The Office of Distinguished Scholarships (ODS) provides support and guidance related to nationally and internationally competitive scholarships and fellowships. It assists Carolina students and alums in putting their best foot forward when applying for these awards. ODS staff offer regular information sessions and hands-on workshops. They also suggest interviewing strategies and can connect applicants to additional resources, including a library liaison who can assist with researching and writing project statements.

In addition, ODS administers the institutional vetting process called “endorsement” for 14 scholarship and fellowship programs:

- Beinecke (for third-year undergraduates)
- Churchill (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- Goldwater (for second- and third-year students)
- James C. Gaither (formerly Carnegie) (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- Luce (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- Marshall (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- McCall MacBain (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- Michel David-Weill (for undergraduates in their final years)
- Mitchell (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- Rhodes (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- Truman (for third-year undergraduates)
- Udall (for second- and third-year undergraduates)
- Yenching (for undergraduates in their final years and alums)
- The Office also evaluates candidates for endorsement for the Boren Scholarship (for undergraduates) and Fellowship (for graduate students), for which endorsement is optional but strongly encouraged.

The preparation required to compete for prestigious scholarships is a valuable educational opportunity. Candidates improve their self-awareness and ability to articulate not only their past accomplishments but also their goals and priorities for the future.

Consult ODS’s STRIVE (http://strive.unc.edu/) database for information on more than 1,000 scholarships, fellowships, and other funding sources.

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