



UNIVERSITY OF  
ARKANSAS

# 2019-2020 Enrollment Services Annual Report

Enrollment Services Division at the University of Arkansas leads recruitment and outreach to prospective students while also supporting the campus community in a number of ways, including the stewardship of scholarship funding, financial aid, and academic records. Working collaboratively, Enrollment Services – the Offices of Admissions, Academic Scholarships & Financial Aid, Transfer Central, the Registrar, New Student Orientation, and Nationally Competitive Awards – strives to recruit, retain, and support an academically prepared, diverse, nationally competitive student body. The following report outlines Enrollment Services’ activities and accomplishments during the 2019-2020 academic year in support of the incoming classes of 2019 and 2020.

In Fall 2019, the university welcomed more than 27,500 students to campus, including a new freshman cohort of 4,601 students. Of these students, 2,379 were from Arkansas, and 2,222 were non-residents. This was an 8% decline in degree-seeking new freshmen and was due in a large part to increases in eligibility criteria for the New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award. As the numbers dropped, Admissions scrambled to make up these numbers by taking the NRTA back to its original requirements. There was still an almost 400 student drop in enrollment, but the number would likely have been higher without this change. Despite this drop, overall diversity in the student body increased to 20.4%. New freshman students continued to display significant levels of academic preparedness, in many cases building on positive trends apparent in earlier classes. The freshman class had an incoming GPA of 3.72 and an average ACT score of 26. Of the 4,601 new freshmen, 24% enrolled with an ACT score of 30 or higher, and 51% reported a 3.75 GPA or higher. Other indicators of academic preparedness also point to a freshman class ready to succeed as part of the Razorback community (see graphic page 1).

**27,559** 2019 Total Enrollment

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**4,601** 2019 Freshman Enrollment

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**3.72** 2019 Average HS GPA

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**26** 2019 Average ACT

Freshmen with a High School GPA of 3.75 or higher:



Freshmen with an ACT score of 30 or higher:



**91%** Growth since 2009 of Freshmen with an ACT score of 30 or higher

**111%** Growth since 2009 of Freshmen with a High School GPA of 3.75 or higher

**172%** AP Credit increase since 2009

More than  
**22,600**  
AP credits received for 2019

**98%**  
increase since 2009 in the number of students eligible to participate in the Honors College

# Admissions

## Recruitment

Our recruitment team is a collection of dynamic, engaging professionals that do a great job of representing the University across both our state and region. While the group is ever changing, the Office of Admissions strives to hire quick learners with outgoing personalities. That goal was accomplished again this year with the hiring of twelve new staff members: Skyler Ames-Patton, Jaecy Bradford, Hailey Canada, Sydney Conley, Alex Dowell, Radeanna Garcia, Megan Garland, Sarah Holmes, Brooke Reynolds, William Scheiderer, Teresa Simpson and Tyler Simpson. The new admissions counselors are diverse in terms of their backgrounds and experiences. They proved to be excellent representatives of the University as they attended off-campus events and recruited across the state of Arkansas and nationally. As in previous years, the recruitment staff as a whole attended well over 1000 off-campus events, including college fairs, high school visits, community events, coffee chats, etc, before we were shut down for Covid-19. In addition, starting in April we hosted 271 Virtual HS visits since we weren't allowed to travel.

## Diversity Recruitment

Rafael Arciga Garcia, Associate Director for Diversity Recruitment, was part of the 2019-2020 College Board's Enrollment Leadership Academy (ELA) Southwest region cohort. ELA is a professional development program that cultivates the next generation of enrollment leaders. In September 2019 our diversity staff, Rafael Arciga Garcia and Chantel Moseby, traveled to Dallas, Texas, with staff representing the Office of Diversity and Inclusion as well as other offices across campus. The 3-day targeted recruitment trip involved visiting multiple high schools and church youth groups in the area. Rafael was also invited to serve as part of the Springdale Public Library Multicultural Advisory Council. We hope to increase our presence and collaboration with organizations such as the Springdale Public Library in order to reach and inform students and the community about higher education opportunities. Our recruitment efforts in Northwest Arkansas continued with Campus Day, as schools from Green Forest, Rogers, Bentonville and Springdale brought Latino juniors and seniors to visit campus. Around 250 students attended this event in the Fall;

unfortunately, due to Covid-19, plans for Campus Day in the Spring had to be canceled. Our Office along with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion established a partnership program, UA Connections, with Osceola High School, Pine Bluff High School and Central High School in West Helena. As part of the partnership, students from these schools visited the University of Arkansas and met with several departments and units across the campus as well as current U of A students. Representatives from our office along with other units on campus traveled to Osceola for the inaugural U of A Connections Recruiting to enhance outreach effort for the partnership created with the school as part of UA Connections. We had the opportunity to meet with students from the STEM Academy and their high school students, some parents, teachers and administrators. Covid-19 made it impossible to visit the other UA Connections partner schools.

## The Campus Visit

The campus visit continues to be one of the main reasons a student will choose a particular institution. Because of that, the Office of Admissions continues to emphasize the campus visit program. Given how influential a campus visit can be for prospective students, campus visit personnel are constantly looking for ways to improve the processes and overall customer service. The goal every year is to make the campus visit experience as effective as possible. Since moving to Slate, the entire campus visit process has improved, including registration, communication, printing, and more. This year 7,389 students visited campus. Of those that visited, 1,778 were from Arkansas and 5,611 from out-of-state. In addition to individual families, we also welcomed 111 groups to campus before we shifted to remote work in March. Starting April 1, we began offering virtual presentations and hosted 455 students through the end of the academic year.

## Student Ambassadors

One of the highlights of the campus visit program continues to be the student involvement through the Student Ambassador Program. The program is a volunteer-based registered student organization consisting of just over 110 undergraduate students for the fall semester. A student ambassador must have strong leadership and presentation skills, a positive

attitude, and an enthusiastic commitment to the University of Arkansas. All potential ambassadors participate in group and individual interviews before they are selected. Student ambassadors are required to give at least two tours a week, plus one Saturday tour per semester, and must assist with Admissions' preview days. The Office of Admissions also chooses a select group of ambassadors for work during all holiday breaks and summer months.

In addition to their weekly commitments, students participate in monthly team building activities and yearlong training events. The Office of Admissions also recognizes an ambassador of the month, which qualifies the recipient for the end-of-the-year "Heart of the Hog" award.

## Special Events

Razorback 101 is the first preview day of the academic year, hosted in late July for rising seniors. These events allow students to tour the campus, have lunch, see a residence hall, and learn more about the upcoming process of applying to the University of Arkansas. During the summer of 2019, the Office of Admissions hosted just over 350 students along with their parents and guests.

Once again, we hosted our senior preview day, Razorback Reveal, in the fall. Admissions partnered with the academic colleges to host a total of 242 students. This event allowed each of the colleges to spend two hours with interested students, introducing them to the unique opportunities available through their college and at the University of Arkansas.

Admissions also typically hosts a couple of preview days in the spring for high school juniors called Ready Razorback and Razorback Diversity Impact. These events typically include a variety of activities such as an information fair, an opening session with admissions highlights and speakers from Enrollment Services, lunch in a dining hall, campus tours, housing tours, and breakout sessions with each of the six academic colleges. We look forward to hosting these events again next April.

While the office still prefers students to schedule individual visits to campus, during which they receive more personalized interaction, university-wide participation at all of Admissions' preview days has made them a huge success.

One of Admissions' most popular events continues

to be Counselor Connection, held each spring. This year, before the shutdown, we were able to host an event for in-state counselors from all over the state. In total, we had 12 counselors who gathered a lot of information, ate some great food, and enjoyed a basketball game against LSU.

For the second year in a row, we hosted out-of-state yield events, Arkansas & YOU. Hosted in a total of eight cities across six states, these events saw over 750 students and guests attend to meet others from their area as well as learn everything they needed to help ease their transition into the U of A and get ready for New Student Orientation. In addition, we hosted one virtual event with 10 students in attendance.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our in-state yield events, Headed to the Hill. Instead we offered virtual events and hosted just over 300 students. Even though they were online, these yield events helped connect incoming freshmen with other students in their area, increasing their excitement about attending the University in the fall, and further introducing them to campus partners.

In addition, over the past year, our recruitment staff has been very busy in their territories in addition to their regular high school visits and college fairs. We hosted counselor breakfasts/luncheons, as well as four Razorback Connections, two in Arkansas and two in neighboring states. Counselor breakfasts/luncheons are a way for us to thank area high school counselors for all of their hard work as well as share important updates locally for both them and their students. Razorback Connections are events intended for seniors to learn more about the U of A there in their hometown, often times having academic colleges in attendance as well to visit with them locally. It's our open house in their hometown! Several recruiters have also implemented Coffee Chats which are a chance to meet with students and their families at their local coffee shop and chat about the University of Arkansas. Once we went virtual, they also hosted hundreds of virtual chat opportunities for students.

## Transfer Central

As well as serving new freshman students and their families, the Office of Admissions has also worked to support students interested in transferring to the University of Arkansas. This past fall welcomed the first 39 TAP students to campus. Sixty-four percent of these students who needed additional academic preparation persisted to the spring semester and, despite the impact of COVID-19, half of those students completed requirements to successfully transition to the U of A full-time for fall 2020.

We also welcomed thirteen students on the new Arkansas Transfer Achievement Scholarship. Transfer Central partnered with UA System 2-year schools to discuss the program with faculty and advisors in addition to attending orientation events for students. This scholarship program is allowing us to strengthen academic partnerships in the form of transfer agreements. The Turn 2 Into 4 program has established a dedicated pathway for business students at North Arkansas College, UA-Pulaski Tech, and UA-Cossatot, complete with Walton College of Business-based advising visiting them on a regular basis. The College of Engineering also completed a transfer guide with Ozarks Technical College and continues to grow awareness of STEM prep opportunities. The Transfer Central team also welcomed a new team member who will spend one day a week on NWACC's campus, our largest feeder school.

This cross-campus collaboration has also helped create a webinar series for prospective transfer students. While some are specific to the admission process, some are specific to academic areas. They are archived on the redesigned [transfer.uark.edu](https://transfer.uark.edu) website that has easily accessible information for students. This spring, we've developed additional virtual experiences like our Wooo Pig Mondays where students can learn more about transferring, and virtual 1:1 visits to ask specific questions. These resources have been instrumental in supporting our 100+ visits to other campuses each year. For an on-campus experience, our Transfer Central Office hosted special events over the year for both transfer students and college counselors from our top feeder colleges. Unfortunately, our 2020 Counselor Connections event had to be cancelled. Other on-campus events included Transfer Days where we partnered with Crowder College in Missouri, Oklahoma City Community College in

Oklahoma, as well as NWACC, UA-Pulaski Tech, and UACC-Batesville in Arkansas. The U of A also hosted the Arkansas/Oklahoma Phi Theta Kappa regional conference in March.

## New Student Orientation

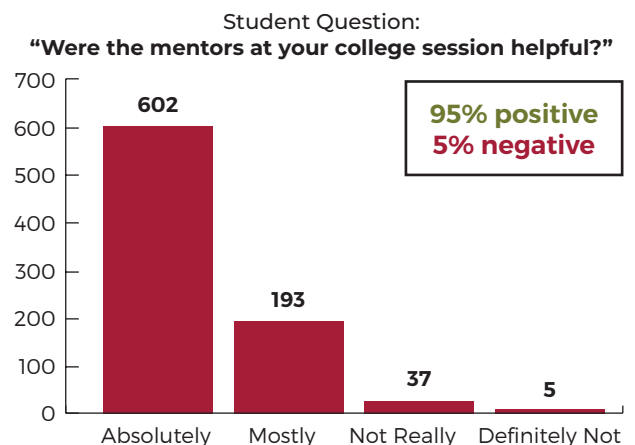
New undergraduate students enrolling in the fall or spring semester have an opportunity to sign up for a New Student Orientation session that assists in their transition to the University. All students, including transfer, transfer freshmen, and non-traditional students, have an orientation that best fits their needs. Students eligible to join the Honors College are invited to attend an honors-specific orientation but are welcome to attend any traditional orientation session. The office of New Student Orientation coordinates the honors orientations, the one-day and two-day traditional orientations, the on-campus transfer orientation, online transfer orientation, and the spring orientation in January, for all new domestic undergraduate students.

### New Opportunities for Change

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NSO was not able to host in-person, on-campus orientations during the 2020 summer season. These challenges offered a new and exciting opportunity to create an online orientation experience for incoming students and their families. The online/virtual orientation experience incorporated the same information shared during an on-campus orientation, just in a digital format. The online/virtual experience incorporated three elements: access to an orientation online platform with informational modules, live virtual breakout sessions on popular topics, and 1:1 academic advising meeting with a professional advisor in their academic college. NSO partnered with Advantage Design Group, a third-party vendor specializing in online orientations, to develop a customized sustainable online platform we will continue to use to complement the on-campus orientation experience in the future. To continue to provide the much-desired opportunity for student and family connectivity to the campus, we hosted live breakout sessions on popular topics such as Financial Aid, Academic Scholarships, Housing & Meal Plans, Honors College, Paying for College, Meet Orientation Leaders, and a Q & A session. These breakout sessions were highly attended with over 8,000 participants who were able to connect and receive answers to their questions. We also used an after-orientation survey as an outreach tool and responded to everyone who had questions or needed guidance.

### Providing Options for the Best Experience

For new incoming freshmen, transfer freshmen, and guests, NSO works hard to provide a variety of orientation sessions and activities to customize the orientation experience. The one-day orientation option was popular for families who wished to have a more expedited orientation experience. The two-day session was favorable for students and families whose desire it was to network and attend sessions that provided additional opportunities to connect with one another and various campus groups. Regardless of which orientation a new student participates in, they receive information that helps them transition to the U of A. Our on-campus programs connect new students with current undergraduate students serving as Orientation Mentors. Students meet with their college representatives and academic advisors to register for classes. Students are encouraged to bring guests and family members to orientation, as information and transitional services are available for the entire family. New students are also provided various opportunities to connect with one another as well as introduce them to campus communities that will enhance their college experience. The New Student Orientation staff, Orientation Mentors, Admissions, Academic Advisors, and the entire campus community work together to provide a smooth and seamless transition for new students to the University of Arkansas. Important information and connections to resources are highlighted throughout orientation. Transfer students have the option of choosing either an on-campus or online orientation session designed to introduce them to the many resources and offices available to support their success. Through the





admission process, transfer students are connected to their particular college academic advisor to be advised and enroll in courses outside of an orientation session.

## Student Leaders

The New Student Orientation staff supervises over 50 orientation leaders, graduate assistants and interns during a traditional year of orientations. Orientation Leaders are key to the success of any orientation experience as they provide the necessary guidance and support for new students & their families. Orientation Leaders offer information from first hand experiences that our new students and guests value. The NSO Leaders attend a two-week mandatory residential training program in May covering university information helpful for their role and leadership training, during a typical orientation season. Of these leaders, up to 6 are classified as Team Leads who provide leadership to other OLs and partner with the professional staff to help ensure programs are executed efficiently. Due to COVID-19, we had 4 Team Leads serve as our Orientation Leaders for the May and June 2020 sessions. They hosted live breakout sessions for every orientation where students and parents could connect and ask current students questions. Team Leads start their training during the spring semester and they help select the upcoming OLs for the summer. Team Leads are a valued member of the NSO staff as they provide additional support and guidance to current and new students during the program. All Orientation Leaders gain valuable leadership skills and are provided an opportunity to grow professionally and connect with our new incoming students, their families and the greater campus community at large.

## Meaningful Sessions for Connectivity

We know that students and family members value effective communication throughout the admission process. New Student Orientation, along with the communication team, continued to build an effective communication flow for admitted students, encouraging them to sign up for orientation as soon as they are admitted. After registering for an orientation session, students and parents receive communication pieces that guide them all the way through orientation. Based on feedback from the 2019 student and guest evaluations, the New Student Orientation staff looked for more ways to connect students to our Orientation Leaders and

to each other. Even though COVID-19 changed the orientation experience, we made sure to create as many opportunities as we could to still connect with new students and their families virtually. With everything changing rapidly due to COVID-19, effective outreach and communication was even more important this year. We increased our outreach by providing information and guidance through email, text messaging, web content, letters, and phone calls outside of our virtual orientation information. Partnerships with the academic advisors were key to the overall success of hosting thousands of new students and their families through a virtual orientation experience. All new freshmen signed up for orientation prior to mid-May were pre-enrolled in a number of courses for their academic major and any students wishing to change majors were able to do prior to or the day of their scheduled orientation.

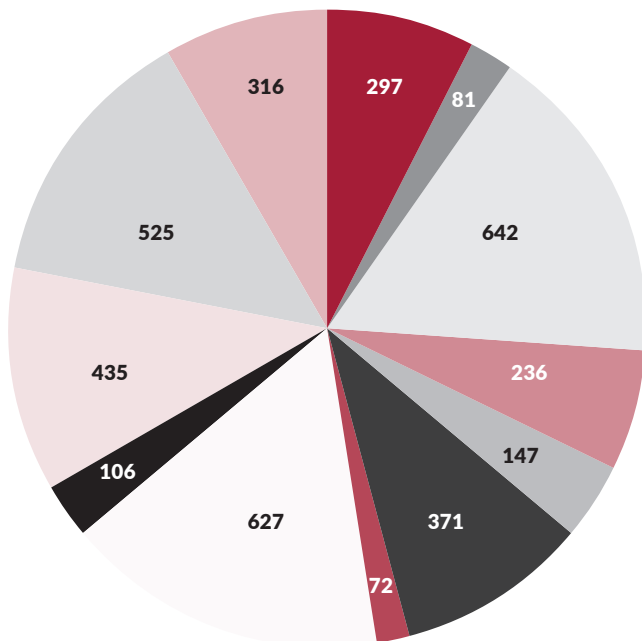
## By the Numbers

Over the course of the 2019-2020 fiscal orientation season, we served a total of 6,717 new students through one of the various orientations we hosted this fiscal year. This includes our on-campus sessions as well as our online transfer and freshman orientations we conducted due to COVID-19. While family members participated alongside their student during the summer 2020 season, we were able to host 492 guests during our earlier on-campus orientation sessions.

# Scholarships

The Academic Scholarship Office is a resource for prospective and current undergraduate students seeking scholarship funding. The primary mission of the office is to administer university-wide, merit-based scholarships. In addition, the office provides assistance to academic departments and outside agencies. The office’s goal is to support the University’s mission by assisting students with their scholarship needs.

Fall 2020 New Freshman Offers



- Chancellor's/Merit Offers – 297
- Silas Hunt Distinguished Offers – 81
- Chancellor's Community Offers – 642
- Silas Hunt Offers – 236
- Secondary Offer Honors College Academy Connection Scholarship - 147
- Honors College Academy Offers – 371
- Razorback Bridge Offers – 72
- Leadership Offers – 627
- Freshman Success Offers – 106
- Advance Arkansas Scholarships – 6
- Razorback Connection Scholarships – 435
- \$3,000 First-Year Advantage Scholarship - 1
- Secondary Offer \$3,000 First-Year Advantage Scholarship - 2
- \$5,000 First-Year Advantage Room and Board Scholarship - 525
- Secondary Offer \$5,000 First-Year Advantage Room and Board Scholarship - 316

## Entering Freshman Scholarships

During the 2020-2021 academic year, the competitiveness of the new freshman scholarship application process continued to become stronger. Applying students submitted 6,560 applications. 1,425 applicants reported a GPA of 4.0 or higher and an ACT of 30 or higher. The average GPA of awarded students was 3.92, while the average ACT was 29. The overall averages of the 2020 freshman cohort were a 3.84 GPA and a 27 ACT. Arkansas residents received 2,685 new freshman scholarship offers, while out-of-state students received 716 scholarship offers, for a total of 3,401. Students from Arkansas received 78.95% of the new freshman scholarship offers, while out of state students received 21.05%.

Estimated Fall 2020 Enrollment by Scholars

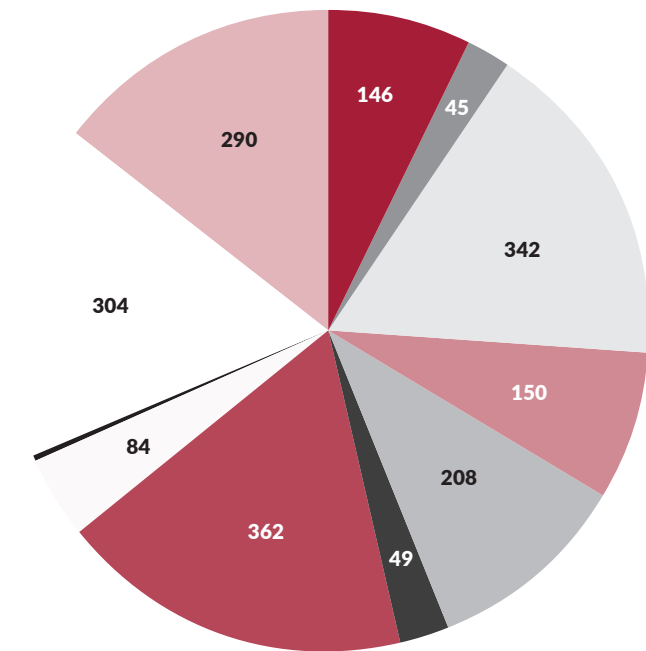
Entering Class	Scholarship Applications	Primary Scholarship Offers	Secondary Scholarship Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered
Fall 2020	6,560	3,401	465	29.0	3.92
Fall 2019	5,260	1,996	n/a	28.41	3.89
Fall 2018	6,361	2,450	n/a	27.65	3.91
Fall 2017	6,642	2,980	n/a	27.03	3.77
Fall 2016	6,079	2,763	n/a	27.45	3.74
Fall 2015	5,399	2,644	n/a	29.52	3.93
Fall 2014	5,190	2,623	n/a	29.39	3.92
Fall 2013	5,312	2,190	n/a	29.39	3.90

## Entering Freshman Scholarship Offers

For the Fall 2020 entering freshman class, 6,560 applications were received. This was an increase of 1,300 applications, 24.72% from the Fall 2019 entering freshman class. This was the second year that the scholarship application for the entering freshman class was housed in Slate. 1,425 applicants had a 30 ACT or higher and 4.0 or higher GPA. Percentage increase in test score: 12.29%

- Arkansas residents received 2,685 of the offers, a 45.85% increase over fall 2019.
- Non-resident students received 716 of the offers, a 36.94% increase from fall 2019.
- Students from 29 different states and two different countries were given offers.

Estimated New Freshman Fall 2020 Enrollment



- Chancellor's/Merit - 146
- Silas Hunt Distinguished - 45
- Chancellor's Community - 342
- Silas Hunt - 150
- Honors College Academy - 208
- Razorback Bridge - 49
- Leadership - 362
- Freshman Success Scholarship - 84
- Advance Arkansas Scholarship - 4
- Razorback Connection Scholarship - 304
- \$3,000 First-Year Advantage Scholarship - 1
- \$5,000 First-Year Advantage Room and Board - 290

- Females received 1,927 offers (56.66%).
- Males received 1,474 offers (43.34%).

**Chancellor's Scholarship**

The Chancellor's Scholarship is \$8,000 per year.

This does not include students that were upgraded to fellowship.

The Chancellor's Community Scholarship is a \$5,000 renewable scholarship. Competitive applicants must show a demonstrable commitment to community service. The first awards for the Chancellor's Community Scholarship were given in Fall 2012.

Chancellor's Scholarship (\$8,000)

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15*
Fall 2020	297	34	4.17	146
Fall 2019	188	34	4.13	171*
Fall 2018	312	34	4.09	183*
Fall 2017	338	33	4.14	154*
Fall 2016	458	34	4.16	171*
Fall 2015	476	33	4.13	190*
Fall 2014	476	34	4.11	157*
Fall 2013	423	33	4.11	153*

Chancellor's Community Scholarship (\$5,000)

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	642	32	4.12	342
Fall 2019	139	33	4.08	135
Fall 2018	260	31	4.10	143
Fall 2017	265	32	4.11	133
Fall 2016	228	32	4.10	109
Fall 2015	201	32	4.05	103
Fall 2014	215	32	4.07	102
Fall 2013	220	31	4.04	133

**Silas H. Hunt Scholars**

The Silas H. Hunt Scholarship Program was created to increase the diversity of the undergraduate student body by targeting groups of students who have traditionally been underrepresented at the University. The primary area of focus is on students from underrepresented communities who have demonstrated outstanding academic leadership qualities and potential. Underrepresented communities include, but are not limited to, underrepresented ethnic or minority groups, a student with an interest in a field that does not typically attract members of their ethnicity or gender, residence in an underrepresented county of Arkansas, or a first generation college student.

Silas H. Hunt Scholarships are renewable and are awarded at \$5,000 or \$8,000.



**Silas H. Hunt Scholarship (\$5,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	236	26	3.96	150
Fall 2019	102	38	3.97	96
Fall 2018	143	27	3.91	101
Fall 2017	143	28	3.98	82
Fall 2016	139	28	3.92	69
Fall 2015	139	27	3.87	83
Fall 2014	147	27	3.85	90
Fall 2013	125	28	3.91	72

**Honors College Academy Scholarships (\$4,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	371	30	4.05	208
Fall 2019	265	32	4.07	249
Fall 2018	309	30	4.07	190
Fall 2017	299	31	4.02	183
Fall 2016	278	31	4.00	164
Fall 2015	342	31	4.06	162
Fall 2014	363	31	4.04	170
Fall 2013	267	31	4.03	121

**Silas H. Hunt Distinguished Scholarship (\$8,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	81	31	4.10	45
Fall 2019	44	32	4.09	40
Fall 2018	60	31	4.02	37
Fall 2017	69	31	4.03	35
Fall 2016	64	30	4.03	38
Fall 2015	71	30	4.04	36
Fall 2014	73	30	4.01	38
Fall 2013	46	30	4.02	21

**Razorback Bridge Scholarships (\$3,500)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	72	25	3.56	49
Fall 2019	62	25	3.71	57
Fall 2018	79	24	3.76	66
Fall 2017	88	26	3.73	65
Fall 2016	74	26	3.79	42
Fall 2015	71	25	3.74	51
Fall 2014	83	25	3.65	60
Fall 2013	64	26	3.72	48

**Honors College Academy Scholarship**

The Honors College Academy Scholarship is \$4,000 per year and is the largest privately funded scholarship in the general freshman scholarship program.

**Razorback Bridge Scholarship**

The Center for Multicultural and Diversity Education provides academic support and community engagement programming for Razorback Bridge Scholars. Additionally, students on this scholarship may live in university housing reserved for students in the support program. This renewable scholarship is \$3,500 per year.

**Leadership Scholarship**

The Leadership Scholarship is \$2,000 per year and is renewable. Academically strong students with

high school resumes demonstrating extracurricular involvement are often chosen as awardees of this scholarship.

**University Enrichment Scholarship**

The University Enrichment Scholarship was first awarded for the Fall 2013 academic year. It is a \$2,000 one-time award with the same eligibility requirements as the Silas Hunt and Razorback Bridge scholarships. It is only awarded to Arkansas residents.

**Jewel Minnis Scholarship**

Fall 2014 was the first year that this scholarship had been awarded as a part of the University's general freshman scholarship award process. It is a \$2,000 privately funded one-time scholarship for Arkansas residents.

**Leadership Scholarships (\$2,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	627	28	4.03	362
Fall 2019	227	30	4.01	214
Fall 2018	469	30	4.04	309
Fall 2017	684	30	4.03	367
Fall 2016	650	29	3.97	354
Fall 2015	519	30	3.98	281
Fall 2014	366	30	3.98	182
Fall 2013	203	30	3.95	104

**University Enrichment Scholarships (\$2,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	-	-	-	-
Fall 2019	13	24	3.86	12
Fall 2018	46	22	3.63	35
Fall 2017	67	24	3.64	44
Fall 2016	54	24	3.63	38
Fall 2015	47	24	3.53	32
Fall 2014	53	24	3.47	34
Fall 2013	31	25	3.58	18

**Jewel Minnis Scholarships (\$2,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	-	-	-	-
Fall 2019	105	26	3.67	98
Fall 2018	126	26	3.79	98
Fall 2017	83	28	3.73	56
Fall 2016	51	28	3.71	32
Fall 2015	38	27	4.08	17
Fall 2014	35	27	4.08	21

**Freshman Success Scholarships (\$2,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	108	25	3.40	84
Fall 2019	19	25	3.85	19
Fall 2018	163	25	3.77	119
Fall 2017	429	26	3.81	306
Fall 2016	289	25	3.73	195

**Freshman Academic Scholarships (\$1,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	-	-	-	-
Fall 2019	230	24	3.59	217
Fall 2018	320	24	3.82	244
Fall 2017	525	25	3.46	370
Fall 2016	478	25	3.42	337
Fall 2015	740	27	3.70	507
Fall 2014	812	27	3.66	517
Fall 2013	811	27	3.80	533

**Freshman Success Scholarship**

The Freshman Success Scholarship was awarded the first time for Fall 2016. It is a one-time award of \$2,000 for Arkansas residents. It helps to fund students at a lower ACT and GPA level.

**Freshman Academic Scholarship**

The Freshman Academic Scholarship was awarded for the first time in fall of 2010. This \$1,000 non-renewable scholarship helps fund additional Arkansas students at a slightly lower GPA and test score level.

**Honors College Academy Connection Scholarship**

The Honors College Academy Connection Scholarship was awarded for the first time in Fall 2013. It is a one-time award of up to \$4,000 to top students in the applicant pool with a minimum 27 ACT or comparable SAT and showing financial need as represented on the FAFSA. The scholarship is meant to help with the financial gap between the first-year (\$1,000) and the second year (\$4,000) of the Academic Challenge Scholarship.

**Honors College Academy Scholarships (\$4,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	371	30	4.05	208
Fall 2019	265	32	4.07	249
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Fall 2016	278	31	4.00	164
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Fall 2014	363	31	4.04	170
Fall 2013	267	31	4.03	121

**The Advance Arkansas Scholarship**

The Advance Arkansas Scholarship (\$4,000) was awarded to new freshmen for the first time in Fall 2019. This is a renewable award to top students in the applicant pool from Arkansas with financial need as represented by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Preference is to first-generation college students. Funds for more Advance Arkansas scholars continue to be developed through the colleges and private donors. Continued student funding is coming through the new scholarships.

**The Advance Arkansas Scholarships (\$4,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	6	23	3.76	4
Fall 2019	56	25	3.88	53

**The Razorback Connection Scholarship**

This is the second year of awarding for Razorback Connection Scholarship. It is a one-time award of \$3,000 to students from underrepresented communities (ethnic or minority groups, interest in fields not typically attracting members of their ethnicity or gender, reside in an underrepresented county in Arkansas, and first-generation college students) who have demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities and potential.

**The Razorback Connection Scholarships (\$3,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	435	24	3.60	340
Fall 2019	258	27	3.85	159

**The New Freshman REACH (Razorbacks Enhancing Access to Campus Housing) Scholarship**

The New Freshman REACH (Razorbacks Enhancing Access to Campus Housing) Scholarship was awarded for the first time. The award is to top first generation students and/or financial need as represented by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Award is for a reduction of the student's on-campus room and board. Preference for new freshmen participating in the Accelerate Student Achievement Program (ASAP).

No awards are made for these scholarships in the upcoming year. The \$5,000,000 additional scholarship dollars allocated for 2020/2021 means many additional awards from accounts with larger disbursement to the individual student than these scholarships. Also, new scholarships have been established according to needs across the university wide program.

**New Freshman REACH Scholarships**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	-	-	-	-
Fall 2019	187	24	3.63	173

**The First-Year Advantage Scholarship**

The First Year Advantage Scholarship is new for Fall 2020. It is a one-time award for new students. Awards are made to students who anticipate living in U of A housing up to \$5,000 OR a one-time award for students with a housing exemption up to \$3,000. Need will be considered but not required.

**Transfer Scholarships**

The number of transfer scholarships available for the fall and spring terms was 190. The spring 2020

**First-Year Advantage Scholarships (\$3,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	1	22	2.56	1

**Second-Year Advantage Scholarships (\$3,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	2	33	3.88	2

**First-Year Advantage Scholarships (\$5,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	525	26	3.68	290

**Second-Year Advantage Scholarships (\$5,000)**

Entering Class	Number of Offers	Average ACT of Offered	Average GPA of Offered	Number Expected to Enroll as of July 15
Fall 2020	316	28	3.95	190

application cycle had a total of 23 offers with an average GPA of 3.81. The fall 2020 application cycle had a total of 137 offers with an average GPA of 3.74. The Chancellor’s Transfer Scholarship is a two-year award of up to \$3,000 per year. The U of A Transfer Student Scholarship is a two-year award of up to \$2,000 per year. The Phi Theta Kappa Transfer Scholarship is a two-year award of up to \$2,500 per year. The Academic Scholarship Office continues to award the Academic All-Star Transfer Student Scholarship to students who are classified as “Academic All-Stars” by their Arkansas two-year college. The Transfer Student Advantage Scholarship was awarded for the first time. This is a one-time award for up to \$3,000. It is awarded to the top students in the applicant pool. Need was not required, but considered as represented by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

The Arkansas Transfer Achievement Scholarship (ATAS) was also awarded for the first time. This is an annual award that matches the tuition difference

between the University of Arkansas and the following UA System Two-Year Institutions: Batesville, Cossatot, Morrilton, Rich Mountain, Pulaski Tech, Hope-Texarkana, and Phillips. It is awarded to students who have earned an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Arts in Teaching degree from a participating UA System Two-Year Institution. It is renewable for up to 10 semesters. A scholarship application is not required for this award but students must be admitted to the first regular term after completion of their associate’s degree to be eligible. Students from all eligible UA 2 year schools participated in this academic year and the Arkansas Transfer Achievement Scholarship program is gaining traction with anticipated enrollment of at least 30 new students.

**The New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award**

The New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award Scholarship had paid 100% of the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition. The 2011-2012 entering student class was charged a fee associated with it. Students who enrolled in summer 2011 were charged \$450 per semester, and their fee will continue at that amount as long as they receive the award. The 2012-2013 entering class pays a \$560 fee each semester as long as the student is receiving the award. Starting with the 2013-2014 entering class, the New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award had two separate eligibility levels and paid either 80% or 90% of the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition. Beginning with the 2016-2017 entering class the New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award had three separate eligibility levels and paid 70%, 80%, or 90% of the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition. Beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year the award expanded to include extended states. The award paid either 50% or 80% of the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition depending on which qualifying criteria the student met.

The Academic Scholarship Office is responsible for processing renewals of the New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award, the Board Policy tuition waiver, the Alumni Legacy, the National Collegiate Network Tuition Advantage, the Panama Tuition Advantage, the Rwanda Tuition Advantage, and the Dimitris Perrotis College of Agricultural Studies Tuition Advantage.

Fall 2019 Applications	Scholarship Offers	Average GPA of Offers
323	167	3.74

Scholarship	Fall 2019 Offers	Average GPA
Chancellor's Transfer	37	3.89
U of A Transfer Student	79	3.75
Phi Theta Kappa Transfer	27	3.79
Advance Arkansas Transfer Student	2	3.67
Transfer Student Advantage	22	3.39

Spring 2020 Applications	Scholarship Offers	Average GPA of Offers
133	23	3.81

Scholarship	Spring 2020 Offers	Average GPA
Chancellor's Transfer	8	3.93
U of A Transfer Student	13	3.72
Phi Theta Kappa Transfer	2	3.94

Arkansas Transfer Achievement	ATAS Scholars	Dollars Awarded
Fall 2019	15	\$32,731.44
Spring 2020	20	\$42,451.56

At the end of spring 2020, 87.0% of Alumni Legacy Scholarship and New Arkansan Non-Resident Tuition Award recipients automatically renewed the award. Students have until the end of summer to meet the renewal requirements.

### Scholarship Retention and Renewal

Scholarship renewals for the 2018-2019 academic year had decreased to 93% compared to the previous year's 94%. Freshman 2017-2018 scholars increased the year-over-year numbers with 91.1% renewing versus 87.4% of the 2016-2017 scholars. Sophomore 2017-2018 scholars decreased to 90% from the previous year's 95%, and juniors slightly decreased to a 93.8% renewal from the previous year's 96.1%.

Of the 3,539 students due to renew their scholarship at the end of Spring 2019 term, 3,102 (87.65%) of them renewed automatically (83.78% of freshmen, 90.77% of sophomores, and 91.28% of juniors).

Twenty-seven students still have incomplete grades, and their renewal will be determined at the end of the Summer 2019 term. The 237 students who did not renew automatically due to low grade point average and/or hours can renew by taking summer classes. Of these students, 198 have communicated with the Scholarship Office and are working toward summer renewal of their academic scholarship.

Previous analysis revealed scholarship renewal rates increased by emailing students below 3.2 GPA at mid-term and students below 3.0 GPA at the end of their fall semester. The office will continue emailing all students below 3.2 GPA at mid-term and 3.0 GPA at the end of their fall semester to suggest a meeting with the scholarship advisors and/or the Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS+).

### Outside Scholarships

The Academic Scholarship Office is responsible for posting outside scholarships to student accounts once the awards have been received by the Treasurer's Office. For the 2019-2020 academic year, the U of A received approximately \$6 million in outside scholarships. This is the 5th consecutive year that over \$4 million in outside scholarships has been received. This represents approximately a 109% increase in outside scholarship funding from 10 years ago.

### Scholarships for Current Students

For the 2020-2021 cycle, 630 Current Student Scholarship program students have been awarded compared to 373 awarded in the 19/20 program. The average award amount is approximately \$2,713, and the average recipient's cumulative GPA was a 3.80. There was an additional allocation of \$5 million in scholarship funds added to the current student pool. We were able to award an entirely new scholarship, the Sophomore Advantage.

The 20/21 program had a total of 3,142 complete applications submitted by the February 15, 2020 deadline. Of these, 1,092 applicants were deemed eligible and reviewed. The applicant's academics, as seen in the cumulative GPA, and class standing, as seen in cumulative GPA hours, were used to determine which applicants would be identified for review.



All undergraduate colleges were represented in the applicant pool.

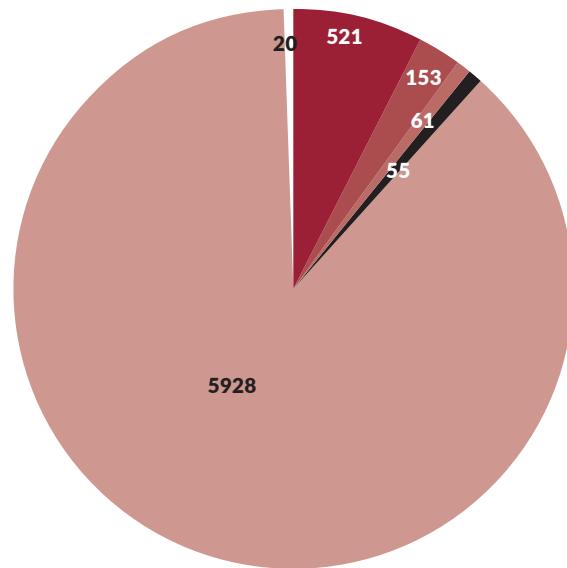
- The College of Engineering has the largest representation with 273 students.
- The Fulbright College had 234 students.
- The Walton College of Business had 216 students.
- The Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural Food and Life Sciences had 159 students.
- The College of Education and Health Professions had 132 students.
- The Fay Jones School of Architecture had 78 students. This college is the smallest on campus.

In-state students represent 60.4% of the pool followed by out-of-state students at 34.6% and international students at 5%. The 54 international applicants represent 25 countries and the 378 out-of-state applicants represent 22 states. The in-state applicants represent 61 of the 75 counties in Arkansas.

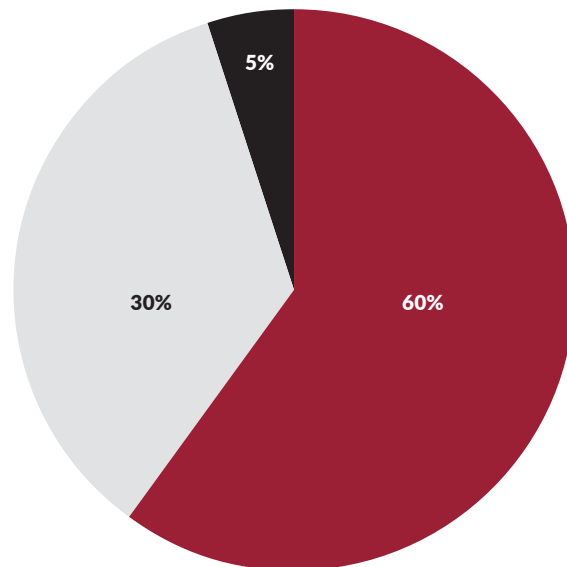
Finally, the overall academic quality of the applicants was very high. The profile applicant in the 20/21 program was a junior that had completed 85 hours. The 20/21 program had 171 applicants with 4.00 GPA, representing 15% of the applicant pool. Twenty-five percent of the pool or 283 students were Pell eligible.

The Scholarship Office began a campus wide implementation of the Blackbaud Award Management System, formerly Academic Works scholarship administration software system. As we move forward the Scholarship Office will continue to monitor the software and make changes in order to best benefit the students on our campus. Our goal as an office is to become more efficient each year. We will continue to work with other units across campus to make sure that scholarships are awarded efficiently and effectively.

Representation of Colleges



- No GPA - 521
- No Hours - 153
- No GPA and No Hours - 61
- Probation - 55
- Renewed - 5928
- Suspension - 20



- In-State - 60%
- Out-of-State - 35%
- International - 5%

## Financial Aid

The mission of the Office of Financial Aid is to ease the financial burden of a college education and to make education accessible for students from all financial backgrounds. The office assists prospective and current students by collecting and processing information and by creating the best possible financial aid package for each individual student in a timely manner. The office keeps students informed of all current federal government regulations and changes in those regulations. The office keeps accurate records for each student and makes information readily accessible while maintaining confidentiality. By keeping lines of communication open, the office works toward maximizing student service and office efficiency for the benefit of the University community and outside agencies.

Financial aid comes in the form of gift aid and self-help aid. Gift aid consists of scholarships and grants. Loans and work-study make up self-help aid. A federally mandated formula resulting in an estimated family contribution (EFC) determines eligibility for federal grants, work-study, and student loans. Although the family is primarily responsible for financing the student's education, the Office of Financial Aid provides individualized assistance according to each family's financial circumstance based on information reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Additionally, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships acts as the clearinghouse for all student financial aid. The following charts provide context for the volume of work performed by the office, especially as federal regulation is the framework through which other aid must be considered for all students who receive aid.

### Financial Aid Disbursed by Type

Aid Year	Federal Aid	Institutional Aid	Outside Aid	State Aid	Total
2016	\$125,755,915	\$39,408,675	\$22,303,831	\$27,165,201	\$214,633,622
2017	\$129,331,700	\$42,871,766	\$25,704,956	\$26,507,043	\$224,415,465
2018	\$130,169,468	\$48,932,337	\$30,481,562	\$28,650,939	\$238,234,542
2019	\$129,234,485	\$50,056,656	\$35,509,536	\$29,689,046	\$244,489,723
2020	\$126,681,954	\$52,034,218	\$37,852,438	\$30,050,497	\$246,619,107

### Summary Data Regarding Aid Disbursed

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Total Aid Disbursed	\$214,633,622	\$224,415,465	\$238,234,306	\$244,489,724	\$246,619,107
Total Recipients	18,310	18,359	18,645	18,050	18,611
% of Enrollment Receiving Aid	65.46%	64.66%	64.91%	64.97%	64.89%
% of Enrollment Receiving a Pell Grant	21.42%	20.32%	19.58%	20.55%	19.83%
Estimated Undergraduate Cost of Attendance (Resident)	\$23,506	\$24,302	\$24,916	\$24,827	\$26,144
Average Graduating Undergraduate Indebtedness	\$24,768	\$24,182	\$26,242	\$25,778	\$25,778
Three Year Cohort Default Rate	6.6% (2013)	6.9% (2014)	5.5% (2015)	5% (2016 Draft)	5.6% (Draft 2017)

**Grant Aid**

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Federal Pell Grant	\$20,335,658	\$19,525,343	\$21,050,455	\$21,109,860	\$20,368,098
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant	\$788,662	\$1,022,608	\$1,070,675	\$1,051,976	\$1,067,432
State Higher Education Opportunities Grant	\$532,750	\$1,022,608	\$396,867	\$229,158	\$95,250
Total	\$21,657,070	\$21,112,567	\$22,517,997	\$22,390,994	\$21,530,780

**Work Study**

Work Study Facts	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Offices that Employ Work Study Students	101	93	86	86	86
Students Employed	576	541	502	528	480
Amount Earned by UA Students	\$1,144,836	\$1,094,744	\$982,610	\$1,073,749	\$1,025,520
UA Students Employed in Community Service	87	100	99	114	103
Total Earned by UA Students in Community Service	\$164,684	\$182,211	\$174,100	\$205,349	\$217,348

**Student Loans**

Loan Type	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Subsidized Stafford	\$25,703,214	\$25,969,993	\$26,102,894	\$26,296,440	\$24,853,646
Unsubsidized Stafford	\$53,268,457	\$53,299,762	\$50,546,656	\$49,396,970	\$48,429,904
Perkins	\$1,950,169	\$2,310,564	\$1,590,371	\$10,204	\$0
Graduate PLUS	\$1,877,103	\$2,373,542	\$1,927,134	\$2,066,501	\$1,780,032
Federal Nursing	\$5,359	\$5,136	\$5,035	\$32,040	\$20,778
Private Loans	\$12,322,188	\$15,328,372	\$18,351,671	\$22,525,682	\$25,099,197
Total	\$115,906,795	\$123,246,999	\$125,408,375	\$128,667,112	\$129,313,904

**Programs Through the State of Arkansas**

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) administers state aid programs. The largest of these programs are the Arkansas Academic Challenge (funded by the lottery) and the Governor’s Distinguished Scholarships. U of A students received state funding totaling \$30,050,497 in aid year 2020.

**Serving Students In Person and by Phone**

Each of the counseling staff has a group of students whom they serve, assigned alphabetically by the student’s last

name. Counselors are available to see students who walk in and also to communicate by email or phone. Walk-in student visits totaled 7,814, with an average wait time of 4 minutes 13 seconds before seeing a counselor. Office visits with counselors decreased by 31% and wait time dropped over 1 minute. These numbers are skewed due to pandemic shutdown from March 20 forward but that does not entirely account for the decreases. Completion of manual steps necessary to aid awarding are the biggest factors in the need for students to come to Hunt Hall. Two of the highest volume aid programs, PLUS loans and outside scholarships, received attention in this area. Graduate and Parent Plus loan applications are now batch posted when the application is clean. Counselors only manually post applications where conflicting information has to be resolved. Outside scholarship checks cleared by the Treasurer's Office were received in a daily report and the information was manually converted to a file that could be batch posted. Now that report is electronically converted when received so that the scholarships can be posted the same day. This eliminates two steps that the program coordinator had to perform daily and two more the assistant director performed with the daily report. Conducting the steps electronically means far less lag between receipt of information from outside of the office to performance of our piece of the overall process to clear student aid for bill payment.

To assist students and parents with questions and to provide reliable access to office staff, the Office of Financial Aid maintains a call center. Two full-time staff and eight student employees handled incoming calls for the Office of Financial Aid and the Academic Scholarship Office main phone lines in 2019-2020. Call data reporting for this year was unavailable through the previous phone system software. In March 2020, the call center phone system switched to Microsoft Teams software and the office looks forward to utilizing the new features being developed and released over the coming months.

	2019	2020	Difference
Financial Aid Visits	9,199	6,740	Down 27%
Academic Scholarship Visits	2,054	1,074	Down 48%
Drop Offs	2,288	2,476	Up 8%
Total Visits to Office	13,541	10,290	Down 24%
UAConnect Uploads	3,718	5,904	Up 59%
Web Uploads	990	2,409	Up 143%
Faxes	2,497	1,810	Down 28%

Verification is the topic of conversation for many points of contact with our office. On average University of Arkansas students submit over 24,000 Free Applications for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Annually, the Department of Education selects 19% for verification. Verification is a laborious collection of student and parent information that essentially is a manual calculation of the Estimated Family Contribution. On average 64% of our students follow the process through to the awarding of aid.

Processing	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
FAFSAs Loaded	22,232	22,171	25,454	25,574	25,122
Selected for Verification	4,368	3,916	4,320	5,871	4,503
Completed Verification	2,868	2,562	2,775	3,622	2,858

## Additional Technological Accomplishments

### Entrance Counseling and MPN Handling Delivered

Students who borrow through the federal aid program must complete two pieces of electronic paperwork. This year the Financial Aid office programmed Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note data into UAConnect. Previously it was housed externally. Numerous office contacts have been reduced because the additional steps of moving it into UAC have been eliminated for faster disbursement of loans to student accounts.

### Office of Financial Aid and Scholarship Outreach

Educational outreach is a large part of the mission of both offices. Staff held presentations for freshman classes, Admissions, Academic Success, and Orientation. Over twenty high schools were reached with financial aid and scholarship information through in-person presentations, most off campus. The offices continue to provide presentations on campus through recruiting events for prospective students and aid retention efforts for current students. Orientation Money Matters sessions were delivered live virtually.

### New Outreach Efforts

During December and January the Arkansas Union was used for walk-up help with FAFSA completion and other aid questions. Staff members were available to assist during high traffic times while students headed to lunch. The number of FAFSAs completed year to date rose, however pandemic uncertainty caused the follow through in return of paperwork by families to lag behind.

Highlands Oncology and the Fayetteville Public Library were two new outreach partners.

#### STFA Outreach

Educational Outreach	Date
Financial Aid Presentation - Jump Start Students	07/15/2019
Single Parent Scholarship Fund - Benton County	07/31/2019
UARK Law School	08/01/2019
New Student Orientation Information Exchange	08/13/2019-08/14/2019, 08/22/2019
New Student Orientation Money Matters Q&A	08/13/2019-08/14/2019, 08/22/2019
UA Law School 1L Orientation - Money Matters	08/22/2019
UARK Law School Orientation	08/22/2019
Credit Counseling of Arkansas - Member Community Outreach Committee	08/29/2019
Highlands Oncology College Planning Seminar	09/19/2019
VPSA Office, Karen Stair	09/23/2019
Little Rock Razorback Connections	09/25/2019
University Perspectives Financial Literacy Presentation	09/30/2019-10/02/2019
Rogers Heritage High School FAFSA Night	10/02/2019
Academic Advising Counsel	10/02/2019
Don Tyson School of Innovation - 2019 Senior Carnvial	10/03/2019



STFA Outreach (continued)

Educational Outreach	Date
Har-Ber High School FAFSA Frenzy	10/07/2019
Bentonville High School FAFSA Night	10/08/2019
Fayetteville High School Agri College and Career Night	10/08/2019
Springdale High School Financial Aid Night	10/09/2019
UARK Multicultural Center: Flip Your Flop	10/15/2019
Jonesboro Razorback Connections	10/16/2019
Academic Advising Counsel	10/28/2019
Credit Counseling of Arkansas - Member Community Outreach Committee	11/20/2019
FAFSA Help Table - Arkansas Union Foyer	12/11/2019, 12/13/2019
Credit Counseling of Arkansas - Member Community Outreach Committee	12/13/2019
DOD/ADOD Semi Monthly Meeting	12/16/2019
Academic Advising Counsel	12/18/2019
New Student Orientation Information Exchange	01/07/2020
New Student Orientation Money Matters Q&A	01/07/2020
FAFSA Help Table - Arkansas Union Foyer	01/22/2020
Credit Counseling of Arkansas - Member Community Outreach Committee	02/12/2020
Fayetteville Public Library - Planning for College	02/16/2020
Walton College Transfer Day	03/06/2020
UA Housing - Money in the Bank	03/10/2020
New Student Orientation Money Matters Q&A	06/09/2020-06/11/2020, 06/15/2020-06/18/2020, 06/23/2020-06/25/2020

ASCH Outreach

Educational Outreach	Date
Financial Aid Presentation - Jump Start Students	07/15/2019
Razorback 101	07/19/2019, 07/22/2019, 07/26/2019, 07/29/2019
New Student Orientation Information Exchange	08/13/2019-08/14/2019, 08/22/2019
University Perspectives Information Presentation	09/12/2019
UATV Live Panel	09/23/2019
Fulbright Intern Advising Panel	09/25/2019
Don Tyson School of Innovation - 2019 Senior Carnival	10/03/2019

## ASCH Outreach (continued)

Educational Outreach	Date
Har-Ber High School FAFSA Frenzy	10/07/2019
Rogers New Tech High School Presentation	10/10/2019
Razorback Reveal	10/12/2019
Ready Razorback Presentation	10/12/2019
UARK Multicultural Center: Flip Your Flop	10/15/2019
Har-Ber How to Pay for College Night	10/22/2019
Rogers Heritage High School Presentation	10/24/2019
Bentonville West High School Presentation	10/28/2019
Physics Department Scholarship Training	10/28/2019
Rogers High School Presentation	10/30/2019
Green Forest High School Presentation	11/04/2019
Pine Bluff High School Presentation	12/04/2019
High School Visit Presentation - Multicultural Center	12/05/2019
High School Visit Presentation - Multicultural Center	01/16/2020
Freshman Engineering Drill Scholarship Presentation	01/24/2020
High School Visit Presentation - Multicultural Center	01/29/2020
Yocum Hall Scholarship Presentation	01/29/2020
Multicultural Center Presentation	02/03/2020
School of Art Scholarship Presentation	02/06/2020
Fayetteville Public Library - Planning for College	02/16/2020
Delta Group Scholarship Presentation	02/26/2020
COEHP Preview Day	02/28/2020
Fulbright Development - Scholarship Training	03/12/2020

### Service

Emily Patterson serves as the Arkansas Delegate at Large for the Southwestern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SWASFAA). She serves on the Board of Directors for both the Arkansas Association of Financial Aid Administrators (AASFAA) and SWASFAA due to her position as the SWASFAA Arkansas Delegate-at-Large.

Erin Wooldridge serves as the Member at Large for the Southern Association of Student Employment Administrators and serves as secretary. Erin was elected to serve as the Secretary for the Southwestern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (SWASFAA). She is also the chair of the SWASFAA Archives Committee.

Denise Burford served as a guest presenter for the 2019 SWASFAA Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, in November 2019 and continues as a community outreach committee member with Credit Counseling of Arkansas. In the spring she completed training to conduct budget seminars for their outreach efforts.

# Registrar

## Core Functions

The Office of the Registrar serves as the University's central academic support unit for:

- Collecting and recording student and instructional academic program information, including conducting and managing processes related to registration
- Coordinating and producing official enrollment and academic certification from academic records
- Providing support for determining academic eligibility and academic progress
- Developing and managing degree audit programming and processes
- Implementing and monitoring academic and administrative policies
- Producing the schedule of classes
- Providing degree processing and diploma distribution
- Coordinating campus classroom assignment process
- Evaluating and posting transfer/test credit for undergraduate students
- Managing access to and coordinating the release of student academic information in compliance with federal regulations and university policies
- Supporting and maintaining curriculum through program and course inventory
- Coordinating enhancements and providing support for maintenance and upgrades to the Student Information System and Auxiliary Software systems
- Coordinating graduation processes and commencement ceremony

## Mission Statement

The Office of the Registrar contributes to the mission of the University of Arkansas by constantly pursuing excellence in the accuracy of academic records, the integrity of academic processes, and the quality of service given to our university community and the general public. In so doing, we strive to create an environment that:

- Seeks efficient and effective ways of operating
- Encourages personal and professional growth
- Utilizes teamwork
- Respects diversity
- Promotes open communication
- Cultivates a service attitude

## Major Accomplishments and Goals Achieved

### Executed New Grade Exclusion Policy

Participated in the formulation and execution of the new grade exclusion policy that allows undergraduate students to remove up to 9 hours of D or F grades from their GPA without having to retake the courses. This involved developing an eForm process to take the request for processing and insert it into the students' record for documentation.

### eForms – JADU, MS Forms

This past year the office has leveraged both JADU and MS Forms to create electronic forms. JADU currently is being used for grade exclusions (both UARK credential authenticated and public versions), and MS Forms is being used for grading policy petition requests, and was also used to capture students' intent for fall commencement.

Forms have also been created for class time exception requests and statement of academic standing requests. However, these have not been activated yet. The office has been transitioning to MS Forms because of the workflow capabilities.

### Released CLSS Focus Search

The registrar's office released a new class search tool in February 2020 that offers more search options and a more functional interface. It is integrated with the class scheduling software, updated dynamically, and is available 24/7 to the public.



## Implemented COVID-19 Grading Policy

The office implemented the new grading policy for Pass/Fail/No Credit options passed by Faculty Senate due to the COVID-19 pandemic during the spring and summer 2020 terms. This involved creating new grading schemes and conversions, as well as developing a process for students and advisors to request the grade changes.

Also, temporarily removed online class enrollment limits for students in on-campus programs.

## Major Updates to Published Calendars

The office updated academic calendars to 25Live Publisher for more dynamic and interactive formats. These updates included the Academic Semester Calendar, Administrative Calendar, and the Academic Standards Committee Calendar.

The office developed department specific calendars for the Law School, Geosciences, Chemistry, Early Care & Education (College of Education) and Upward Bound with plans to add calendars for the Department of Theatre events. The calendars offer the campus community the ability to download events to their personal calendar, subscribe to the events and expand the information. Special events created for the departments can now be posted to the department's website seamlessly with little or no need for technical support.

## Enhancements to Degree Audit

- Incomplete grades added to requirement groups. Previously, incomplete courses were pushed to the Courses Not Used Above portion of the degree audit report. An update was put in place to allow incompletes to show in the requirement groups with a red, square icon. These courses are handled in the same manner as the courses in progress.
- Updates were made to reduce the number of online

hours allowed for an on-campus degree in proportion to the number of transfer hours used for the degree. This was to comply with Faculty Senate's online course policy.

- Remediation plans and subplans were added to the degree audit and the degree clearance. Once the requirement for the remediation subplan is met, the subplan is no longer visible on the degree audit side, but it remains visible on the degree clearance. This is to give advisors and students more visibility of remediation requirements.

10	SPECIAL JOURNAL SEMINAR	<a href="#">JOUR 405V</a>	Fa 2019	I	3.000	<a href="#">Reqmnt Details</a>
10	SOCIAL MEDIA AND JOURNALISM	<a href="#">JOUR 4073</a>	Fa 2019	C	3.000	<a href="#">Reqmnt Details</a>
10	CREATIVE WRITING I	<a href="#">ENGL 2023</a>	Fa 2020		3.000	<a href="#">Reqmnt Details</a>

## Program Compliance Project

The office worked with Global Campus and ITS in response to a new federal mandate requiring institutions to notify students of any possible professional licensure which may be associated with their degree plan whenever a financial commitment has been made. A new page in UAConnect was created to maintain these records along with several new communications and an extract to feed data to a web page maintained by University Relations.

## SMS Enrollment Reminders

The office sent 33,369 SMS messages reminding students who had opted in of their upcoming enrollment appointments. These text messages are personalized to each student and contains the date and time of when their eligibility to enroll begins.

## Pre-Enrollment of New Freshmen

In the spring of 2020, the Office of the Registrar began the planning process for enrolling 4,766 new freshmen into nine hours of courses before the students arrived at orientation. There were 142 different classes and labs used for this process, which amounted to a total of 42,955 pre-enrolled hours.

Assessment of the pre-enrollment process on 07/06/20 showed the following:

65.07% kept the class and in the same section as pre-enrolled

11.58% kept the class but in a different section than pre-enrolled

23.35% did not keep the class

Overall, more than 76% of classes scheduled during pre-enrollment remained on the schedule for a student after orientations for June ended. This was a one percent improvement from last year and a thirteen percent improvement from 2014.



## UAConnect

UAConnect supports more than 28,000 students with active accounts as well as more than 1,400 faculty and 3,000 staff who all have daily access to the system. The system also supports thousands of graduate and undergraduate applicants, as well as parents who have been granted access by their students. The UAConnect team works diligently to keep the system accessible, pertinent and convenient for all users, whether they are located on campus or around the world.

### Workday ERP

The anticipated Spring 2020 kickoff of the Workday Student implementation was pushed back to the coming year. This delay has given our functional offices time to start preparations by reviewing current business processes and security.

Members of the UAConnect team joined more than 16,000 other customers at the annual Workday Rising Conference in Orlando. A one-day pre-conference session was offered for institutions that were live, or going live, on the Workday Student software. Interacting with this focused group allowed us to become more familiar with peer institutions and learn from their experiences with the software platform.

### UAConnect Changes

In February, the UAConnect technical team moved from our Uptown Campus East location to the Administrative Services Building (ADSB) on campus. While we have been able to communicate with the on-campus technical group via Teams, the physical distance has made a difference in the general response time for UAConnect issues and questions. We continue to work closely with the technical group in an effort to streamline these processes.

The Training Coordinator, Kim Gilbert, left the UAConnect team and moved to the Workday Finance implementation group in March. During her two years as trainer, Kim made a large impact on the UAConnect team, as well as students, faculty and staff through her training and direct assistance. Kim was instrumental in updating documentation used in training and on our Help-UAConnect website. She also created a number of short training videos for our faculty and staff users.

The University instituted a hiring freeze shortly after Kim moved. Her position has remained open through the end of the fiscal year. The associate director continues to cover many of the Trainer's job duties.

Following last year's upgrade on the Help-UAConnect website, the office learned that a key element needed to make the site searchable was not going to be made available. We contacted IT Services in March for assistance in making the site searchable with a redesign. This work is continuing and expected to be completed by the end of the 2020 calendar year.

### Service

Throughout the past year, UAConnect has continued to provide outstanding service to users. Communications were disseminated to all users when there were system changes and new offerings. Focused e-mail, social media, announcements and Newswire articles alerted users of updates, outages and upcoming changes and directed them to detailed documentation located on the Help-UAConnect website.

More than 30 group and one-on-one training sessions were created and presented to campus faculty and staff. Training documentation was rebranded and updated. Short videos were created for focused faculty and staff training. Additional training materials were created for campus offices specific to their use of UAConnect. Administrative personnel participated in campus orientation sessions for new faculty and advisors, explaining the services UAConnect offers them.

### Conferences Attended

Kim Gilbert and Mary-Ann Bloss attended the South Central HEUG Regional User Group Conference, Dallas, TX, July 2019

Kim Gilbert and Mary-Ann Bloss attended the Workday Rising Conference, Orlando, FL, October 2019

### Professional Activity

Kim Gilbert. Presenter, 2019 South Central Regional User Group (SCHRUG) Conference.

Mary-Ann Bloss. Member and Past Chair, Project

and Change Management Advisory Group, Oracle/PeopleSoft Higher Education Group (HEUG). Product Council, Oracle/PeopleSoft Higher Education User Group (HEUG). Vendor & Communications Chair, 2019 South Central Regional User Group (SCHRUG) Conference. Planning Committee, 2019 South Central Regional User Group (SCHRUG) Conference.

## Information Technology

The Information Technology (IT) team in the Office of Admissions supports the data and electronic needs of the office. This includes, but is not limited to, computer servers, workstations, laptops, iPads, cell phones, televisions, and other devices as needed. IT responds to numerous requests for information each year, including direct support to each undergraduate college on campus. In the last year, the IT team received and completed over 1,500 requests for assistance and data, submitted by email. 55,416 ACT/SAT test results were loaded, and 8,487 electronic transcripts were processed. More than 225,000 prospects and more than 41,000 inquiries were loaded into Slate. UAConnect went through its regular updates, with PeopleTools 8.57.04 and PUM 17 bundle being the latest version. The admissions application is now hosted in Slate, which makes it easier to implement updates. The IT team helped redesign workflows and admissions processes within Slate, which in turn has reduced the number of manual tasks performed by CEU in UAConnect and Perceptive Content. The IT team integrated CASHNet for use in application payments, Parchment and SCOIR for automatic transcript downloads, ACT for automatic test score loads, and the Common Application for additional admission applications. Work has begun on integrating Mongoose Cadence, which would allow more granular SMS communications by the recruiting team.

The IT team replaced 10 laptops and reconditioned another 10 to extend their life cycle. Additionally, 15 CEU computers were refurbished and new monitors were issued to all members of the recruitment team in order to increase productivity. The IT team provided additional support for 3 new recruiter positions.

The IT team prepared and transitioned the entire Admissions team, with a 3 day notice, to a work-from-home environment, while providing for their technology/connectivity needs.

## Office of Nationally Competitive Awards

### By the Numbers

During the 2019-2020 academic year, ONCA completed a review of the University of Arkansas' standing in several key scholarship programs. For the Harry S. Truman Scholarship, the U of A is ranked 1st in the SEC. Our all-time total of 24 scholars places us in the top 10 public institutions (t-9th) and in the top 25 (t-22nd) public and private institutions in the nation.

For the Goldwater Scholarship, the U of A's 57 total scholars ranked 3rd (t-3rd) in the SEC, tied for 21st among public institutions, and tied for 36th among public and private institutions.

In two major post-graduate competitions for study in the United Kingdom, the Marshall Scholarship and the Rhodes Scholarship, the University of Arkansas is among the top 40 public institutions. Our record of 8 Marshall Scholars places the U of A in the top 25 (t-21st) public institutions and 2nd in the SEC. With a total of 10 Rhodes Scholars, the U of A is tied for 40th among public institutions.

In total, U of A students have received 97 Fulbright U.S. Student Awards, 142 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, 9 Udall Scholarships, 4 Gates Cambridge Scholarships, and 1057 Student Undergraduate Research Fellowships.

ONCA staff met regularly with students throughout the year in advising meetings, online appointments, and mock interview sessions, holding over 500 student meetings.

### Student Awards and Achievements

During the 2019-2020 academic year, the University of Arkansas continued a long tradition of students winning competitive awards, as U of A students received more than \$2.8 million in fellowships and scholarships. Students earned awards at both the state and national level and were recognized for their commitment to academic excellence, research, public service, leadership, and community involvement. This year saw U of A students win some of the most prestigious scholarships and fellowship in the nation, including the Goldwater Scholarship, Fulbright U.S. Student Award, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, DOD

National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship, and Gilman Scholarship.

Several University of Arkansas students had great success in competing for these awards. Sophomore Sabrina Jones (honors physics, psychology, and Spanish) was named a Barry Goldwater Scholar, as well as a Caltech Amgen Scholar. Senior Julia Loshelder (honors civil engineering) was awarded a DOD National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship. In addition, six students received Fulbright U.S. Student Awards, seven students were named National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellows, and 19 students received Student Undergraduate Research Fellowships. Students were also named finalists or honorable mentions for many other awards, including the Schwarzman, Truman, and Udall Scholarships.

### Goldwater Scholarship

Congress established the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program in 1986 to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineer by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in those fields. Goldwater Scholars are selected from a field of more than a thousand mathematics, science, and engineering students, who must be nominated by their institutions. The first University of Arkansas student to receive a Goldwater Scholarship was mathematics major Todd Williams in 1991. The university has had a total of 57 students receive the prestigious award. Goldwater Scholars receive \$7,500 to fund their undergraduate education.

Sophomore Sabrina Jones (honors physics, psychology, and Spanish) was named a 2020 Barry M. Goldwater Scholar. She is a Bodenhamer Fellow, Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholar, National Hispanic Scholar, and National Merit Finalist. She plans to pursue a career conducting clinical neuroscience research at a medical research institution. On campus, Jones performs research with Dr. Woodrow Shew, associate professor of physics, on neuronal networks. She has also conducted research with Dr. Ryoichi Fujiwara, assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences at

the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and in summer 2020 she will research with Dr. Carlos Lois, research professor of biology at Caltech in Pasadena, California. Jones has published in the journals *Pharmacology Research & Perspectives* and *Xenobiotica*, as well as presented her work at conferences in Pittsburgh and Montreal. She was awarded a 2020 Honors College Research Grant, and she is also an active member of the Society of Physics Students, Conversation Club, and Honors College Ambassadors. In summer 2019, she studied Spanish at Universidad Nebrija in Spain.

### Fulbright U.S. Student Program

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 through legislation sponsored by Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas to promote international education as a means of fostering cultural and political understanding across the globe. More than 160 countries participate in the program. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program operates in more than 140 countries worldwide, and allows U.S. students and young professionals to teach English, study, or research for an academic year.

Six students and recent alumni received 2020-2021 Fulbright U.S. Student awards. Yumi Ha, an honors chemistry and Spanish senior, received an English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) to Italy. Eleanor Henson, an honors biological engineering senior, received a study/research award to pursue a master's degree in the environment and sustainability program at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada. Lane Justus (honors biology, Latin American and Latino studies, political science, and Spanish '19) received an ETA to Mexico. Caroline Rhomberg, an honors industrial engineering senior, received a study/research award to pursue a two-year master's degree in industrial engineering and operations research at the University of Ghent in Ghent, Belgium. Maya Ungar, an honors French, international and global studies, and political science senior, received an ETA to Sri Lanka. Rebecca Yeager, a master's student in elementary education, received an ETA to The Netherlands.

### National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship

Seven University of Arkansas students and recent alumni received National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships to begin in the

2020-2021 academic year. Each fellowship is worth \$34,000 per year and can be renewed for up to three years. Along with the renewable stipend, each student's institution will receive \$12,000 per year, bringing the total amount of funding awarded to these seven students to more than \$900,000. The award recognizes not only academic excellence, but also the expected future contribution that each student's research will make to her or his field and to society at large.

Tobias Dwyer graduated with honors from the U of A in 2019 with a degree in chemical engineering where he researched modeling of electrochemical struvite recovery under mentor Lauren Greenlee, associate professor of chemical engineering. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in chemical engineering at the University of Michigan.

Andrew Larey is an honors biomedical engineering senior in the College of Engineering at the U of A. He is an Honors College Fellow and Governor's Distinguished Scholar. He researches optical metabolic imaging with Timothy Muldoon, associate professor of biomedical engineering. Larey will pursue his Ph.D. in engineering with a biomedical engineering emphasis from the University of Georgia in Athens.

Julia Loshelder is an honors civil engineering senior in the College of Engineering. Her undergraduate research with Richard Coffman, associate professor of civil engineering, focuses on methods to determine the moisture content of soil through remote sensing. She will continue her education at the U of A pursuing her doctorate in civil engineering.

Jason Steck graduated with honors from the U of A in 2018 with his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering and a minor in chemistry. While at the U of A, Steck researched mechanics of nanostructured surfaces with enhanced tribological properties with Min Zou, professor of mechanical engineering. He is currently a Ph.D. student at Harvard University studying materials science and mechanical engineering.

Garrett Tatum graduated with his undergraduate degree in honors civil engineering from the U of A in 2019. Tatum researched under mentor Gary Prinz, associate professor of civil engineering, where he sought to design a cheap and easy-to-use structural health monitoring sensor to monitor



seismic connection rotations in steel buildings during earthquakes. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in civil engineering with a concentration in structural engineering from Ohio State University.

Simon Tye is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in biological sciences at the U of A under research mentor Adam Siepielski, associate professor of biological sciences. His dissertation is focused on the ecological and evolutionary implications of mass mortality events – catastrophic die-offs that affect all demographic classes and rapidly occur relative to an organism’s generation time. Tye graduated in 2017 with his undergraduate degree in wildlife biology from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Natalie Von Tress graduated in May 2019 with an honors degree in biological engineering. Von Tress conducted her undergraduate research under Wen Zhang, associate professor of civil engineering, where she researched the effects of titanium- and iron-based nanoparticles on *Microcystis aeruginosa*, a cyanobacterium commonly found in harmful algal blooms. She is currently pursuing her master’s degree under Natalie Nelson in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at North Carolina State University.

## **Gilman Scholarship**

During the 2019-2020 academic year, fourteen undergraduate students received Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, for the fall, spring, or summer terms. The Gilman Scholarship allows undergraduate students with high financial need the opportunity to study or participate in an internship abroad, develop valuable career and language skills, and prepare themselves for the global economy while serving as citizen ambassadors in their host country.

Gilman Scholars receive up to \$5,000 to apply towards their study abroad program costs, and a limited number of students will also receive additional funding for language study through the Critical Need Language Awards, for a total award of \$8,000. At present, over 100 U of A students have received the Gilman Scholarship since the program began in 2001.

## **Department Of Defense National Defense Science And Engineering Graduate Fellowship**

The Department of Defense awards this highly

competitive scholarship to students planning to pursue a Ph.D. in areas of military importance. It includes three years of full tuition and fees as well as funds for various academic expenditures.

Julia Loshelder, an honors senior civil engineering major, was offered an NDSEG Fellowship beginning in the 2020-2021 academic year. During her undergraduate career, she researched with Dr. Richard Coffman, associate professor of civil engineering. In the summer of 2019, she participated in an NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates at the University of California, Davis. She also interned with the Texas Department of Transportation in the summer of 2018. On campus, she was named the Outstanding Junior in the Civil Engineering Department, the Walter LaFevre Outstanding Senior in the Civil Engineering Department, and she served as president of the campus chapter of American Society of Civil Engineers.

## **Additional National Awards Received By U of A Students**

Caltech Amgen Scholarship

Cambridge International Scholarship

DAAD Graduate Study Scholarship

Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholarship

Japan Exchange and Teaching Program

## **Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

For the 2019-2020 academic year, 19 U of A students earned Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) funding. These students’ research interests represent a variety of fields. Individual state awards ranged from \$2,125 to \$2,750, with the university providing matching funds for each student. SURF funds provide financial support for students to engage in research projects that are meaningful to their degrees and future careers, while also providing financial support to faculty research mentors who supervise student projects.

Student Name	Major	Mentor
Mia Alshami	Chemistry, Psychology	Hassan Beyzavi
Drake Enderlin	Biology	Jamie Baum
Meagan Olsen	Chemical Engineering	Shannon Servoss
Madeline Richards	Biology	Michael Lehmann
Jared Ruff	Poultry Science	Billy Hargis
Mason Ruiz	Biology	Yong Wang
Christopher Salmon	Biology	Hassan Beyzavi
Hannah Sawyer	Psychology	Lindsay Ham
Andrew Schoonover	Political Science, Supply Chain Management	Amy Farmer
Kylie Schultz	Psychology	Lindsay Ham
Alexia Sebghati	Kinesiology	Michelle Gray
Lauren Separd	Chemical Engineering, Physics	Lauren Greenlee
Braden Shipman	Biology	Erica Westerman
Brady Shipman	Finance	Julie Trivitt
Annalyn Smith	Biology	Michelle Gray
Sangeetha Sonney	Biology	Yuchun Du
Laura Spencer	Anthropology, History	Marvin Kay
Madison Stoudt	Biology	Michael Lehmann
Jaycie Strunk	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Lisa Bowers

## Campus Events - Outreach

ONCA staff participated in many events throughout the year to spread awareness about particular scholarships and the office in general.

### August

- New graduate student orientation info fair (Aug. 21)
- Fulbright U.S. Student Program informational meeting (Aug. 22)
- UK Awards informational meeting (Aug. 27)
- Fulbright U.S. Student Program informational meeting (Aug. 28)

### September

- SURF informational meeting (Sept. 4)
- NSF workshop (Sept. 7)
- Speak to Ben Putman's UP class about Udall (Emily Wright, Sept. 9)
- SURF informational meeting (Sept. 12)
- SURF informational meeting for faculty (Sept. 16)
- Q&A with Stephanie Galen (former Fulbright ETA) for Fulbright applicants (Sept. 17)
- Speak to COEHP honors mentors about SURF (Jonathan Langley, Sept. 18)
- Speak to Louise Hancox's UP class (Sept. 24)
- Speak to John Treat's professional development class (Jonathan Langley, Sept. 26)

### October

- Speak to Xochitl Delgado's UP class (Jonathan Langley, Oct. 30)
- Informational table at Honors College Research Symposium (Oct. 30)

### November

- Speak to Anne Raines' UP class (Jonathan Langley, Nov. 4)
- Speak to Portuguese class about Critical Language Scholarship (Emily Wright, Nov. 4)
- Speak to Noah Pittman's UP class (Jonathan Langley, Nov. 7)

- Speak to Michelle King's UP class (Nov. 7)
- Speak to Jill Wheeler's UP class (Jonathan Langley, Nov. 18)

### December

- Speak to Kelly Carter's UP class (Dec. 5)
- NSF REU informational session (Dec. 5)
- Speak to Bumpers College honors freshman course (Dec. 10)

### January

- Speak to new graduate student orientation attendees (Jan. 9)
- Speak to CIED 4131 (Emily Wright, Jan. 13)
- Speak to graduate students about funding opportunities (Jan. 31)

### February

- Speak to Walton College academic advisors (Jonathan Langley, Feb. 10)
- Speak to Bethany Springer's MFA class (Jonathan Langley, Feb. 12)

### March

- Speak at Phi Theta Kappa regional conference (Jonathan Langley, Mar. 7)
- Speak to PATH students (Jonathan Langley, Mar. 8)

### April

- Goldwater Scholarship online informational session (Apr. 16)
- Truman Scholarship online informational session (Apr. 16)
- Fulbright U.S. Student Awards online informational session (Apr. 21)
- STEM awards for graduate students online informational session (Apr. 22)
- STEM awards for undergraduate students online informational session (Apr. 22)
- UK awards online informational session (Apr. 23)
- Fulbright U.S. Student Awards online informational session for graduate students (Apr. 27)

- Udall Scholarship online informational session (Apr. 29)

## May

- Fulbright U.S. Student Awards online informational session for graduate students (May 4)

## State And National Awards Reception

The annual State and National Awards Reception honoring student award winners and their mentors was scheduled to be held on Wednesday, April 22nd in the Faulkner Performing Arts Center. Due to campus regulations amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision was made to cancel the in-person event. In order to still recognize the hard work of students and mentors throughout the year, the office instead produced a digital version of the booklet typically handed out at the in-person event. The booklet contained the names of nearly 300 students and over 100 faculty and staff mentors who received over \$2.8 million in outside funding during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The booklet was posted online and was accompanied by videos from Provost Jim Coleman, who addressed student and faculty achievement, and Vice Provost Suzanne McCray, who welcomed students and faculty to the virtual event, as well as recognized the year's staff, faculty, and departmental gold medal winners. Staff gold medal awards were given to Anne Raines, senior director for academic initiatives for the Student Success Center, and Judy Schwab, emeritus associate vice chancellor for administration.

Continuing its tradition of honoring outstanding faculty mentors and their departments, ONCA also recognized six faculty members and one department with the 2019-2020 Faculty and Departmental Gold Medal Awards. Winners are selected because of their demonstrated commitment to student success. The 2019-2020 Faculty Gold Medal winners were:

- Lisa Bowers, associate professor, College of Education and Health Professions
- Ken McCown, professor, Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design
- Timothy Muldoon, associate professor, College of Engineering
- Jill Rucker, associate professor, Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences

- Bret Schulte, associate professor, Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences

- Julie Trivitt, clinical associate professor, Sam M. Walton College of Business

The Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology was recognized with the 2019-2020 Departmental Gold Medal. Previous departmental winners include Biomedical Engineering; Architecture; Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness; Civil Engineering; Journalism; Electrical Engineering; Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences; Marketing; International Relations; Biological Sciences; Chemical Engineering; History; Political Science; Chemistry; Economics; World Languages, Literatures, & Cultures; and Physics.

## Arkansas Reads

In October 2019, the Arkansas Reads Program visited Augusta Elementary in Augusta to donate physical books and e-readers, promote STEM education, and celebrate literacy. In preparation for the event, graduate assistant Breanna Carter set up 24 Amazon Kindle Fire tablets, as well as purchased over 350 books to load onto them. ONCA staff and student volunteers also received training from the College of Engineering's student ambassadors to conduct a STEM activity with the 3rd-5th grade classrooms at Augusta Elementary. The activity challenged students to make a "puff mobile" from limited materials (pieces of paper, a straw, paper clips, etc.) that then must be powered by a puff of air. Designed to teach basic engineering principles, the activity was a lively way to engage students

Chancellor Joe Steinmetz traveled to Augusta along with honors students Julia Nall, Memo Tellez, Maya Ungar, and Daniel Webster to participate in the day's celebration. After an opening ceremony, in which Chancellor Steinmetz read a selection from *Izzy Gizmo* by Pip Jones, ONCA staff and AR Reads volunteers began individual classroom visits. Chancellor Steinmetz and Dr. Suzanne McCray visited the younger classrooms and read books to them. ONCA staff and AR Reads volunteers led the "puff mobile" activity with the older classrooms. Each class also had their picture taken with the Razorbug. After the day's activities, ONCA staff and AR Reads volunteers unloaded over 7,000 physical books to donate to the school's library, as well as Amazon Kindle Fire tablets.

On November 1, the Arkansas Reads Program received funding from the university's Women's Giving Circle for the second time in six years. The program was awarded a grant of \$5,660, and these funds will be used to expand the current Arkansas Reads program to provide reading materials featuring diverse characters to school and home libraries at our future partner school, Carroll Smith Elementary School, and throughout the community in Osceola.

In February 2020, the AR Reads Program continued its partnership with the Office of Greek Life and the Panhellenic Society in collecting physical books to be donated to a future partner school. Over two days, staff and students received over 5,000 books, and half of the donations were given to local schools in Fayetteville.

### **Advanced Placement Summer Institute**

This year, the management of the Advanced Placement Summer Institute (APSI) transitioned from the Honors College to ONCA. APSI is a professional development workshop for middle and high school teachers that brings College Board-certified consultants to help prepare teachers to teach Advanced Placement courses. Participants come from across Arkansas and around the country for four to five days of training.

ONCA Associate Director, Emily Wright, assisted with the 2019 APSI in July, in preparation of the program transitioning to ONCA. APSI officially transferred to ONCA in fall 2019. ONCA applied for, and received, a grant of \$171,080 from the Arkansas Department of Education to run APSI and provide grants to Arkansas public school teachers to cover the cost of attending. Preparations began in October for the 2020 APSI, with ONCA offering 13 courses on campus the week of July 13th.

In March the pandemic necessitated moving APSI to a fully online format. ONCA worked with the course consultants as they switched from an in-person delivery, assigning an APSI staff member to each consultant for help with learning the new technology, holding practice sessions, and making sure they were comfortable with using Blackboard and Collaborate Ultra. ONCA enrolled over 200 teachers and offered trainings to ensure everyone was prepared to use Blackboard and Collaborate Ultra prior to the Institute.