



Heritage Scholar Program

The Heritage Scholarship Program provides full-tuition scholarships to highly qualified students with exceptional intellectual ability. Holders of the scholarship are expected to demonstrate both the qualities of mind and the qualities of person that will allow a student to flourish in The College of Idaho's rigorous but community-oriented academic environment and in the challenging world beyond college.

The Heritage Scholarship is about more than free tuition. In addition to receiving the College's highest scholarship award, Heritage Scholarship recipients are also members of the Gipson Honors Program and, as such, experience all of the advantages of that unique academic program. The full-tuition Heritage Scholarship – wedded to the additional benefits of the Gipson Honors Program – is delivered in an intimate, cohesive community of about one hundred high-achieving students. These various benefits make the Heritage Scholarship the most valuable academic award available to the most successful and ambitious students applying to The College of Idaho.

Benefits of the Heritage Scholarship:

Four-year, full-tuition academic support

Across the four years of a Heritage Scholar's undergraduate career at The College of Idaho, the student will receive a full academic tuition award. This scholarship award is indexed, meaning that any increases in tuition over the four years are covered by the scholarship. Heritage Scholars **are not eligible** for any other institutional scholarships from the College.

Venture award funding

In the sophomore, junior, or senior academic years, Heritage Scholarship recipients will receive (upon presenting an acceptable application) one-time funding in the amount of \$2,000 for an academic enhancement experience, such as a creative project, internship, research work, foreign study course, or study abroad. (This award is considered the \$2,000 Gipson Fund Award available to members of the Gipson Honors Program.)

Inclusion in the Gipson Honors Program

The Gipson Honors Program serves outstanding individuals who have demonstrated broad intellectual curiosity and the potential for high academic achievement. Gipson Honors Students participate in a First-Year Seminar designed specifically for this group of motivated learners. Honors students also receive individualized mentoring from a student mentor with shared academic or personal interests, while benefiting from a dedicated program advisor to provide additional support during their four years of study. Finally, at least twice during their four years, Honors students register for a student-facilitated Gipson Honors Colloquium, where discussions occur concerning research, important topics, or texts integral to their academic work.

Requirements for Keeping the Heritage Scholarship:

Maintain a GPA of 3.25

It is important to emphasize the flexibility of this requirement. Our policy allows for a “bad” semester or an illness: if a student falls below the required 3.25 GPA, the student is placed on probation for the scholarship and has until the end of the next 12-week semester (that is, not counting Winter Term) to attain a TERM (not cumulative) GPA of 3.25. (Attaining a cumulative GPA of 3.25 would be much more difficult to do in one semester once the cumulative GPA has fallen below 3.25.) As long as a 3.25 term GPA is earned in that semester, the student retains the scholarship and is no longer on probation.

Complete 20 hours each month of campus activities/community service

Nearly any campus activity/service project “counts,” so long as the student is not paid and does not receive academic credit for the activity. Qualifying activities and service include competing on sports teams, singing in the choir or playing in band, participating in campus clubs, tutoring on campus or in the public schools, volunteering at the local hospital or humane society, working with faculty on research, etc. This requirement is intended to encourage the Heritage Scholar to develop socially as well as academically.

Participation & Residency Requirement for the Gipson Honors Program

Heritage Scholars are expected to be active participants in campus life, take leading and innovative roles on campus, and generally serve as positive role models in the Gipson Honors Program and the larger campus community. To help meet this expectation, Heritage Scholars are required to live on-campus all four years they are enrolled at the College.