

Narrator: Welcome and thanks for your interest in NOAA's education programs! You'll find we have some very generous scholarships available for undergraduate students who are studying in NOAA mission fields. So please, take a few minutes to hear what some of our recent scholars have to say about their experiences.

Christopher Soelle: First and foremost, apply for the scholarship. I can't tell you how many times I've heard people say 'Oh, I'll never get that'. I was one of those people, but I applied anyway, and I ended up getting a Hollings Scholarship. It has brought me so many opportunities in life, opened so many doors, it's just really let me get out there into the professional world, develop relationships, develop networking circles, and it will continue to open doors down the road just by this one experience.

Nishan Pressley: Well, the first advice I would give is definitely apply, it's a great program. You learn so much and you meet so many people who just want to help you in terms of your future endeavors. They want to help you learn more about the career you think you want to pursue, and it really does solidify your career aspirations.

Rachael Somerville: The great thing about the NOAA Hollings Program is that you can be interested in anything related to science. I'm kind of an unusual candidate because I'm a Bachelor of Arts student, so I wouldn't let that discourage you from applying. And from there, whatever you're interested in, as long as you can apply it to NOAA's mission goals, you'd be an excellent candidate, so I'd just encourage people who consider themselves to be outside the box to still apply.

Daniel Coleman: I think this is a really amazing program, but you have to be very prepared to work for it, work hard on the application, work hard on the internship, but it's definitely definitely worth it.

Annelise Del Rio: This summer, I really enjoyed the guidance that I received from my mentors, but I also had a lot of independence in the lab, and seeing the project through from start to finish helped me gain a lot of confidence as a researcher.

Christine Panko: I had never had any experience with marine science prior to this experience, so it definitely opened my eyes to marine ecology and if this was my passion, and it solidified my goal of going to graduate school.

Ashley Gordon: It was exciting to be able to apply my skills to actual data that I had collected, so I definitely had the opportunity to improve my quantitative skills, and I was also able to improve my communication skills, both written and oral, through having to prepare presentations and also write a proposal for my research project.

Multidisciplinary skills, hydrology was definitely something that I was not experienced with at all. It definitely solidified a lot of the things my professors were telling me about making sure that I have a very multidisciplinary approach to meteorology.

Kyle Nolan: There are so many wonderful opportunities out there in that database; there's something for you.