



UNLVCSUN

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

CONSOLIDATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

55th Legislative Session

SENATE BILL 55-40

AN ACT TO AMEND CSUN BYLAWS: CHAPTER 811: RESEARCH CONTINUATION SCHOLARSHIP

Bill Number: SB 55-40

Authors of Legislation: Isaac Briones, Division of Health Sciences

Sponsor of Legislation: CSUN Scholarships & Grants

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada Las Vegas (CSUN) represents all 25,000+ undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Nevada Las Vegas; and

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada Las Vegas, under the authority of CSUN Constitution VI..D.01, is “empowered to enact any legislation that falls under the jurisdiction of CSUN”; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Scholarships and Grants has reviewed all scholarships available to the undergraduate student body; **AND**

WHEREAS, after careful review, the Scholarships and Grants Committee reviewing all scholarships available to the undergraduate student body has decided to remove the Research Continuation Scholarship which is hosted by the Dr. William W. Sullivan Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach. ; **AND**

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, that the CSUN Senate shall remove Chapter 811 – Research Continuation Scholarship from the CSUN Bylaws, resulting in the discontinuation of CSUN funding for the scholarship after the 2026–2027 award cycle. Funds allocated in the FY26 budget shall be awarded to the recipient of the 2026–2027 scholarship. Following the conclusion of this award, CSUN shall no longer provide funding for the scholarship; **AND**

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Scholarships and Grants Committee may choose to bring back the Research Continuation Scholarship in the future if they decide to do so.

ADDENDUM A

CHAPTER 811: RESEARCH CONTINUATION SCHOLARSHIP

SECTION 01: ESTABLISHMENT

- A. ~~There is hereby established the CSUN Research Continuation Scholarship for the purpose of supporting students from all academic disciplines who seek to continue research projects that were initiated and advanced during the preceding summer term. Secondly, the scholarship is intended to reduce financial impediments (e.g., need for outside employment to cover living expenses) that students may face while completing undergraduate research activities into the fall semester.~~

SECTION 02: AWARD

- A. ~~This scholarship will be awarded to 4 (four) UNLV undergraduate students at \$2,000 (two thousand) each. The scholarship funds will be disbursed in each Fall semester.~~

- ~~1. If a student who is receiving scholarship funds is graduating in the first semester of that academic year, they may request to receive the full funds of the scholarship in that one semester, rather than the normal two semester disbursement. The request shall be made to the Scholarships and Grants Committee and if the committee is agreeable, the chair will relay the information to the Business Operations Coordinator who will then make the appropriate arrangements with the Financial Aid Office.~~

- B. ~~Open to all students who meet all of the eligibility requirements found below regardless of citizenship status.~~

- C. ~~Preference will be given to applicants who are Pell grant recipients, first-generation college students, members of ethnic/racial minority groups underrepresented in higher education, and/or current participants in TRIO, Title III AANAPISI, or NSF LSAMP programs.~~

- D. ~~Recipients of the Research Continuation Scholarship must accomplish the following requirements over the scholarship disbursement period:~~

- ~~1. Present their research findings at one of the UNLV Office of Undergraduate Research Symposia events (either in the spring or summer).~~
- ~~2. Provide periodic updates regarding their research projects in accordance with the schedule and in a format established by the UNLV Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach.~~

SECTION 03: ELIGIBILITY

~~A. Awardees must meet the following criteria:~~

- ~~1. Must be an undergraduate student at UNLV.~~
- ~~2. Must have a specific research/scholarly/creative project planned that will be conducted under the direct guidance of a UNLV faculty research mentor during the fall semester.~~
 - ~~a. This point of eligibility will be verified by UNLV Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach (CAEO).~~
 - ~~b. Any information provided with regards to this scholarship will only be used for the purpose of scoring and will not be shared with outside sources, unless otherwise permitted by the applicant or the information provided suggests a clear and present danger to the applicant or other students.~~
- ~~3. Where required, applicants must have obtained approvals for the ethical conduct of research and safety in research for the project being conducted, prior to project commencement.~~
- ~~4. Must maintain a 2.50 GPA or higher throughout the duration of the scholarship disbursement period.~~
- ~~5. Must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 (six) credits throughout the duration of the scholarship disbursement period.~~

~~B. The CSUN Scholarships & Grants committee reserves the right to request that exceptions be made to any requirements and this decision must be decided through a simple majority vote to be taken within the committee. This request must be communicated with the CSUN Business Operations Coordinator who will then be able to contact the Financial Aid Office regarding the exception.~~

ADDENDUM B: Evidence for Removal

2024-2025 Academic Year Statistics & Goals:

2024- 25 Academic Year

- Three completed applications.
- Three finalists.
- Awarded \$2,000 scholarship for Spring 2025.

Strengths & Weaknesses

Strengths	Weaknesses
All Applicants/Finalists were academically strong.	Small applicant pool.

Goals:

- Increase review committee size to at least 3 people;
- Synch application timeline to match other CSUN scholarships.

(From 2024-2025)

2023-2024 Academic Year Statistics & Goals:

Number of Applications Received

- Eight completed applications

Amount Awarded to Each Recipient

\$2,000

Overview of the Application Process

- **CSUN Research Continuation Scholarship**
Amount: \$2,000 to be awarded for Fall Semester 2023
Four scholarships will be awarded.

Eligibility

Recipients of the Research Continuation Scholarship must complete the following requirements over the scholarship disbursement period:

1. Present research findings at one of the UNLV Office of Undergraduate Research Symposia events (either in Fall 2023 or Spring 2024);
2. Provide periodic updates regarding research projects in accordance with a schedule and format established by the UNLV Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach.

To be eligible to apply for the scholarship, a student must:

1. Be an undergraduate student at UNLV, enrolled in a minimum of six credits, and maintaining a 2.50 GPA or higher throughout the duration of the scholarship disbursement period (Fall 2023 semester);
2. Have been involved in a formal research/scholarly/creative project during the Summer 2023 term that will be continued into the Fall 2023 semester under the direct guidance of a UNLV faculty research mentor;
3. Where required, have obtained approvals for the ethical conduct of research and safety in research for the project being conducted, prior to project commencement.

Strengths & Weaknesses/Goals

- Increase committee size to at least 3 people;
- Synch application timeline to match other CSUN scholarships.

(from 2023-2024 presentation)

Standing with two research oriented scholarships:

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CHAPTER 821: UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP

SECTION 01: ESTABLISHMENT

- A. Thereby established the Undergraduate Research Scholarship for the purpose of providing funding for undergraduate students who are on the face of innovation, expanding knowledge, and advancing fields. Including but not limited to research conference travel expenses and research related expenses.

Statement from Senator Briones:

My name is Isaac Briones, a senator representing the Division of Health Sciences and a member of the Scholarships & Grants Committee. As a senator who has reviewed all recurring scholarship presentations — including applicant pool sizes, strengths, weaknesses, and other key details — I've had the opportunity to determine, to the best of my knowledge, whether scholarship funding should be reduced or cut.

After reviewing the Research Continuation Scholarship presentations from both this year's and last year's cycles, I have concluded that this scholarship should be cut. My reasoning is based on the significant decrease in applicants from last year to this year, as well as prior actions that have already reduced the funding for this scholarship. This award is intended for four students at \$2,000 each; however, this year there were only three applicants, meaning every applicant that was eligible automatically received the award without competition. In addition, we have recently approved a new research scholarship that reaches a broader student population compared to the Research Continuation Scholarship.

SB 55-40, ADOPTED by the Senate on this ____ Day of ____, 20__

Sharon Flores, Senate President

Liana Wieand, Senate Secretary

SB 55-40 , APPROVED on this __ Day of __, 20__ by

Kelechi Odunze, Student Body President