

## *Heritage Scholar Program*

The Heritage Scholarship provides full-tuition scholarships to highly qualified students with exceptional intellectual ability. *Competition for this scholarship is by invitation only.* 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 C of I'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 Scholar scholarship—wedded to the additional benefits of the Gipson Honors Program—is delivered in an intimate, cohesive community of about sixty high-achieving students. These various benefits make the Heritage Scholarship at the College of Idaho the most valuable academic experience available to students attending college in the State of Idaho.

### **Benefits of the Heritage Scholarship:**

#### **1. 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.

#### **2. 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 \$3500 for an academic enhancement experience, such as a creative project, internship, research work, foreign study course, or study abroad. (This award replaces the \$2500 Gipson Fund Award available to members of the Gipson Honors Program who are not Heritage Scholars.)

#### **3. Inclusion in the Gipson Honors Program.**

To learn the benefits and expectations of the Gipson Honors Program, click [here](#).

### **Requirements for Eligibility for Consideration for the Heritage Scholarship:**

1. Students will need to complete an application for admission and be accepted at C of I prior to being considered for a Heritage Scholarship. Applications for the scholarship are by invitation only.

2. To be eligible to be invited to apply for the Heritage Scholarship, a student will need to meet at least one of the following academic criteria:

4.0 high school GPA\* with a 30 ACT or at least a 1360 SAT

3.9 high school GPA\* with a 31 ACT or at least a 1390 SAT

3.8 high school GPA\* with a 32 ACT or at least a 1420 SAT

*\*GPAs are based on an unweighted 4.0 scale, and SAT scores are based on the evidence-based reading and writing and the math sections of the SAT.*

Note that meeting these academic criteria does not guarantee an invitation to apply for a Heritage Scholarship.

**3.** Admitted students who are invited to apply for the Heritage Scholarship will be invited to attend an on-campus selection event, which occurs over a weekend. At least one week in advance of the event, the applicant will submit to the Admission Office an essay no longer than 500 words explaining what makes the candidate particularly suitable as a recipient of the College's most prestigious scholarship award. Prior to writing the essay, students should familiarize themselves with the Heritage Scholarship and Gipson Honors Program. As part of the selection event, the candidate will be asked to write a second brief essay in response to a specific question.

**4.** Notification of decisions and awards is made by April 1 of each year.

### **Requirements for Keeping the Heritage Scholarship (once awarded):**

#### **1. 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 CUM) GPA of 3.25. (Attaining a CUM GPA of 3.25 would be much more difficult to do in one semester once the CUM GPA had 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.

#### **2. 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.

#### **3. Participate in 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 learn more about the benefits and expectations of the Gipson Honors Program, including the annual readmission process, click [here](#).