

## **Business Scholars Program: A Pathway to Excellence**

The Business Scholars Program is a prestigious initiative designed to foster leadership, academic excellence, and community engagement among exceptional students in the School of Business. Scholars in this program embody dedication, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to giving back. The program's criteria and expectations ensure that only the most driven students have the opportunity to participate and grow within this dynamic community.

To qualify, scholars must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.25, demonstrating a consistent level of academic excellence. This commitment to high achievement extends beyond the classroom; participants must also be active members of the Business Leadership Association (BLA) and/or other business organization. Involvement includes attending meetings regularly and holding positions of responsibility within the organization, fostering leadership skills and collaborative teamwork.

Scholars are expected to volunteer for special projects within the School of Business, contributing to the program's mission and the broader university community. These projects provide valuable opportunities for experiential learning and meaningful impact.

Eligibility for the program is reserved for students who have achieved junior standing (60 completed hours) upon entry. This ensures that participants have a strong academic foundation and are prepared to engage with the program's rigorous expectations.

The program emphasizes the value of experiential learning and community building through travel. Scholars are required to participate in assigned trips and other group events, which offer opportunities to broaden perspectives, build connections, and deepen their understanding of business practices in diverse contexts.

A hallmark of the Business Scholars Program is its commitment to creating a lasting legacy. Upon graduation, scholars are encouraged to give back to the program, serving as alumni mentors, advocates, and supporters for the next generation of business leaders.

Full-time enrollment is required to maintain scholarship eligibility—12 hours for undergraduates and 6 hours for graduate students—ensuring a focused and immersive academic experience. The program spans one academic year, with the option for renewal for a second year, provided that scholars maintain a GPA of 3.25 each semester.

To cultivate a well-rounded educational experience, scholars are required to enroll each semester in a specialized seminar course, BUS 4981. This course serves as a cornerstone of the program, providing a forum for professional development, leadership training, and the exploration of contemporary business challenges.

The Business Scholars Program is not just an academic opportunity; it is a journey of personal growth, leadership development, and community impact. Scholars leave the program equipped with the skills, knowledge, and network to excel in their careers and make meaningful contributions to their fields and communities.

The program covers up to \$2,500 in travel expenses annually and guarantees at least \$1,000 each semester in ECU Foundation Scholarships. All applicants and selected scholars must apply for

through the foundation (deadlines: February 1<sup>st</sup> for Fall scholarships and October 1<sup>st</sup> for Spring Scholarships).

If you would like to apply for the 2025 Scholar Leader Program, click [here](#).







