

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS FOR BIOLOGY MAJORS

Biology majors may qualify for a number of scholarships and awards offered on a competitive basis by the Department of Biological Sciences, the Fisher College of Science and Mathematics, Towson University, and external foundations and agencies. However, before applying students should carefully examine the requirements for each scholarship or award of interest to them.

Department of Biological Sciences Scholarships and Awards

The Department of Biological Sciences awards up to seven monetary scholarships and three outstanding student awards a year, on a competitive basis. The monetary value of the scholarships varies from year to year. The specific requirements for each scholarship are listed below. Calls for applications for scholarships appear in the fall semester. Calls for applications for Outstanding Student Awards appear in the spring semester. Application materials are available in the Biology Department Office.

Scholarships

James Moniodis Scholarship for a Returning Major

This scholarship is named for James Moniodis, a Biology major and member of the TU Gymnastics Team. The scholarship was established by his friends and family following his untimely death in a trampoline accident. Biology majors may apply for this award in the fall of their junior year if they:

- Ø Have completed at least 8 credit hours of 300 and 400-level elective Biology courses at TU
- Ø Have at least a 3.3 GPA in Biology coursework and an overall GPA of at least 3.0
- Ø Have been actively involved in extra-curricular activities for which no academic credit or remuneration was or is being received

Biology Alumni Scholarship

This scholarship is funded by individuals who graduated previously from TU with a degree in Biology and now wish to provide support to current, outstanding Biology majors. Students may apply for this award if they:

- Ø Have a least a 3.5 GPA in all coursework
- Ø Have been active in departmental student organizations (e.g., Tri-Beta, Premedical and Pre dental Student Organization, WIS club) and/or have conducted research with faculty

Preference is given to students who have completed 8-12 credit hours of 300 and 400-level elective Biology courses.

James Edward Ewig Memorial Scholarship for Academic Achievement by a Senior

This scholarship honors Dr. James Ewig who was a neuroendocrinologist and mammalian physiologist trained at Penn State. He was a faculty member in Biology from 1971 until his unexpected death in 1990. This award is based on the student's GPA (no minimum GPA is required for application) and letters of recommendation from Biology faculty members. Biology majors may apply for this award if they have completed a least 80 credit hours of coursework at TU.

Lois D. Odell Scholarship for Outstanding Transfer Student

A native of New York state, Lois Odell joined the “Science Department” of the “Maryland State Teacher’s College” (later to become Towson University) in 1947. She taught botany, natural history, and science education, serving the university until her retirement in 1981. Dr. Odell died in 2002.

More than one award may be made depending on availability of funds. Students who transferred to TU from a community college or other institution may apply for this award if they:

- ØTook at least 55 but not more than 65 credit hours of coursework from another two or four year institution before attending TU
- ØHave a least a 3.2 GPA in all coursework

Preference is given to students who have completed 8-12 credit hours of 300 and 400-level elective Biology courses.

Betty Kennedy Dale Scholarship

This scholarship is awarded by the Biology Department Scholarship Committee to a highly qualified student. Completion of the application for one of the previous scholarships will qualify you for consideration.

Outstanding Student Awards

Lois D. Odell Award for the Outstanding Senior Biology Major

Like the scholarship for the outstanding transfer student, this scholarship is named for Dr. Lois Odell, a Biology faculty member for over 35 years. Students receiving the award get a plaque and recognition at the annual Fisher College of Science and Mathematics Student Awards ceremony. Biology majors may apply for this award in the spring of their junior year if they:

- ØHave completed at least 89 credit hours of coursework at TU
- ØHave at least a 3.3 GPA in Biology coursework and an overall GPA of at least 3.0
- ØHave distinguished academic performance, research, and/or service to the department, college or university

Compton N. Crook Award for the Outstanding Junior

This scholarship honors Dr. Compton Crook who came to TU in the 1940s when it was known as “Towson Teacher’s College.” A ranger in Yellowstone National Park before coming to Towson, Dr. Crook taught ecology and ornithology. He also wrote science fiction books under the pseudonym “Stephen Tall” while he was a member of the Biology Department. The Baltimore Science Fiction Society still gives out their own Compton Crook Award for the best new local science fiction writer. Students receiving the Crook award get a plaque and recognition at the annual Fisher College of Science and Mathematics Student Awards ceremony. To be considered for this award, students must be nominated by either a Biology faculty member or an officer of Biology student organization. Students may ask appropriate individuals to nominate them if they:

- ØHave completed 56-89 credit hours of coursework at TU or, in the case of transfer students, have at least one semester completed at TU
- ØHave at least a 3.3 GPA in Biology coursework and a GPA of at least 3.0 overall
- ØHave distinguished academic performance, research and/or service

Carl Henrikson Award for Academic Achievement by a Junior

This scholarship is named for Dr. Carl Henrikson who came to TU in 1970 from the University of North Dakota. He specialized in tissue culture, immunology, and microbiology. He stayed at TU until his unexpected death in 1991. Students receiving the award get a plaque and recognition at the Fisher College of Science and Mathematics Student Awards ceremony. This award is based on student's GPA (no minimum GPA is required for application) and letters of recommendation from Biology faculty members. Biology majors may apply for this award if they have junior status (at least 60 credit hours of coursework completed).

Towson University Scholarships

Various scholarships are available from Towson University. For further information, students should visit the TU Financial Aid Office (Enrollment Services Bldg, Room 339; 410-704-4236) and peruse their website <http://wwwnew.towson.edu/main/finaid/>.

Students should be aware of the new **CoSMiC Scholarships** funded by the National Science Foundation. These scholarships are for students interested in the areas of cellular and molecular, immunology, microbiology, virology, etc. Applicants must be MBBB (Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, or Bioinformatics) majors. Thus BIOL majors wanting to apply for these scholarships will have to change their major.

Depending on financial eligibility, the scholarship provides a stipend of up to \$2500 per semester. Awardees must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents, must be eligible for federal financial aid, and should demonstrate extraordinary scholastic promise. Scholarships can be extended for up to four years. For further information, students should contact Dr. Gail Gasparich Gasparich (Smith Hall, Room 487; ggasparich@towson.edu; 410-704-4515).

External Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards

A substantial number of scholarships, fellowships, and awards are given to students each year by various government agencies and private foundations. A page on TU's Financial Aid Office's website (<http://wwwnew.towson.edu/main/finaid/financialaidwebsites.asp>) provides links to sites either describing certain scholarships or fellowships or sites that specialize in searching for scholarships and fellowships. However, this webpage contains only a *partial* list of useful sites and students are encouraged to do their own search for scholarships and fellowships using keyword phrases such as "undergraduate scholarships fellowships." For example, a recent search on Google quickly turned up

the following useful sites, many of which are not on TU's Financial Aid website:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/pay/>

<http://www.training.nih.gov/careers/careercenter/fellow.html>

<http://www.fastweb.com/>

<http://finaid.org/scholarships/>

<http://www.college-scholarships.com/>

<http://www.theoldschool.org/>

<http://www.cse.emory.edu/sciencenet/undergrad/scholarships.html>

<http://www.ugsp.nih.gov/home.asp?m=00>

http://www.jackkentcookefoundation.org/jkcf_web/content.aspx?page=SchProg

<http://www.asm.org/Education/index.asp?bid=4316>

<http://www.orau.gov/dhsed/>

<http://www.act.org/goldwater>

One important note of caution is in order. There are several online sites that offer to find money for you for a fee. *Never* pay for scholarship/fellowship information. Many of these sites are illegitimate scams. Even if a site is above board, there are plenty of free scholarship/fellowship search engines that will get you the same results.