

Application Process for NSF Scholarship for Service at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH)

Background. The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) is a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense and Cyber Defense Research and was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation that allows the University to select students for award of full-ride scholarships to study cyber security. Students awarded a scholarship must be enrolled full time at UAH to receive scholarship support. These scholarships pay for tuition, reimburse UAH health insurance up to a maximum of \$3,000/year, reimbursement for books up to \$2,000/year, and pay for professional development/travel up to \$4,000/year. In addition, a stipend is paid each academic year in the amount of \$22,500 for undergraduates; \$34,000 for Master's degree students PhD students.

All scholarship recipients must work after graduation for a Federal, State, Local, or Tribal Government organization in a position related to cybersecurity for a period equal to the length of the scholarship. In addition, students on scholarship are expected to serve in a government cybersecurity related position paid internship during the summer semester. Participation in a government "job fair" in early January in Washington, DC, is required of all students supported by this program.

The scholarships are awarded for two academic years (four semesters) for undergraduates and Master's degree students and for three years (six semesters) for PhD students. A single student cannot receive more than one SFS scholarship.

Eligibility for Scholarship. To be eligible to apply for an SFS scholarship, the applicant must be a full time student with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA (undergraduate students) or 3.2 GPA (graduate student) and pursue a bachelor's (junior or above) or graduate degree program in the discipline of Computer Science, Software Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Information Systems, or Cybersecurity. The applicant must be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States and meet all requirements for employment in Federal Service. In addition, the offer of a scholarship is contingent upon the student obtaining admission into a qualifying UAH program of study. Students selected for this program will be required to sign a service agreement that outlines the obligation to serve in Federal Government or equivalent position after graduation. Students selected for scholarship support as undergraduates must be entering their junior year of studies. For applicants not already admitted to UAH, any offer of scholarship will be contingent on admission acceptance to UAH in one of the disciplines listed above.

Application Process. To apply for this scholarship, applicants must submit the following to Dr. Tommy Morris, Director, Center for Cybersecurity Research and Engineering, c/o Room 324, Student Services Building, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, 301 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville, AL 35899 not later than April 1, 2017. Applications may be mailed or delivered in person. Each application must contain the following:

- A cover letter that provides the applicant's full name, school address, home address, cell phone number, home phone number, student email address, and a statement that the applicant is a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States. In addition, the cover letter should describe the applicant's current academic progress (BS, MS, or PhD student) and date of anticipated graduation.
- A copy of all of the applicant's transcripts (unofficial transcripts are acceptable)¹
- ACT or SAT score for undergraduates (unofficial scores are acceptable)²
- Two letters of reference (professional contacts preferred, must not be family members)
- A letter from the applicant not to exceed two typewritten, single-spaced, pages that discusses the applicant's motivation for applying, interest in cybersecurity, any past relevant experiences, and future plans. Please include any current or past military service.
- An updated resume
- Completed Applicant Information Sheet

Selection Process. All applications received by the due date in this document will be reviewed by a scholarship committee. Committee recommendations will be based upon prospective students' likelihood for success in their chosen degree program and predicted success in search for cybersecurity employment at a Federal, State, Local, or Tribal Government organization.

Additional Information. Failure to satisfy the academic requirements of the program or to complete the service requirement will result in forfeiture of the scholarship award, which will revert to a student loan with repayments pro-rated accordingly to reflect partial service completed. The institution is responsible for collecting the repayment amounts, including interest, consistent with the provisions of part B or D of Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965. All forfeited scholarship funds, less grantee costs associated with collection of the repayment not to exceed 5% of the forfeited amount, will be returned to the United States Treasury and may not be re-used by the awardee institution. Scholarship recipients in coordination with the institution and the PI may petition the NSF Program Office to waive or suspend repayment of scholarships in cases of extreme hardship or other circumstances that would preclude the fulfillment of the service obligation.

¹ Official transcripts will be required from students selected for an SFS scholarship before official award.

² Official scores will be required from students selected for an SFS scholarship before official award.

Questions: A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) list can be found at the following link.

<https://www.sfs.opm.gov/StudFAQ.aspx>

Contacts at UAH are:

College of Science:

Dr. Sara Graves, sara.graves@uah.edu, 256-824-6064

College of Business Administration:

Dr. Jatinder (Jeet) N. D. Gupta, jeet.gupta@uah.edu, 256-824-6593

College of Engineering:

Dr. Seong-Moo (Sam) Yoo, seong-moo.yoo@uah.edu, 256-824-6858

Director, Center for Cybersecurity Research and Engineering:

Dr. Tommy Morris, tommy.morris@uah.edu, 256.824.6576

Scholarship for Service (SFS) Applicant Information Sheet

Applicant full name	
Home phone number	
Cell phone number	
Email address	
School address	
Permanent address	
Are you a U.S. citizen?	
Are you a lawful permanent resident of the U.S.?	
Do you currently have or have you ever had U.S. Security Clearance?	

Complete if you are currently pursuing or have completed an associate degree?

Associate Degrees (complete or in progress)	Institution	
	Degree Name (Associates of Science, Associates of Applied Science, etc.)	
	Major (General Studies, Computer Science, etc.)	
	In progress or completed?	
	When will you (did you) graduate? (Month/Year)	
	Grade Point Average	

Complete if you are currently pursuing or have completed a bachelor degree?

Undergraduate Degrees (complete or in progress)	Institution	
	Degree Name (Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts, etc.)	
	Major (Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Information Systems, etc).	
	Minor	
	In progress or completed?	
	When will you (did you) graduate? (Month/Year)	
	Grade Point Average	

Complete if you are currently pursuing or have completed a 2nd bachelor degree?

Undergraduate Degrees (complete or in progress)	Institution	
	Degree Name (Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts, etc.)	
	Major (Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Information Systems, etc).	
	Minor	
	In progress or completed?	
	When will you (did you) graduate? (Month/Year)	
	Grade Point Average	

Complete if you are currently pursuing or have completed a graduate degree?

Graduate Degrees (complete or in progress)	Institution	
	Degree Name (Master of Science, Doctor of Philosophy, etc.)	
	Major (Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Information Systems, etc).	
	Minor	
	In progress or completed?	
	When will you (did you) graduate? (Month/Year)	
	Grade Point Average	

Complete if you are currently pursuing or have completed a 2nd graduate degree?

Graduate Degrees (complete or in progress)	Institution	
	Degree Name (Master of Science, Doctor of Philosophy, etc.)	
	Major (Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Information Systems, etc).	
	Minor	
	In progress or completed?	
	When will you (did you) graduate? (Month/Year)	
	Grade Point Average	

Planned Study with Scholarship for Service	What cybersecurity discipline will you study at UAH with the scholarship funds? (Computer Science, Software Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Information Systems, or Cybersecurity)	
	Will you pursue a Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, or PhD?	
	If you plan to pursue the Master of Science in Cybersecurity which track will you choose? (Business, Computer Science, or Engineering)	
	Preferred scholarship start date? (August 2017 or January 2018)	
	Planned graduation date?	
	Have you applied for admission?	
	Have you been accepted?	