



The Flinn Scholars Program

Background: The Flinn Scholarship, awarded annually to 20 Arizona high-school seniors, is one of the most prestigious merit-based scholarships in the United States. It provides four years of study at an Arizona public university, academic-focused travel abroad, personal mentorship by faculty, and other benefits. The package is valued at approximately \$50,000--on top of the cash value of tuition from the student's chosen university.

The Flinn Scholars Program is among a handful of statewide or regional merit-based undergraduate scholarship programs run by private philanthropies. The program is operated by the Flinn Foundation Scholarship Program LLC and supported by the Flinn Foundation, a private, nonprofit, grantmaking charity based in Phoenix. The first Flinn Scholars were selected in 1986; to date, the program has awarded more than 450 scholarships.

Benefits: Each Flinn Scholar receives:

- the value of eight semesters of tuition (in partnership with Arizona's universities);
- a stipend for room, board, books, supplies, and incidental campus expenses;
- a three-week, all-expenses paid summer seminar in Central Europe after the freshman year;
- additional funding for at least one more international study-travel experience and further professional development;
- supplemental intellectual, cultural, and social activities developed exclusively for Flinn Scholars;
- individual mentoring by top university faculty, Foundation staff, and community leaders;
- personal encounters with leaders in business, government, education, science, and the arts;
- membership in a university honors program or college, with the many amenities it provides; and
- fellowship in a community of similarly high-achieving students.

Where are they now?

Flinn Scholars have traveled and studied in dozens of countries on six continents. Most Scholars go on to further studies with significant, often full, funding from their post-graduate institutions--a who's who of the world's most competitive universities.

A large number of alumni undertake their life's work overseas, continuing the pattern of global study and travel they began as Flinn Scholars. Many do so with support from the country's most prestigious and competitive national awards: Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright, and Gates Scholarships.

Today, alumni of the Flinn Scholars Program work on Capitol Hill and in a Chiapas orphanage. They write for the *New York Times* and *Poetry* magazine and the journal *Science*. They are teachers and veterinarians, pediatricians and law professors, boxers and architects. (And diplomats, scientists, singers, nurses, software engineers, filmmakers, and entrepreneurs.) An increasing number have returned to Arizona to pursue their careers and raise their families.

Eligibility: Over 500 applications are reviewed each fall, followed by two rounds of interviews. Baseline qualifications: U.S. citizen and Arizona resident for at least two years; minimum 3.5 GPA; rank in top 5 percent of graduating class; minimum score of 1280 on the SAT I (critical reading and math sections only) or 29 on the ACT; participation and demonstrated leadership in a variety of extracurricular activities.

The Flinn Foundation: The Flinn Foundation was established in 1965 by the late Dr. and Mrs. Robert S. Flinn with the broad mission of improving the quality of life in Arizona. In addition to the Scholars program, the Foundation's primary emphasis is to advance the medical sciences in Arizona.

For More Information:

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