University
HONORS
Programs

unco.edu/admissions
Hello from the Honors Program at the University of Northern Colorado.

Congratulations on your acceptance to UNC. Given your many accomplishments, I’m excited to invite you to apply to be a part of our program.

In this pamphlet, you’ll find information about applying for the Honors program, which will elevate your academic experience at UNC by allowing you to go deeper into whatever it is that lights your fire.

Because of UNC’s medium size, doctoral research standing and hands-on academic mission, undergraduate honors students here have unique advantages: they work with top faculty, direct their own projects and in many ways enjoy the sort of access and opportunities often only afforded to top graduate students. Our honors program is different from honors in high school and challenges students to make new connections and develop a deeper understanding of the world. Our core program values include community, empathy and equity, alongside an overarching push for excellence in academic pursuits.

Whether you’re interested in graduate school or standing out in the job field with your bachelor’s degree, I think you’ll find UNC is a great place to prepare for your career and pursue what you love, while also developing as a well-rounded citizen scholar.

So take a look. And please, if you have any questions, let me know. I’d love to hear from you and help you as you weigh your options.

Loree Crow  
Director for Honors and Scholars  
Center for Honors, Scholars and Leadership  
Loree.Crow@unco.edu  
970-351-2940

If you haven’t applied for Honors yet, do so today! unco.edu/honors

Javier graduated from both the McNair Scholars and Honors Interdisciplinary Programs. He is now attending Colorado School of Mines in a computer science graduate degree program. Javier was a first generation college student who immigrated from Mexico and continued to be an inspiration and mentor to the latino/a community in northern Colorado winning numerous scholarships and awards.

“Honors means to be an educated man.”  
– Javier Perez Rodriguez, Software Engineering ’19
UNC’s Center for Honors, Scholars and Leadership

Fostering an active community of citizen scholars and leaders.

HONORS PROGRAM
unco.edu/honors | honors@unco.edu

The Honors Program is designed to help you get the most out of college via interdisciplinary courses, which allow you to study the connections between subjects and ideas, along with opportunities for scholarly and creative endeavors. Why? Because in the real world, problems aren't separated out by “Math,” “Science,” “History” and “English.” Get started with creative thinking, problem-solving, mentorship and research now.

There are two tiers to the Honors Program, and students can complete either or both tiers. You’re encouraged to apply for the Honors Program when you apply to UNC.

HONORS INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM
All students in this program complete a learning portfolio and either take “The Life of the Mind” seminar courses or select their own theme for interdisciplinary study. Honors students generally complete the Interdisciplinary Program requirements in one or two years, taking one Honors-related course per semester, and may choose to begin an Upper Division Honors program project at any time after they have become sophomores.

Dorothy won first place in the UNC juried Research Excellence Awards competition for her natural sciences research on the effects of CBD on breast cancer cells. Originally an immigrant from Ghana, she became a leader at UNC and was in the Stryker Leadership Program for women. She is now attending CU Anschutz Skaggs School of Pharmacy pursuing a Doctorate of Pharmacy.

“Honors has given me so many opportunities, along with helping me to communicate professionally and to build networks and relationships with other scholars.”

– Dorothy Agyemang, Chemistry ’19
UPPER DIVISION HONORS
Students who want to complete a research project, honors thesis, creative works or applied scholarly project are encouraged to apply for Upper Division Honors in the second semester of their sophomore year.
• You must have completed at least 45 credits and have a 3.25 college GPA.
• You may apply as late as your senior year, but you must have time to complete all the requirements before graduation.

WITH ADMITTANCE INTO THE HONORS PROGRAM YOU’LL HAVE:
• Access to Honors courses, seminars and research opportunities, as well as personalized advising and other enriched learning experiences inside and outside the classroom.
• The option to reside in the Honors Residential Learning Community and participate in a variety of residential social, cultural and service activities.
• The chance to take part in Honors leadership through the Student Honors Council.
• Scholarship, travel and research stipend opportunities that are available only to Honors students.
• Recognition at commencement, on transcripts and on your UNC diploma as a graduate of the Honors Program.

HONORS RESIDENTIAL LEARNING COMMUNITY
As an Honors student, you can apply to live in the Honors Residential Learning Community (RLC). You’ll live in a hall exclusive to Honors students, take a first-year Honors seminar with your roommate and other students in the program, and make deeper connections in the Honors program.

THE HONORS PROGRAM IS FOR YOU IF YOU:
• Enjoy exploring your world
• Ask challenging questions
• Make interesting connections
• Seek deeper intellectual associations

Jessica was awarded the School of Music Outstanding Student for String performance. Her honors thesis explored Claude Debussy’s work as a composer, and she presented her research at the American Musicological Society conference. Jessica is now attending Indiana University Jacobs School of Music graduate program in musicology.

“The Honors Program at UNC has provided me with the resources, space, support, and encouragement to pursue research, writing, and scholarship at the absolute highest level in my field. I am so grateful for the time I’ve spent as a part of the program and all the exciting opportunities it has given me!”

—Jessica Bachman, Music: Instrumental Performance ’19
APPLYING TO THE HONORS PROGRAM

FALL ADMISSION
- Early Award Deadline: December 1
- Priority Deadline: March 1
- Rolling Deadline afterward as space is available

SPRING ADMISSION
- Deadline: November 1

The Honors Program is competitive. Students should apply for the Honors Program immediately after applying for admission to UNC and by the early deadline of December 1 in order to have the highest likelihood of admission into the program and for eligibility for the Courage to Excel scholarship. Applications are accepted and acceptances provided after December 1, with a priority deadline of March 1. Admission into the program requires students to provide answers to several short essay questions as well as the name and email address of one academic reference. After March 1, applications from well-qualified students will be accepted, and acceptances offered on a space-available basis. If you’re a first-year student, you can apply through your UNC applicant account. If you’re a transfer student or current UNC student, you can apply via the website: unco.edu/honors.

- Apply as an incoming first-year student (or as late as the first semester of your sophomore year).
- Successful applicants will demonstrate academic interest and aptitude, as well as a high level of motivation for exploring the world, through their application materials.
- The UNC Honors Program is not a scores-based program and is instead seeking students who want the challenge of a deeper, more connected level of study. All students who are motivated in their studies and are seeking academic and intellectual challenges beyond the ordinary are encouraged to apply.

HONORS PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
The Honors Program provides some additional scholarships beyond the institutional scholarships automatically offered by UNC to well-qualified students. Scholarships range from $500 to $2,000 and are for incoming Honors Program students with demonstrated academic excellence, community engagement and financial need. Priority in awarding scholarships is given to students who apply by the December 1 early deadline. When you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and UNC Scholarship Application, you’ll automatically be considered for these awards.
Admission-Based Scholarship Opportunities

Your application for admission to the University of Northern Colorado also serves as an application for merit scholarships, which are automatically awarded based on academic performance. To be considered for these scholarships, complete the UNC admission application by March 1.

SCHOLARSHIPS
To be considered for other scholarships, submit the UNC Scholarship application.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Colorado Resident</th>
<th>WUE Resident</th>
<th>Nonresident/Non-WUE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BEAR SCHOLARSHIP</strong></td>
<td>$8,000 ($2,000 per year)</td>
<td>$16,000 ($4,000 per year)</td>
<td>$20,000 ($5,000 per year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 3.0 GPA and either 20 ACT or 1030 SAT</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PROVOST SCHOLARSHIP</strong></td>
<td>$10,000 ($2,500 per year)</td>
<td>$16,000 ($4,000 per year)</td>
<td>$24,000 ($6,000 per year)</td>
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<td>Minimum 3.4 GPA and either 24 ACT or 1160 SAT</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP</strong></td>
<td>$12,000 ($3,000 per year)</td>
<td>$20,000 ($5,000 per year)</td>
<td>$28,000 ($7,000 per year)</td>
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<td>Minimum 3.6 GPA and either 27 ACT or 1260 SAT</td>
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<td><strong>TRUSTEE SCHOLARSHIP</strong></td>
<td>$24,000 ($6,000 per year)</td>
<td>$24,000 ($6,000 per year)</td>
<td>$36,000 ($9,000 per year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 3.8 GPA and either 29 ACT or 1330 SAT</td>
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*2019-2020 undergraduate fall and spring semesters, 30-credit academic year. 15 credits per semester (30/year) allows most students to graduate in 4 years.

1 Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) Program — WUE provides reduced tuition to students who are residents of one of the states participating in the WUE program (AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, ND, OR, SD, UT, WA, WY). Note: Students cannot qualify for in-state residency after attending UNC as a WUE student. One would need to decline WUE and pay nonresident tuition for one year before establishing in-state residency.

2 This is what students pay after the College Opportunity Fund (CDF) is applied to their bill. To be eligible for CDF rates, Colorado resident students should apply at CollegeInColorado.org.

3 Based on UNC 19 Meals Per Week plan and Tier 2 housing plan.
Clayton conducted original research on Pilot-wave hydrodynamics by developing a new imaging system. He won the College of Natural and Health Sciences research award, received over $2,000 in grants for his research, and presented at a national professional conference for physics at the American Physical Society Meeting. Clayton is a retired U.S. Marine and is raising four children.

QUESTIONS?
Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have about the program.

UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM
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“The Honors program has afforded me the opportunity to conduct research at a level most undergraduate students never have the opportunity to experience.”

–Clayton Orback, Physics ’19
“It has truly been rewarding to be an Honors student. I have been recognized for my hard work and dedication to my academics, and it has shaped and confirmed my strong passion for research.”

–Rachael Carrillo, Sociology ’19

Rachael is a mentor and leader at UNC with Reisher Scholars, Stryker Leadership Program and Campus Connections. She is planning to pursue a graduate degree at Arizona State University in Higher Education Leadership. Her research is exploring the intersectionality of gender and race differences in STEM fields.