



ILLINOIS STATE
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Robert G. Bone
SCHOLARSHIP

Bone Scholarship Nominee Workshop

Wednesday, February 9; 4 – 5 pm

Thursday, February 10; 4 – 5 pm

Friday, February 11; 2 – 3 pm

Christie Martin

Honors Program Associate Director

cmproct@ilstu.edu



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Our time together...

- What is the Bone Scholarship?
- What does the application entail?
- What makes an application exceptional?



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What is the Bone Scholarship?

- Named after Robert G. Bone
 - 9th President of Illinois State University;
1960 – 1967
- Highest honor an undergraduate can receive





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What is the Bone Scholarship?

- First scholarships were awarded in 1967
- Recognizes and celebrates outstanding academic achievement and campus/community engagement



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What is the Bone Scholarship?

- Financial award
- Commemorative medallion
- Framed certificate
- Display in the Bone Student Center
- Fall luncheon



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Application Basics

- 63 nominees
- 14 Bone Scholars selected
- Submission deadline is 4:30 pm on Tuesday, March 1
- Materials submitted online



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Online Application

- Submit two files
- **File 1: Application materials**
 - PDF or Word documents only
- **File 2: Academic Product**
 - Any format
- **File 3: Optional**
 - If needed (any format)
- Contact Julie Brooks for “not-digital” products or materials



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Letters of...

- **Nomination**
 - 2 letters were submitted with your formal nomination
- **Recommendation**
 - 2 additional letters acquired by the nominee
 - Academic and/or professional contacts
 - Letters should be sent directly to the Honors Program



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Letters of Recommendation

- Academic and/or professional contacts
- Refer to your strengths and character
- Provide examples of your achievements
- Share a resume or ask the letter writer to focus on something specific

Guidance for Letters of Recommendation



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Themes of Advice

- Meaning and significance
- Growth and transformation as a student, scholar, person
- Be specific: examples and evidence
- Cohesive, compelling, well-written narratives
- Balance of academic excellence and leadership achievements



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Significant Courses

What intrigues, excites, or inspires you as a student?

- 4 courses from Illinois State
- 1 double-spaced page per course
- When taken, requirement fulfilled
- Why was the course significant to your development as a student?



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Significant Courses

- Clear and compelling rationale as to the significance of the courses identified
- Examples/evidence of your development as a student
- Make connections to:
 - Skills developed
 - Involvement
 - Career path



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Activities and Organizations

Share the breadth and depth of your involvement.

- Up to 7 Activities/Organizations
- List that includes:
 - Brief description of the Activity/Organization
 - Dates and length of participation
 - Duties and/or responsibilities
 - Positions and/or offices held
 - Honors and/or awards received



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Activities and Organizations

- Breadth and depth of experiences
- RSOs, volunteer experience, employment, social/community/civic involvement
- Are your roles and responsibilities clear and succinctly described?
- Leadership and membership
 - You can lead. Can you follow?
 - How do you encourage others to lead?



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Activities and Organizations

3 “Most Meaningful”

- 1 double spaced page per “Most Meaningful”
- Consider the impact you had and growth you experienced
- Examples of initiative
- “Transformative”
 - How did you leave your mark?
 - Personal/professional growth



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Activities and Organizations

Covid-19 Response

Your description of your Activities and Organizations, including your discussion of the three most meaningful, may include how Covid-19 affected your involvement and may have altered your ability to pursue your past activities.



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Academic Product

- Influential; not necessarily big
 - Sophomore or junior year
 - Showcase your abilities as a student/scholar
 - Substantial assignments
 - Not necessarily from a class
- 1 double-spaced page with a brief description and context
 - Class title, semester taken
 - Goals for the assignment



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Academic Product Reflection

- 2 double-spaced pages
- Why are you proud of this product?
 - Academic mindset
 - Growth as a student/scholar
- What is the significance of the product?
 - Skills developed
 - Important outcomes
 - Abilities as a student/scholar



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Academic Product Reflection

- Self-Reflection
- Ability to find meaning



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Essay

Consider Illinois State University's core values.

In what ways has your undergraduate experience encompassed these values?

- Provide examples of how your experiences connect to these values.
- Limit your discussion to no more than three core values.

How might your future goals include engaging with these values?



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Essay

- 3 double-spaced pages
- Reflect on your experiences
- Consider future goals and achievements
- Express yourself in writing



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Essay

- Well-written narrative
- Specific examples and supporting details
- Clear connection to no more than three core values
- Consideration for future goals



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Page Count

	Section	Total
Significant Courses	4	4
Activities and Organizations	List (4*) + 3	11
Academic Product**	Product + 1	12
Academic Product Reflection	2	14
Essay	3	17
	Total pages	17 (ish)

*Assumes 4 pages to explain 7 activities.

**Product not included in total page count.



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Technical things

- No errors; proofread like your life depends on it
- Standard margins
- Times New Roman or Arial (don't get fancy)
- No less than 11 point font
- Label each section
- One file saved in Word or PDF format



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Good Luck!