National Merit Scholars Program Overview

The National Merit Scholars Program at the University of Texas at Dallas combines a specially designed set of intellectual opportunities with an excellent financial package. Located in the Honors College, the program works closely with other interdisciplinary academic programs at UT Dallas that promote academic achievement and celebrate the pursuit of knowledge.

National Merit Scholars at UT Dallas enjoy academic support and opportunities at UT Dallas. Scholars are eligible for inclusion in the Collegium V Honors Program, providing access to small class sizes and some of the university’s top faculty members. Scholars have the opportunity to participate in the Honors Roundtable Series, a set of small-group, discipline-specific discussions on a focused theme led by UT Dallas faculty members or guest lecturers. Scholars will get to know other National Merit Scholars by attending the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and other cultural events with tickets provided by the university. Through the Honors College, scholars will receive academic and career mentoring and will have access to the Office of Distinguished Scholarships to support applications for competitive national scholarships.

Through the National Merit Scholars Program, the university is financially committed to recruiting from the top academic applicants in the country. Beginning in the Fall 2016 semester, incoming National Merit Scholars will receive complete coverage of UT Dallas tuition and mandatory fees for eight semesters, a $4,000 per semester cash stipend to defray the costs of books, supplies, and other expenses, a $1,500 per semester housing stipend for students living on campus, and a one-time award of up to $6,000 for an international study abroad program. The total estimated value over four academic years is $100,000 for in-state students and $178,000 for out-of-state students.

We encourage you to learn more about the National Merit Scholars Program at UT Dallas and visit our campus. National Merit Scholars Program Preview events, held throughout the spring semester for National Merit Finalists and their guests, will allow you to experience campus and meet your future colleagues. We welcome you to join faculty and students from the Honors College as well as department heads and faculty from all academic programs in a fun and informative look at life as a UT Dallas Scholar. Attendees will participate in a number of engaging activities and gain valuable insight from student leaders.

Find out more about our National Merit Scholars Program Preview.