

PEER SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS

To be awarded a SHSU PEERS scholarship, a student must

- be a U.S. citizen, national, refugee alien, or permanent resident alien;
- demonstrate financial need (defined as eligibility for need-based Federal financial aid);
- enroll full-time at SHSU, defined as 12 semester hours for undergraduates and 9 semester hours for graduate students;
- have one satisfactory letter of recommendation from a previous instructor, counselor, or employer (as judged by the committee); and
- submit a satisfactory essay on the topic of his or her academic and career plans (as judged by the committee).

The student must also satisfy one of the following criteria:

- be a first-time undergraduate freshman with a minimum ACT score of 20, SAT of 1000 or be in the top 25% of his or her academic class;
- be a continuing undergraduate student with an overall GPA of at least 3.0/4.0;
- be an entering graduate student with a GRE of 1000 or an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.25; or
- be a continuing graduate student with 3.25/4.0 GPA or higher.
- Freshman or sophomores must be declared a mathematics, statistics, geology, geography or biology major;
- Junior or seniors must be declared a major in one of the listed disciplines and a minor in another.
- Graduate students must be declared a mathematics, statistics, or biology major.



PEERS AWARDS

Each year, approximately nine underclassmen (freshmen and sophomores) will receive up to \$3000; nine upperclassmen (juniors and seniors) will receive up to \$6000; and nine graduate students will receive \$7250. Individual award amounts depend on the limits placed by financial eligibility.

For underclassmen, the scholarship will roughly cover one semester's tuition and fees; for upperclassmen, it will cover much of their living expenses as well.

The amount awarded to graduate students reflects one-half of the salary earned through a university teaching assistantship (TA) plus \$750. TAs in Mathematics & Statistics are generally expected to teach two lower division courses, while those in Biological Sciences teach three laboratory sections, for a \$13000 salary. PEERS graduate scholarships represent one-half of a TA position, thus reducing workload by half but providing the same total financial support.

