



The Flinn Scholars Program

Background: The Flinn Scholarship, awarded annually to approximately 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 alumni Scholars—leaders in every field imaginable—and many other benefits.

The Flinn Scholars Program is among a handful of comprehensive 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 600 scholarships. Today, the total package, which includes the university-provided cost of tuition, is valued at more than \$115,000.

Benefits: Each recipient of the Flinn Scholarship receives:

- the value of eight semesters of tuition (in partnership with Arizona’s universities);
- a generous stipend for room, board, books, supplies, and incidental campus expenses;
- a three-week, all-expenses paid summer seminar in China after the freshman year;
- additional support 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, community leaders, Foundation staff, and a network of hundreds of Flinn Scholar alumni;
- 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?

The Flinn Foundation envisions Flinn Scholars as outstanding future leaders for Arizona in both public and private life—as business executives, scientific researchers, artists, educators, and more.

More than 80 percent of Scholars continue to graduate school, often with full funding from their institutions—a who’s who of the world’s most competitive universities. Numerous Flinn Scholars have received the world’s most prestigious and competitive post-graduate awards, such as the Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright, and Gates Cambridge Scholarships.

Today, alumni of the Flinn Scholars Program have begun their careers across the country and around the world: working on Capitol Hill or at Barrow Neurological Institute; writing for the *New York Times* or the journal *Nature*; teaching high school or practicing as plastic surgeons. They are nurses, diplomats, scientists, actors, software engineers, filmmakers, and entrepreneurs. Altogether, more than 30 percent of Scholar alumni have returned to Arizona to pursue their careers and raise their families.

Eligibility: More than 700 applications are typically reviewed each fall, followed by two rounds of interviews. Requirements include: U.S. citizen and Arizona resident for at least two years. Qualifying candidates typically have at least a 3.5 GPA; rank in the top 5 percent of their graduating class; score at least 1300 on the SAT or 29 on the ACT; and demonstrate leadership in 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 supports the advancement of the biosciences in Arizona, arts and culture, and the Arizona Center for Civic Leadership, an initiative to develop future state-level leaders.

For More Information:

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