YOUR CAL POLY FELLOWSHIP PATHWAY

A selective guide to planning early, building a record, and applying with purpose

ALL STUDENTS START HERE

Explore early; awards are built on sustained engagement. Develop relationships with faculty, pursue research/service/leadership, and consider language learning or study abroad. Key options open across undergraduate years include:

• **Gilman International Scholarship** — study abroad for Pell-eligible U.S. undergraduates• **Fund for Education Abroad** — study abroad support for students with financial need• **Boren Scholarship** — language-focused study abroad in regions critical to U.S. interests• **Critical Language Scholarship** — fully funded summer language study; undergraduates apply after completing their first academic year

YEAR 1 EXPLORE

- Begin a résumé of meaningful experiences—not a list of activities.
- Meet faculty mentors; seek research, community-engagement, and language opportunities.
- **Fulbright UK Summer Institutes** — for many first- and second-year students with two undergraduate years remaining

YEAR 2 BUILD

- **Goldwater Scholarship*** — STEM research career pathway; sophomores and juniors
- **Udall Scholarship*** — environmental or Tribal public policy/health leadership; sophomores and juniors
- **NOAA Hollings Scholarship** — typically second-year students in NOAA-related fields
- **DAAD RISE Germany** — STEM research internship; typically after two academic years

YEAR 3 COMPETE

- **Goldwater Scholarship*** — last eligible year for many students pursuing research
- **Udall Scholarship*** — last eligible year for many students in its focus areas
- **Truman Scholarship*** — public-service graduate-school pathway; typically the penultimate year
- Begin preparing senior-year applications and seek feedback well before campus deadlines.

YEAR 4 & BEYOND LAUNCH

• **Fulbright U.S. Student Program*** • **Rhodes Scholarship*** • **Marshall Scholarship*** • **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship** • **Hertz Fellowship** • **Quad Fellowship** • **Erasmus Mundus GLOBE** • **Switzer Fellowship** • **Knight-Hennessy Scholars** • **Schwarzman Scholars** • **Luce Scholars Program** • **Princeton in Asia / Latin America / Africa** • **JET Program** • **James C. Gaither Junior Fellows Program** • **Samvid Scholars** • **Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships** • **Pickering Fellowship** • **Rangel Fellowship** • **Critical Language Scholarship**

Explore beyond this chart. Visit the **NIFS website and opportunity database** for a broader, current list of awards, and follow **@calpolyfellowships** for daily postings and deadlines.

*** Cal Poly campus nomination/process required: Fulbright, Goldwater, Udall, Truman, Rhodes, and Marshall.** Eligibility, deadlines, and award terms change—always verify details on the official program site and connect with NIFS early.

CONNECT WITH NIFS
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FELLOWSHIP PATHWAY AT A GLANCE

Use this companion chart to identify opportunities by stage, field, and purpose. Every award title is linked to its official site.

YEAR	FIELDS DISCIPLINES OR PURPOSES	ASSOCIATED OPPORTUNITIES
YEAR 1	All majors; exploration, study away, language learning, research, service, and leadership.	• **Gilman International Scholarship** — Pell-eligible study abroad • **Fund for Education Abroad** — study abroad support based on need • **Boren Scholarship** — critical-language study abroad • **Fulbright UK Summer Institutes** — many first- and second-year students • **Critical Language Scholarship** — apply after completing the 1st academic year or 2nd, 3rd, 4th year
YEAR 2	STEM research; environment or Tribal public policy/health; federal science; international research and language.	• **Goldwater Scholarship*** — STEM research • **Udall Scholarship*** — environmental or Tribal public policy/health • **NOAA Hollings Scholarship** — NOAA-related fields • **DAAD RISE Germany** — STEM research internship • **Obama-Chesky Voyager Scholarship** — public-service leadership, travel, and financial support for eligible rising juniors
YEAR 3	Research, public service, graduate-school preparation, and sustained leadership.	• **Goldwater Scholarship*** — STEM research; final eligible year for many applicants • **Udall Scholarship*** — final eligible year for many applicants • **Truman Scholarship*** — public-service graduate pathway; usually penultimate year • **DAAD RISE Germany** — STEM research internship
YEAR 4 & BEYOND	Graduate study and research; language learning; English teaching; international work placements; government and policy; ecology, conservation, and environmental leadership.	• **Fulbright U.S. Student Program*** — research, study, or English teaching abroad • **Rhodes Scholarship*** — graduate study at Oxford • **Marshall Scholarship*** — graduate study in the United Kingdom • **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship** — research-based STEM graduate study • **Hertz Fellowship** — doctoral STEM study • **Erasmus Mundus GLOBE** — Global Change Ecology and Biodiversity Management master's • **Samvid Scholars** — U.S. graduate study and social-impact leadership • **Luce Scholars Program** — professional placement and language learning in Asia • **Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans** — U.S. graduate or professional study for New Americans • **James C. Gaither Junior Fellows Program** — Carnegie policy research; apply through Cal Poly • **Pickering Fellowship** — U.S. Foreign Service graduate pathway • **Rangel Fellowship** — U.S. Foreign Service graduate pathway • **JET Program** — teaching and cultural exchange in Japan • **Princeton in Asia, Latin America, and Africa** — postgraduate service fellowships • **Switzer Fellowship** — graduate environmental leadership and social change • **Quad Fellowship** — U.S.-based STEM graduate study and social impact • **Knight-Hennessy Scholars** — graduate study at Stanford • **Schwarzman Scholars** — global leadership master's at Tsinghua University

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