

Call for applications: The Mary Claire Phipps Scholarship

This is a call for applications for a merit-based scholarship, with a deadline of Monday, March 31, 2008. The scholarship will fully cover in-state tuition, plus a \$500 stipend for books, for 2008-09 and, conditional on satisfactory progress, 2009-10.

The scholarship is generously funded by Mary Claire Phipps. Phipps comes from a family with strong connections to the University. Her father graduated from UW-Madison in 1921, her mother in 1922. As a high school student in Racine, Phipps won a merit-based scholarship that supported her studies here. She received her degree in Economics from UW-Madison in 1951. Her fields of special interest were finance and banking. Upon graduation, she worked in the trust department of Northern Trust for several years, before deciding to devote herself full time to raising a family. She now lives in Dallas.

To be eligible, you must:

1. Be a sophomore who is a declared or prospective Economics major, planning to graduate with a BA or BS in Economics from the College of Letters & Science.
2. Have completed at least 3 credits of Economics at UW-Madison at the time of application, with at least a 3.3 GPA in your UW-Madison Economics courses.
3. Have at least a 3.3 overall GPA.
4. Plan to be enrolled full-time in 2008-09.
5. Be a resident of Wisconsin.

The scholarship is merit based. All eligible sophomores who are actual and prospective Economics majors are encouraged to apply, whether or not they qualify for need-based financial aid. The winner will receive the scholarship for 2009-10 as well, conditional on: declaring Economics as a major (a double major in Economics and another subject is allowed), and maintaining at least a 3.3 GPA in Economics and overall.

To apply, send an email message to Albert Chen <achen@ssc.wisc.edu>, the assistant to the Department Chair. The subject line should read "Mary Claire Phipps Scholarship." Attach your application as a PDF file, named phipps.last.first.PDF (where Last and First are your names). Alternatively, you may attach a text file, with .txt as the file suffix instead of PDF.

Include the following information in the application file:

1. Your name, student ID, classification, whether you plan option A or option B (math emphasis), whether you plan for honors in the major, email address, phone number, and mailing address. (Be sure to provide an email address that will work over the summer.)
2. (a) A list of the Economics courses you have completed or are taking and the grades you received (completed courses only). (b)(i) Overall GPA, and (ii) GPA in Economics courses as of time of application. (We will obtain transcripts for the finalists. This summary information is intended to help us at a preliminary stage.)

3. A one-page statement (single spaced, one-inch margins) that includes any information that you think might be useful to the committee that will select the scholarship recipient. Examples might include: career plans, descriptions of relevant courses taken outside the Economics Department, descriptions of particular accomplishments related to economics, descriptions of summer or part-time jobs that involve economics.

4. The names of two economics faculty members who can serve as references (teaching assistants can count as faculty members). Please check with the faculty members before listing their names. Faculty references will be contacted directly by the committee evaluating applications; you do not need to submit recommendation letters with your application. We are aware that students sometimes have not yet gotten to know any faculty members well, and the name or names you list may well be ones who taught a large class and do not know you personally.

Please direct questions to Albert Chen <achen@ssc.wisc.edu>. We expect to announce the next Mary Claire Phipps Scholar by April 14, 2008,