

Tips for Biology Scholarship Applicants

The Department of Biology awards multiple scholarships every year to deserving undergraduates. Any Biology major who has entered information into ECU's Academic Works system (<https://ecu.academicworks.com/>) for any scholarship will automatically be entered into the competition for all undergraduate scholarships the Department of Biology awards during that academic year. ***You do not have to specifically apply to these scholarships if your information is in the system!***

We look most seriously at a few criteria:

- GPA (below 3.0, between 3.0-3.49, above 3.5) (this information is automatically imported from Banner; you do not have to enter it)
- Involvement in co-curricular activities (see more details below)
- Involvement in service to ECU or the community (see more details below)
- Commitment to the major (see more details below)
- Employment status (average number of hours worked per week)

To make your application most competitive for the Biology scholarships, please keep in mind the following tips.

- For the co-curricular question, list any ECU **club involvement**, but also experiences like **research, internships, undergraduate teaching assistantships, learning assistantships, tutoring, etc.** Please be specific! List all ECU clubs that you are involved with and indicate the dates that you have been a member. If you have been a committee chair or officer, indicate it along with the dates. For research, indicate the lab in which you have worked, along with the dates and a brief description of your involvement. List the dates of involvement as a UA or LA, and the department in which you have served in this role.
- On the questions that ask about your involvement in service, again be specific. Make it clear which service you have done as a one time experience (e.g., prepared and delivered food to the Ronald McDonald house one time) and which service you have done on a more regular basis (e.g., tutor an underperforming student at the Boys and Girls Club for two hours a week for 30 weeks).
- For the question about your commitment to the major, describe your future plans and why you are choosing this path. It is fine if you are not completely sure of your path, but describe your overall interests. It is also useful to describe how research, internship, coursework, or UA/LA positions have influenced your thinking about your future plans.
- Make sure to update your information in Academic Works in late December or early January so we will be considering the most current information when we look at applications in early February.

Good luck!