying three faculty members who will write reference letters. Students draft research essay. Students should have their research essay read by a professor in their department who is familiar with scientific writing; however, the essay is to be written by the student applicant.

October 24, 2025: Deadline for interested students to complete pre-application and schedule individual meetings with Gina Hunter. Students are encouraged to meet with Dr. Hunter **prior to this date** to discuss the application process and choice of letter writers.

December 5, 2025: Complete applications due by NOON, including reference letters, which must be sent directly to Gina Hunter at glhunt2@ilstu.edu

December 8, 2025: Applications are distributed to Campus Screening Committee.

Week of December 15, 2025: Campus Screening Committee convenes to discuss candidates' applications and to nominate up to four students.

Applications are returned to nominees with recommendations from the Campus Screening Committee. Nominees may meet with Gina to review the feedback.

Week of January 12, 2026: Applicants meet with Gina Hunter to review complete application.

Monday, January 19, 2026: Nominees submit final draft of their applications in the online system for review.

Friday, January 30, 2026, 5 pm CST: Deadline for online submission of student applications (Gina Hunter does this).

Friday, March 27, 2026: Scholars Announced (11 am Central Time)