

# NOAA Hollings Scholarship Info Session

November 15th, 2023



Markus Min, SAFS Graduate Student and '17 Hollings Alum ([mmin@uw.edu](mailto:mmin@uw.edu))

Emily Bishop, SAFS Graduate Student and '13 Hollings Alum ([ebish@uw.edu](mailto:ebish@uw.edu))

# Outline for today

What is NOAA?

What is the Hollings  
Scholarship?

How do you apply for the  
Hollings Scholarship?

Panel with current UW  
Hollings Scholars

Q&A

---

# What is NOAA?

## *The President's Cabinet*



Department of  
Agriculture



Department of  
Commerce



Department of  
Defense



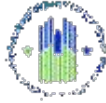
Department of  
Education



Department of  
Energy



Department of  
Health and  
Human Services



Department of  
Housing and Urban  
Development



Department of  
the Interior



Department of  
Justice



Department of  
Labor



Department of  
State



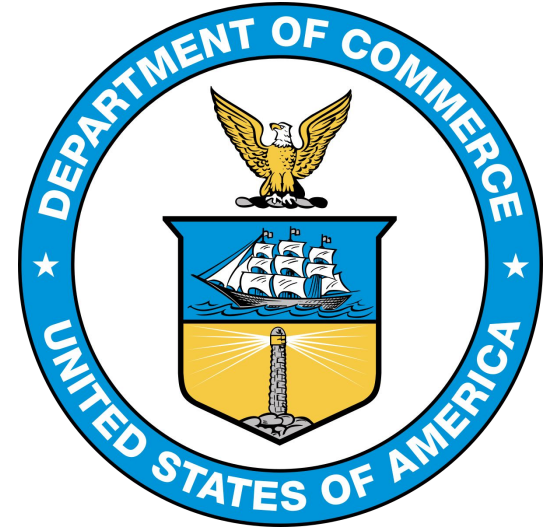
Department of  
Transportation



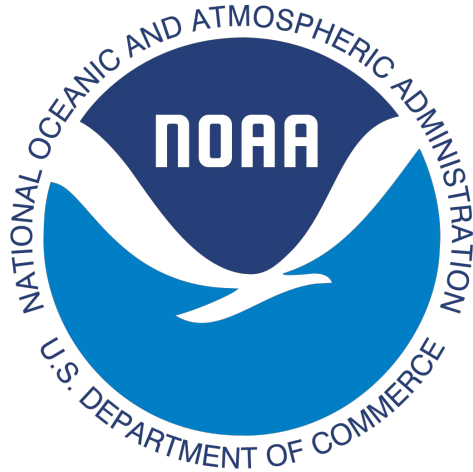
Department of  
the Treasury



Department of  
Veterans Affairs



National Oceanic  
and Atmospheric  
Administration



To understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean, and coasts, to share that knowledge and information with others, and to conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources.



## Line Offices

### National Marine Fisheries Service

Assistant Administrator  
**Janet Coit**

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations  
**Dr. Paul Doremus**

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs  
**Sam Rauch**

Director of Scientific Programs and Chief Science Advisor  
**Dr. Cisco Werner**

### National Ocean Service

Assistant Administrator  
**Nicole LeBoeuf**

Deputy Assistant Administrator  
**Paul Scholz**

### National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service

Assistant Administrator  
**Dr. Stephen Volz**

Deputy Assistant Administrator  
**Mark S. Paese**

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Systems  
**Irene Parker**

### Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

Assistant Administrator  
**Dr. Steven Thur**

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Science  
**Dr. Gary Matlock**

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Programs and Administration  
**Emily Menashes**

### National Weather Service

Assistant Administrator  
**Ken Graham**

Deputy Assistant Administrator  
**Mary Erickson**

### Office of Marine and Aviation Operations & NOAA Corps

Director  
**RADM Nancy Hann**

Deputy Director  
**RDML Chad Cary**

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Programs and Administration, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations  
**Randy TeBeest**



## Senator Ernest F. Hollings

- Senator from South Carolina from 1966-2005
- Helped establish NOAA in 1970
- Major part in
  - Coastal Zone Management Act
  - Marine Mammal Protection Act
  - Oceans Dumping Act
  - Sustainable fisheries Act
- All around cool guy



# NOAA Ernest F Hollings Scholarship

- increase undergraduate training in oceanic and atmospheric science, research, technology, and education and foster multidisciplinary training opportunities;
- increase public understanding and support for stewardship of the ocean and atmosphere and improve environmental literacy;
- recruit and prepare students for public service careers with NOAA and other natural resource and science agencies at the federal, state and local levels of government; and
- recruit and prepare students for careers as teachers and educators in oceanic and atmospheric science and to improve scientific and environmental education in the United States.



# NOAA Ernest F Hollings Scholarship

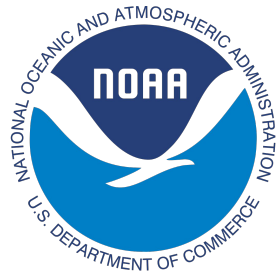
Prestigious!

- Top undergraduate scholarship for marine/atmospheric sciences

Competitive

- ~800 applicants per year
- ~120 awards per year



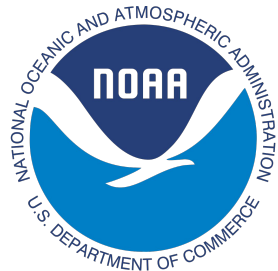


## NOAA Ernest F Hollings Scholarship

**Up to \$9,500 per year for two years of full-time study**

$$*\$9,500 \times 2 = \$19,000$$





## NOAA Ernest F Hollings Scholarship

**a 10-week, full-time paid (\$700/week) internship** at a NOAA facility during the summer



Sophomore

**January**  
Apply

**April**  
Award

**June**  
Orientation  
at HQ

Junior

**Sept-Dec**  
Select  
internship

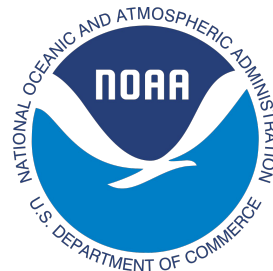
**Jan-March**  
Site visit

**June-July**  
Internship

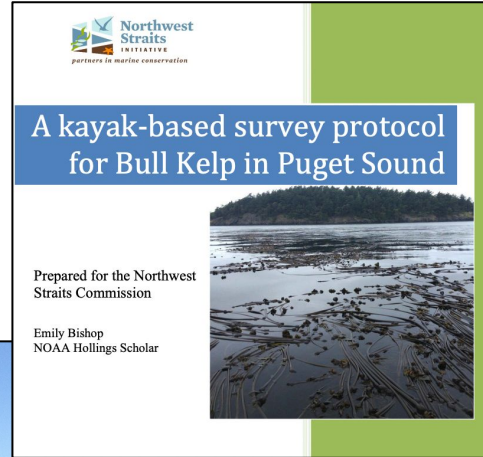
**August**  
Presentation at  
HQ

Senior

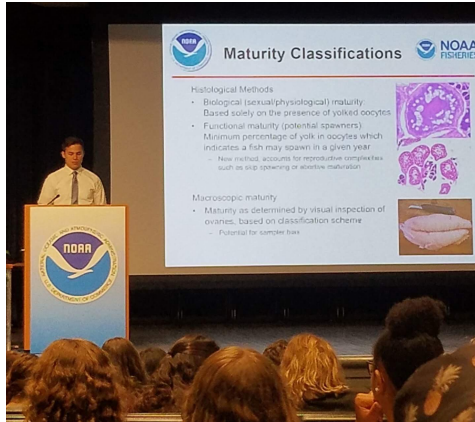
**Any Time**  
Presentation at  
a conference



## Emily Bishop, 2013 Hollings Scholar



# Markus Min, 2017 Hollings Scholar



Published: 11 January 2022

## Limitations and applications of macroscopic maturity analyses: a comparison of histological and visual maturity for three west coast groundfish species

Markus A. Min [✉](#), Melissa A. Head, Jason M. Cope, Jim D. Hastie & Sheryl M. Flores

*Environmental Biology of Fishes* 105, 193–211 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

287 Accesses | 1 Citations | 7 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)





# Sounds great, how do I apply?

\*Applications due January 31, 2024 8:59pm Pacific Time\*

## Eligibility Requirements for this scholarship:

- Be a U.S. citizen;
- Be currently enrolled or accepted as a full-time 2nd year student in a four-year academic program or as a full-time 3rd year student in a five-year undergraduate program (e.g. some engineering programs).
- Earn and maintain a 3.0 GPA in all courses each term and cumulative, as well as an overall GPA of 3.0 in your major field of study. The GPA requirement applies prior to and at the time of application for a scholarship, for the period between application and award notification, and after award distribution.
- Have and maintain a declared major in a discipline including, but not limited to, oceanic, environmental, biological, and atmospheric sciences, mathematics, engineering, remote sensing technology, physical and social sciences including geography, physics, hydrology, geomatics, or education - all fields that support NOAA's programs and mission.

# Hollings Scholarship Application Components

- 1) General/contact info
- 2) A list of formal or informal research experiences (excluding classroom laboratories)
- 3) Awards, honors and activities - academic and non-academic
- 4) **Official** Transcripts from each university attended
- 5) **Two** letters of recommendation
- 6) Personal essay (2-3 pages single-spaced)



# Letters of recommendation

- At **least one must be academic**
  - From **faculty who has taught you** who can speak to your academic capability **OR**
  - a **TA who has taught you**; this letter must be co-signed by the supervising faculty
- The second can be another academic reference or
  - Someone who can speak to your **capabilities related to the scholarship**
  - Internship advisor, mentor, lab instructor, etc.

# Tips for letters of recommendation

- Ask people who **know you personally**
- Ask early!
  - Ideally before winter quarter (3 weeks is minimum)
- Ask faculty who you took a class with (and did well)
- Letter writers should be people from your time in college, not high school
- No family/friends/coaches

## Personal essay

“A self-description of your academic, research, and career goals as they are related to NOAA’s mission and how your proposed course of study and/or research will help achieve these goals.”

- 2-3 pages single-spaced (6,000-9,000 characters, including spaces)

# Evaluation Criteria

Relevant Coursework (30pts)

Essay (30pts)

Letters of Rec (20pts)

Additional relevant  
experience, honors and  
awards (20 pts)

---

# Next Steps (Freshmen)

Think about letter writers

Think about what you can  
do in the next year to make  
your application stronger

-take relevant coursework!

Hollings Prep Program

---



# Hollings Preparation Program

## Eligibility:

Freshman undergraduates interested in pursuing NOAA-related science, research, policy, management, and education who:

- Have a 3.0 or higher GPA in their last year of High School.
- Are U.S. citizens, maintain health insurance\*\*, and are able to obtain a low-level government security clearance upon acceptance into the program.
- Available for a 4-6 week, full time internship including mandatory participation in an opening event in early July, 2023, a twice weekly webinar series, and a closing event on mid-August, 2023, where interns will be required to present their work.



# Hollings Preparation Program

## Components:

- NOAA internship
- \$500 scholarship
- \$4,000 internship stipend
- Assistance in applying for the full Hollings scholarship in fall 2023

**Apply by sending a cover letter and resume to**  
**[hollingsprep.wcr@noaa.gov](mailto:hollingsprep.wcr@noaa.gov) by early March 2024**

# Next Steps (Sophomores)

Prepare to ask for letters

Review information on NOAA website

Letters of Recommendation  
workshop: November 29, 4:30 pm

Statement writing workshop:  
December 6, 4:30pm

Workshop for personalized  
application feedback: January (details  
TBD)

---





## Resources

### NOAA Website

- Read the mission! Learn about the different programs/offices
- Info session video on the Hollings page

### UW Office of Merit Scholarships, Fellowships & Awards

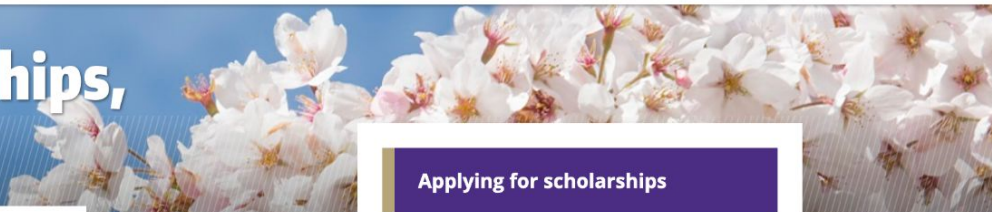
- Timeline
- Book appointments for essay review







# Office of Merit Scholarships, Fellowships & Awards



[Home](#) > [Office of Merit Scholarships, Fellowships & Awards](#) > [Applying for scholarships](#)

## Applying for scholarships

Click to enlarge

### Applying to Scholarships

#### Setting Goals

Merit-based scholarships are given to students who are academically and financially qualified. To be eligible, you must meet the criteria set by the scholarship provider. It is important to set goals for your scholarship search and to track your progress.

#### Planning

Before applying to any scholarship, it is important to research the requirements and deadlines. You should also create a timeline for your scholarship search and to track your progress.



Quick “how to” on using the  
OMSFA database to search  
for scholarships



How To | OMS...



### Applying for scholarships

[Scholarship advising](#)

[Application essays](#)

[Build your CV](#)

[Letters of recommendation](#)

[Preparing for interviews](#)

[Scholarship application tips](#)

[Scholarship myths debunked](#)

**CONNECT WITH US**