The Economics Department recognizes the many academic and extracurricular accomplishments of undergraduate students within the economics major with scholarships and awards that are based on set criteria. If you have questions about scholarships or awards that are not answered below, please contact our office at (217) 333-2682 or email econug@illinois.edu. Information is also provided on the Scholarship & Awards section of our website: [http://www.economics.illinois.edu/undergrad/students/awards/](http://www.economics.illinois.edu/undergrad/students/awards/)

**General Application Information:** Please read the eligibility and application information under each scholarship carefully as they have different requirements. The nominee must be a declared Economics major during the current semester. Each student may apply for up to two scholarships (each application must be submitted separately). Application materials are considered in their entirety. Numerous applications are submitted each year, so we encourage students to spend time on their submission materials, providing relevant information, and writing strong essays that support the application for a particular scholarship. Students are encouraged to use the writing/career centers and other resources to write compelling essays and resumes, but they should ensure that all words are their own, are truthful, and do not misrepresent works, experiences, or records.

**Selection:** Applications are reviewed by a selection committee made up by the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Undergraduate Studies Staff, in consultation with additional campus staff and faculty. Application materials must be completed in full and submitted by the due date for consideration, and the materials of all applicants meeting the eligibility requirements will be reviewed. Nominees may be asked to provide additional information, invited for an interview, or asked to submit verification of accomplishments, as requested by the selection committee. Awards are subject to the final approval of the Department Head. All applicants will be notified following the selection, and additional information will be provided to awardees.

**Recipients:** Students receiving awards are recognized at the May Banquet, are posted on the Department’s website, and may be eligible for special opportunities within the Department. The scholarships are one-time monetary awards, dispersed through student accounts.

**Spring 2019 Application Deadline:** Sunday, April 7th by 11:59pm, Applications Only Accepted Online

Scholarship Application: [http://go.economics.illinois.edu/EconUGScholarships](http://go.economics.illinois.edu/EconUGScholarships)

### Economics Scholarships:

Applications for scholarships are solicited and awardees are determined each spring, unless otherwise noted. Specific eligibility requirements and instructions are listed under each scholarship. There are no country residency requirements, unless specifically noted. The Selection Committee makes the final determination on the number of scholarships awarded, and the monetary amount of each scholarship (if variable), based on the scholarship funds available each semester.

### Robert L. and Amelia Louise Rivers Scholarship ($500)

The Robert L. and Amelia Louise Rivers Scholarship is a monetary scholarship awarded to up to two undergraduate Economics majors on the basis of merit. This scholarship was established in 2005 by a gift from Amelia Louise Rivers as a memorial for her husband, Robert L. Rivers, who died at the age of 83 in November 2003. Robert Rivers received an M.S. and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Illinois in 1947 and 1957, respectively. He retired as the UPS Professor of Transportation at North Carolina A & T State University.

**Eligibility:**
- declared Economics major;
- completion of at least 60 hours of coursework, including at least 18 hours of economics;
- attained a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average in all UIUC economics/statistics courses;
- and a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average overall.

**Application:** Submit an Economics Department Scholarship Form, a résumé/CV, and submit an essay of 250-500 words addressing the following question: “What distinguishes you as a student of economics?” The essay may include your interest in economics and the steps that you have taken beyond your classes to further your study of economics.
Shebik Centennial Economics Scholarship ($1,500)
The Shebik Centennial Economics Scholarship was created to provide financial need-based scholarships to students enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who are majoring in economics. The Shebik family has a long legacy with the University of Illinois. In the Department of Economics, Mrs. Megan Shebik is a 1980 alumna with a career of 25 years of consulting in the field of philanthropy. Prior to that, she was employed with the Chicago branch of Kemper National Insurance, with her expertise focused in underwriting management.
Mr. Steve Shebik is a 1978 alumus of the College of Business with undergraduate degrees in Finance and Accountancy and an MBA from the University of Chicago in Finance and Statistics. Mr. Shebik currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Allstate Corporation and Allstate Insurance Company.
Son Brian Shebik is a 2016 alumus with degrees in Economics and Finance. He is currently attending University of Chicago in the Master of Science in Analytics program.
Son Matthew Shebik is a 2018 alumnus with a degree in Economics and minors in both Statistics and Business. Matthew is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Finance degree at the Stuart School of Business at Illinois Institute of Technology, in Chicago.
Daughter Sarah is currently attending the University of Illinois as a junior with a Psychology major and a Business minor.
Steve’s mother, Mrs. Phyllis Shebik, is a 1938 alumna in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, general curriculum.
The family has a long spanning history of volunteer work, philanthropy and community involvement with broad reaching efforts in organizations like the Boy Scouts of America, the 1867 Society Council Registered Student Organization at the University of Illinois, non-profit charitable organizations, among others. The Department of Economics, and the University of Illinois, are grateful for the support of our students and programs by the Shebik family.
**Eligibility:** A currently declared Economics student who has completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC with unmet financial need, who demonstrates that the funds would go to support general educational attainment, alleviate some financial burden, and/or provide funding assistance towards an additional academic experience.
**Application:** Submit an Economics Department Scholarship Form, a résumé/CV, and two essays of 100-500 words each. Essay 1: Describe how your interest in economics developed and how your major will contribute to your future education/career goals. Essay 2: From a financial standpoint, describe how this scholarship will help advance your education.

Michael and Christine Kolbuk Undergraduate Scholarship ($500)
The Michael and Christine Kolbuk Undergraduate Scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate economics student of good academic standing, with first preference given to first generation students.
Michael Kolbuk earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from the department in 1971, and both he and his wife, Christine, are committed to supporting hardworking and meritorious students at the University of Illinois.
**Eligibility:**
- declared Economics major;
- completion of at least 60 hours of coursework, including at least 18 hours of economics;
- attained a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average in all UIUC economics/statistics courses;
- and a minimum of 3.0/4.0 grade point average overall.
**Application:** Students complete the Economics Department Scholarship Form, a résumé/CV, and submit an essay of 250-500 words addressing the following: “Describe your most meaningful achievement/s and how they relate to your major, or educational/career goals.”
Susan Silver and Ross Erlebacher Scholarship ($1,500)
Susan Silver graduated from the University of Illinois in 1988 with a B.A. in Economics and became one of Chicago’s leading real estate brokers. Ross Erlebacher studied computer science at Illinois, finishing with an M.S. in 1989. He is a successful technology consultant. Susan and Ross married in 1992. The Susan Silver and Ross Erlebacher Scholarship was established to help students attending the University who may have unmet financial needs or may be members of under-represented groups.

**Eligibility:** A currently declared Economics student who has completed at least one full-time semester

**Application:** Students complete the Economics Department Scholarship Form, provide a résumé/CV, and submit two essays of 100-500 words each. Essay 1: Describe how your experience as an Economics major informs your life’s journey. Essay 2: From a financial standpoint, describe the impact this scholarship would have on your education.

Economics Student Success Scholarship ($200)
This is a monetary award for students with unmet financial needs or may be members of under-represented groups. Students must demonstrate a need for why this award will benefit them and how receiving the award would enhance their economics educational experience.

**Eligibility:** A currently declared economics student who has completed at least one full-time semester at UIUC with unmet financial need, who demonstrates that the funds would go to support general educational attainment, alleviate some financial burden, and/or provide funding assistance towards an additional academic experience.

**Application:** Students complete the Economics Department Scholarship Form, provide a résumé/CV, and submit an essay of 250-500 words addressing the following: “Pick an experience from your own life and explain how it has influenced your development and choice of major. Describe, from a financial standpoint, how this scholarship will impact your education.”