Living-Learning Community

At its core, the Honors College is a close-knit community where you and your fellow students share a passion for learning. Our students represent a wide range of majors and disciplines, and they are driven to make an impact on the world. They build strong relationships with one another and with the faculty who teach them. You will find support and connections from day one.

Honors Housing

First-year Honors College students have the option to live together in DeHority Complex, a renovated residence hall in the heart of our campus. DeHority’s inviting atmosphere includes an exhibition hall, space for meetings and presentations, a computer lab, a media room, and fitness equipment. You’ll be close to the Ball Honors House, academic buildings, and cultural venues.

Peer Mentors

During their first semester in the Honors College, new students meet weekly in small groups with upper-level peer mentors. These experienced honors students can answer your questions and help you become familiar with college life, the campus, and the local community.

Special Activities

The Honors College isn’t just about academics. You will have fun with your peers through social and recreational events such as our quiz bowl, holiday caroling, field trips, and Honors Week, which showcases student work. You can also help plan activities and become involved with the local community.

Apply for Admission

Admission to the Honors College is highly selective and open to both new freshmen and transfer students. Applications are reviewed by the dean of the college on a competitive, rolling basis.

You may apply for this program when you complete Ball State’s undergraduate application for admission at bsu.edu/apply. Apply by November 15 for priority consideration or as soon as possible. For information about the Honors College application process and deadlines, go to bsu.edu/honors/apply.

Admission Criteria

Considerations for Honors College admission include:

• Academic honors (Honors Diploma for Indiana residents, or completion of an advanced college-preparatory curriculum for out-of-state students);
• grades in college-preparatory courses;
• strong high school curriculum, including honors, Advanced Placement (AP), or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses;
• extracurricular activities and leadership experiences [academic and nonacademic]; and
• your high school teacher’s letter of reference, preferably from your teachers.

Please note: Ball State is a test-optional school, which means you can choose whether to submit your SAT or ACT scores to us for consideration. We do not require them. This lets you decide how to most accurately portray your academic performance. For details, visit bsu.edu/testoptional.

Admission

Ball State University practices equal opportunity in education and employment and is strongly and actively committed to diversity within its community. Ball State wants its programs and services to be accessible to all people. For information about access and accommodations, please call the Office of Disability Services at 765-285-5293; go through Relay Indiana for deaf or hard-of-hearing individuals (relayindiana.com or 877-446-8722); or visit bsu.edu/disabilityservices.

Please note:

• one or more letters of reference, preferably from your teachers;
• grades in college-preparatory courses;
• strong high school curriculum, including honors, Advanced Placement (AP), or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses;
• extracurricular activities and leadership experiences [academic and nonacademic]; and
• your high school teacher’s letter of reference, preferably from your teachers.

Peer Mentors

During their first semester in the Honors College, new students meet weekly in small groups with upper-level peer mentors. These experienced honors students can answer your questions and help you become familiar with college life, the campus, and the local community.

Special Activities

The Honors College isn’t just about academics. You will have fun with your peers through social and recreational events such as our quiz bowl, holiday caroling, field trips, and Honors Week, which showcases student work. You can also help plan activities and become involved with the local community.

Apply for Admission

Admission to the Honors College is highly selective and open to both new freshmen and transfer students. Applications are reviewed by the dean of the college on a competitive, rolling basis.

You may apply for this program when you complete Ball State’s undergraduate application for admission at bsu.edu/apply. Apply by November 15 for priority consideration or as soon as possible. For information about the Honors College application process and deadlines, go to bsu.edu/honors/apply.

Admission Criteria

Considerations for Honors College admission include:

• Academic honors (Honors Diploma for Indiana residents, or completion of an advanced college-preparatory curriculum for out-of-state students);
• grades in college-preparatory courses;
• strong high school curriculum, including honors, Advanced Placement (AP), or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses;
• extracurricular activities and leadership experiences [academic and nonacademic]; and
• your high school teacher’s letter of reference, preferably from your teachers.

Please note: Ball State is a test-optional school, which means you can choose whether to submit your SAT or ACT scores to us for consideration. We do not require them. This lets you decide how to most accurately portray your academic performance. For details, visit bsu.edu/testoptional.

Honors College Scholarships

New students in the Honors College compete for some of Ball State’s most prestigious freshmen scholarships.

Whiting Scholarships cover tuition, mandatory fees, and on-campus room and board for four years. You must be invited to apply for these highly selective awards.

Honors College Scholarships range from $1,000 to $8,000 per year for four years.

David and Leighann Rinker Scholarships for Study Abroad award $2,000 toward the costs of an Honors College study abroad experience.

Presidential Scholarships provide a total of $22,000 for Indiana residents and $64,000 for out-of-state students over four years.

For information about all of our Honors College awards, visit bsu.edu/honors/scholarships.

See What It’s Like

To learn more about the Honors College experience, schedule a campus tour at bsu.edu/visit and request in advance to meet with an honors student and visit an honors class. We also invite you to contact us directly at 765-285-1024 or honors@bsu.edu, and be sure to explore our website at bsu.edu/honors.

bsu.edu/honors
Find your passion and purpose here, and take flight as a learning partner—a fellow scholar—and give you personalized support. Top students and faculty mentors from a variety of backgrounds. We will treat you as a Medallion Scholar.

In and beyond the classroom, you will grow personally and professionally by exploring a major as a Medallion Scholar. You can customize your course of study. You may even get to create your own unique exclusive research and creative opportunities, and a vibrant living-learning community.

Thinking. The Honors College enhances any major with specialized liberal arts courses, exclusive research and creative opportunities, and a vibrant learning-community. You will be with students both inside and outside the Honors College.

How involved will I be with the rest of the campus? As a part of the Ball State community, you will take classes, collaborate on projects, participate in athletics, and make friends with students both inside and outside the Honors College. It’s the best of both worlds.

Custom Curriculum
In the Honors College, you gain a distinctive liberal arts education that marks top private schools. Uniquely designed honors courses explore meaningful themes through lively, student-driven discussions and creative projects. Class assignments may also include activities such as seeing a play or viewing museum artifacts.

Personal Learning
Highly interactive honors courses average only 15–25 students and feature a personal learning environment with dedicated professors who are passionate about teaching and care about their students. Our faculty enjoy teaching, collaborating with students and giving them the opportunity to take their coursework in a direction that interests the class.

Practical Benefits
Debating important ideas and hearing the perspectives of others will help you see the world differently. You will learn to consider alternative views, try new experiences, and adapt to new situations. You’ll also think and write more critically and gain confidence in public speaking. Your Honors College education will be highly regarded by employers and will boost your advancement and leadership potential in your future career.

Program Requirements
Honors College courses work in three parts:
Honors Core Curriculum—Students choose 18 credit hours of honors courses in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences that may fulfill nearly half of Ball State’s core requirements.
Honors Colloquia—Students get to select two upper-level colloquium-style courses that explore fascinating topics and complex ideas not usually offered in other classes. Colloquia have covered a wide variety of themes in popular culture, literature, history, science, and more—from reality television and computer games design to Latin USA, music of the Holocaust, and James Bond.
Senior Project or Thesis—Students complete an individualized capstone experience working in-depth with a professor on a meaningful topic. For details, visit bsu.edu/honors/requirements.

Beyond the Classroom
Enrich your studies and gain real-world experience through creative, hands-on learning opportunities with other Honors College students and professors outside of class.

Paid Fellowships
As an Honors Undergraduate Fellow, you can work with one of Ball State’s world-class professors on a research or creative project that’s related to your major and career interests—and get paid for it.

International Travel
Want to see the world? Special Honors College study abroad programs take you to London, Rome, Cuba, or other destinations. Faculty often include field studies in their honors courses.

What’s the Honors College? If you are highly curious, intellectually engaged, and motivated, you will thrive in the stimulating learning environment of Ball State University’s Honors College. This innovative, selective program offers a comprehensive academic, leadership, and social experience that inspires bright students to challenge themselves and expand their thinking. The Honors College enhances any major with specialized liberal arts courses, exclusive research and creative opportunities, and a vibrant learning-community. You can customize your course of study. You may even get to create your own unique major as a Medallion Scholar.

In and beyond the classroom, you will grow personally and professionally by exploring different viewpoints, expressing your ideas, and connecting with top students and faculty mentors from a variety of backgrounds. We will treat you as a learning partner—a fellow scholar—and give you personalized support. Find your passion and purpose here, and take flight to a fulfilling career and a meaningful life.

Immersion Learning
Ball State’s unique immersive learning experiences allow you to solve real problems for local communities as part of a student-leader team working with a faculty mentor and actual clients.

Scholarly Work
You can share your research or creative work with peers and professionals through refereed journals, national conferences, and student publications such as our Odyssey magazine.

Prestigious Awards
We will help you compete for major scholarships and fellowships to fund advanced study and research in your major, including Fulbright and National Science Foundation awards.

How involved will I be with the rest of the campus? As a part of the Ball State community, you will take classes, collaborate on projects, participate in athletics, and make friends with students both inside and outside the Honors College. It’s the best of both worlds.

Built in the 1930s, the Edmund F. and Virginia B. Ball Honors House provides a distinctive and intimate setting for Honors College classes, offices, and activities near the center of our campus.

Custom Curriculum
In the Honors College, you gain a distinctive liberal arts education that marks top private schools. Uniquely designed honors courses explore meaningful themes through lively, student-driven discussions and creative projects. Class assignments may also include activities such as seeing a play or viewing museum artifacts.

Personal Learning
Highly interactive honors courses average only 15–25 students and feature a personal learning environment with dedicated professors who are passionate about teaching and care about their students. Our faculty enjoy teaching, collaborating with students and giving them the opportunity to take their coursework in a direction that interests the class.

Practical Benefits
Debating important ideas and hearing the perspectives of others will help you see the world differently. You will learn to consider alternative views, try new experiences, and adapt to new situations. You’ll also think and write more critically and gain confidence in public speaking. Your Honors College education will be highly regarded by employers and will boost your advancement and leadership potential in your future career.

Program Requirements
Honors College courses work in three parts:
Honors Core Curriculum—Students choose 18 credit hours of honors courses in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences that may fulfill nearly half of Ball State’s core requirements.
Honors Colloquia—Students get to select two upper-level colloquium-style courses that explore fascinating topics and complex ideas not usually offered in other classes. Colloquia have covered a wide variety of themes in popular culture, literature, history, science, and more—from reality television and computer games design to Latin USA, music of the Holocaust, and James Bond.
Senior Project or Thesis—Students complete an individualized capstone experience working in-depth with a professor on a meaningful topic. For details, visit bsu.edu/honors/requirements.

Beyond the Classroom
Enrich your studies and gain real-world experience through creative, hands-on learning opportunities with other Honors College students and professors outside of class.

Paid Fellowships
As an Honors Undergraduate Fellow, you can work with one of Ball State’s world-class professors on a research or creative project that’s related to your major and career interests—and get paid for it.

International Travel
Want to see the world? Special Honors College study abroad programs take you to London, Rome, Cuba, or other destinations. Faculty often include field studies in their honors courses.

What’s the Honors College? If you are highly curious, intellectually engaged, and motivated, you will thrive in the stimulating learning environment of Ball State University’s Honors College. This innovative, selective program offers a comprehensive academic, leadership, and social experience that inspires bright students to challenge themselves and expand their thinking. The Honors College enhances any major with specialized liberal arts courses, exclusive research and creative opportunities, and a vibrant learning-community. You can customize your course of study. You may even get to create your own unique major as a Medallion Scholar.

In and beyond the classroom, you will grow personally and professionally by exploring different viewpoints, expressing your ideas, and connecting with top students and faculty mentors from a variety of backgrounds. We will treat you as a learning partner—a fellow scholar—and give you personalized support. Find your passion and purpose here, and take flight to a fulfilling career and a meaningful life.

Immersion Learning
Ball State’s unique immersive learning experiences allow you to solve real problems for local communities as part of a student-leader team working with a faculty mentor and actual clients.

Scholarly Work
You can share your research or creative work with peers and professionals through refereed journals, national conferences, and student publications such as our Odyssey magazine.

Prestigious Awards
We will help you compete for major scholarships and fellowships to fund advanced study and research in your major, including Fulbright and National Science Foundation awards.

How involved will I be with the rest of the campus? As a part of the Ball State community, you will take classes, collaborate on projects, participate in athletics, and make friends with students both inside and outside the Honors College. It’s the best of both worlds.

Built in the 1930s, the Edmund F. and Virginia B. Ball Honors House provides a distinctive and intimate setting for Honors College classes, offices, and activities near the center of our campus.