**Merit Scholarships at North Carolina Colleges**

This issue of the merit scholarships newsletter focuses on scholarships at private and public colleges and universities located in North Carolina. Many TJ students apply to North Carolina colleges, which tend to have generous merit scholarships.

The four universities featured are: Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Davidson College and Wake Forest University. At each school, this issue highlights scholarships of potential interest to many TJ students.

**General Information**

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<th>University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill</th>
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<td>University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill has about 16,000 undergraduates and an honors program. About 115 entering students receive merit scholarships. SAT-I verbal + math scores range from about 1210 (25%ile) to 1380 (75%ile) for all students, but out-of-state applicants and merit scholarship recipients generally have higher scores.</td>
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<th>Wake Forest University</th>
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<td>Wake Forest University has about 4,000 undergraduates and an honors program for roughly 10% of its top students. About 7% to 10% of its students receive merit scholarships. SAT I verbal + math scores range from about 1280 (25%ile) to 1400 (75%ile). Honors students typically engage in research (with grants of $2,000 to $3,000) and study overseas,</td>
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<th>Duke University</th>
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<td>Duke University has about 6,200 undergraduates and special programs for some merit scholars, plus a FOCUS seminar/dormitory program for some freshmen. Roughly 4% of Duke students receive merit scholarships. SAT I-V scores range from about 680 (25%ile) to 770 (75%ile). SAT I-M scores for A&amp;S/Engineering range from 690/750 (25%ile) to 790/800 (75%ile).</td>
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<th>Robertson Scholars at Duke University and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill</th>
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<td>Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill are located about 10 miles apart, and the Robertson Foundation funds merit scholarships at both schools. Students interested in a Robertson Scholarship should consider applying to both schools. In 2006, 18 Duke students and 18 UNC-Chapel Hill students were selected based on their leadership potential, character, collaborative spirit, courage, community service, and academic records. Undocumented students (who are not U.S. citizens) may apply for a Robertson Scholarship. Robertson Scholars at Duke receive full tuition and Robertson Scholars at UNC-Chapel Hill students receive tuition, room, board, and summer stipends. All Robertson Scholars spend one semester on the “other” campus. In addition, all Robertson Scholars participate in joint dinner series, seminars, community service and leadership training programs.</td>
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<td>Davidson College has roughly 1,700 students. About 18% receive merit scholarships. SAT I-verbal scores range from 650 (25%ile) to 750 (75%ile), and SAT I-math scores range from 675 (25%ile) to 740 (75%ile). Davidson also participates in a 3/2 Engineering Program with Columbia University and Washington University of St. Louis, Missouri.</td>
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At some colleges, merit scholarships provide only financial benefits. Today, many colleges also have “honors” or other similar programs for their most academically qualified students.

Students in honors programs often have extra access to advisors, summer research grants and priority in registering for seminars. Some colleges also have separate honors classes and honors dormitories.

These four schools illustrate different approaches to honors programs. All Duke students are eligible to take FOCUS seminars but students must apply immediately after they are admitted to Duke. At UNC-Chapel Hill, about 200 students are admitted to the honors program without a special application, and others can apply later. These students have priority in registering for honors seminars and sections. Davidson has departmental honors programs. At Wake Forest University, students must apply for the “open curriculum” honors program. If admitted, students can place out of introductory classes and take honors courses.

**Duke University**
- FOCUS—small freshman interdisciplinary seminars. Students taking a FOCUS seminar live together in one dormitory.
- Students must apply to either the Trinity College or Arts and Sciences or the Pratt School of Engineering.
- 18 Robertson Scholars (well rounded leaders) receive full tuition, plus 1st-year dinner series, senior capstone seminar, leadership training, a laptop and summer programs.
- 15 Angier Duke Scholars (outstanding intellectuals and leaders) receive full tuition plus two summer stipends.
- 8 University Scholars (students with financial need who like interdisciplinary and collaborative programs and are selected based on merit and diversity) receive full tuition.
- 5 Reginaldo Howard Scholars (exceptional African American students) receive full tuition.
- 1 Fletcher Scholar (music) receives $7,500.

**UNC—Chapel Hill**
- Chapel Hill has an honors program for about 200 admitted students with high SAT scores and very strong high school academic records.
- Honors program students receive priority in registering for 120 seminars and honors sections.
- About 115 incoming students receive merit scholarships.
- 18 Robertson Scholars (wellrounded leaders) receive seminars, leadership and summer programs, tuition, room, board, a laptop and 3 summer stipends.
- 40 Morehead Scholars (leadership, character, scholarship, sports) receive tuition, room, board, books, a laptop, and 3 summer stipends.
- 1 Thomas Wolfe Writing Scholar receives full tuition, room and board.
- Carolina Scholars (academic achievement, motivated learners) receive tuition, room, board, plus mentors and other honors programs.
- Out of state Pogue Scholars (community service, diversity) receive tuition, room and board.
- Out of state Davie Scholars (academic achievement, leadership) receive tuition, room, and board.

**Davidson College**
- 10 Belk Scholars (well-rounded achievers) receive tuition, room, board and fees, plus leadership training programs.
- 2 Baker Scholars (“highest achievement”) receive tuition, room, board, fees and summer stipends.
- 2 Terry Scholars (“exemplary leadership skills”) receive full tuition and fees. Many other scholarship leaders.
- 2 Bryan Scholars (scholar athletes) receive $30,000. Many other scholar athlete awards.
- 2 Smith Scholars (leadership, academics, community service) receive full tuition and fees.
- 2 Erwin Scholars (academics, leadership and integrity) receive full tuition.
- 1 or 2 Cornell Scholars (budding writers) receive $20,000.
- 4 Duke Scholars (“academically powerful”) receive $10,000 to $15,000.
- 1 Puckett Scholar (pre-med or science) receives $10,000.
- Presidential Awards (diversity, academics, leadership) for $5,000 to $20,000.
- Art scholarships up to $10,000.
- Music scholarships up to $9,000.

**Wake Forest University**
- “Open curriculum” allows top 10% of students to place out of introductory required classes and take honors courses.
- Most merit scholarships require separate applications by December 1st.
- Up to 6 Reynolds Scholars (leadership and academic achievement) receive tuition, room, board, and summer grants.
- Up to 6 Carswell Scholars (intellect and leadership) receive tuition, room, board, stipends and summer grants.
- One Graylyn Scholar with “exceptional promise in academics and leadership” receives tuition, room, board, stipends and summer grants.
- Seven Gordon Scholars from “historically underrepresented” backgrounds receive full tuition.
- Up to 20 Presidential Scholars with “extraordinary talent in art, community service, dance, debate, entrepreneurship, leadership, music or theatre writing” receive $11,200.
- Other “highly capable students” receive partial to full tuition, through Wake Forest Excellence Awards and other merit scholarships.