

# The J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship

A Nationally Competitive Merit-Based Scholarship



Dare to be significant.™

STETSON UNIVERSITY

# The J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship

The J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship Program is a nationally competitive merit-based college scholarship designed to attract top student scholars with leadership potential to Stetson University. The scholarship pays expenses for four years at Stetson for students who exhibit exemplary academic and personal leadership. Edmunds Scholars, in addition to their academic abilities and intelligence, must have strong character and integrity along with the potential to be outstanding leaders. Intellectual distinction alone is insufficient for selection as an Edmunds Scholar. Edmunds Scholars, like Rhodes Scholars, are chosen based on a combination of their intellectual excellence, personality, and leadership. Candidates should have active co-curricular involvement, participation in athletics or physical fitness activities, discipline, integrity, character, strong written and verbal communication skills, creativity and the potential to be well-rounded leaders and contributors in the Stetson University community.

## Characteristics Sought in Edmunds Scholars

The J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship Program at Stetson University seeks students who demonstrate a balance of the following qualities:

1. Superior intellect and academic achievement, as measured by academic record and standardized testing.

- A secondary school GPA of 3.5 or above.
- A ranking in the top 5 percent of the graduating class, if the school uses a ranking system.
- A combined SAT-I score of at least 1350 (critical reading and math) or an ACT composite score of at least 30.

2. Outstanding leadership potential as measured by leadership roles in high school or the community.

- This may include leadership roles in academic, athletic, religious, scientific, military, social, civic or service organizations in high school or the community.
- Stetson seeks students with proven leadership potential who may be future Stetson student body presidents, as well as members of Omicron Delta Kappa, Mortar Board and Phi Beta Kappa.



3. Discipline and physical wellness gained by participation in athletics or fitness activities.

Although some applicants have actively participated in varsity sports, this is not required. Applicants who participate in aerobics, dance or other fitness programs that create physical wellness meet this characteristic.

4. Character, integrity and self-motivation.

5. Outstanding personality and communication skills, both verbal and written.

6. Active participation in campus and community activities and personal achievement in co-curricular activities.

7. Stetson seeks creative and imaginative students: creativity and imagination as demonstrated by participation in fine arts, music, acting, theater, dance, writing, poetry, debate or scientific investigation.

Application deadline: Jan. 2, 2013

Campus Visit and Interview: Feb. 14 - 15, 2013

Apply online: [www.stetson.edu/edmunds](http://www.stetson.edu/edmunds)

## Background

The Edmunds Scholarship Program at Stetson University was established in 1996 by the Gualala Foundation and the Edmunds family to honor the character, charismatic personality, integrity, vision and leadership of the late J. Ollie Edmunds. The purpose of the program is to attract the brightest students across the country with outstanding leadership abilities to Stetson University. Stetson's intimate educational environment provides a solid forum for high-ability students to learn under the mentoring and instruction of senior faculty members.

## Covered Costs

The J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship covers full tuition, annual fees, required course texts and materials, and on-campus room and board for four years (eight semesters) for students selected.

The Edmunds Scholarship Program at Stetson includes a \$1,500 summer stipend. The stipend may be used for a vocational internship or alternatively for a summer study abroad in a Stetson-sponsored program. All scholars are encouraged to study for one semester abroad, which is in addition to the summer stipend.

## Life at Stetson University for Edmunds Scholars

Stetson students study with an outstanding senior faculty in small classes on a beautiful campus in DeLand, Florida. Edmunds Scholars at Stetson benefit from the support of a special faculty mentoring and enrichment program, and a student organization, the Edmunds Laureate. In order to maintain the scholarship, each Edmunds Scholar must uphold a 3.5 GPA on a cumulative basis. Edmunds Scholars

are expected to participate in community outreach programs. Although there is no requirement to participate in sports at Stetson, Edmunds Scholars are encouraged to keep physically fit and maintain a balance between academics and campus activities. Edmunds Scholars also are encouraged to become involved in a leadership capacity in campus activities to further develop their leadership skills. They are expected to be role models for other Stetson students.

An advisory committee evaluates the program annually. Stetson University and the Edmunds family and friends keep in touch with scholars after graduation.

## Selection Process

One new J. Ollie Edmunds Scholar is chosen each academic year. Scholars keep their awards for four years (eight semesters), as long as they continue to meet the scholarship criteria.

Principals or headmasters at secondary schools that consistently produce excellent students are invited to nominate candidates. Recommendations may be directed to the vice president for Enrollment Management at Stetson University. Stetson's vice president initially screens the candidates, with help from alumni. Representatives of the Edmunds family, an outside judge selected by Stetson's president, and the faculty director of the J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship Program join the vice president in selecting the finalists. A limited number of finalists are invited to campus for an all-expenses-paid interview weekend when the final Edmunds Scholar is selected for the admission year. The scholarship is awarded solely on the student's outstanding merit.

## Support of the Edmunds Scholarship

Although J. Ollie Edmunds Sr. died in 1984, his commitment to Stetson was continued by the Gualala Foundation, his philanthropy, which has been supported by his family and by friends of Stetson. Although the Gualala Foundation initiated the J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship in 1996 and supported it until the foundation ceased in 2007, the support of the Edmunds Scholarship by his family and friends continues.

The Gualala Foundation and Dr. Edmunds' family also have supported Stetson University in other ways. They have sponsored the annual McEniry Award for Excellence in Teaching; the Etter McTeer Turner Award for the year's top graduate; the Edward B. Henderson Award for the most outstanding graduating senior in Stetson's Department of Teacher Education who plans to pursue graduate studies in Florida; and the George and Mary Hood Award, which recognizes a person or persons who display extraordinary passion for and commitment to Stetson University and its core values. Other gifts from the foundation and the Edmunds family include contributions to the Edmunds Sabbatical and Faculty Development Program, Stetson's Emily Edmunds Garden Pavilion, Phi Beta Kappa Fund, Stewart Lecture Series in Christian Ethics, Kresge Science Initiative, Challenge Gift Program, and the J. Ollie Edmunds Distinguished Scholarship Program Endowment.



## J. Ollie Edmunds

J. Ollie Edmunds was associated with Stetson University for 60 years, from 1921 when he enrolled as an undergraduate student until the day he retired as chancellor. He served Stetson for more than 50 years in the capacities of trustee, president and chancellor. As a student, he worked his way through Stetson and remained active in campus organizations. He was president of his sophomore and senior classes; president of the campus YMCA; and a member of the debate team, Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, Glee Club, and the Torch and Scroll honorary. He often took leading roles in campus plays at Stover Theatre, including Shakespearean productions. He was editor of the yearbook and business manager of the student newspaper. He received a bachelor's degree in 1925, a master's degree in 1927, and a law degree in 1928, all from Stetson. In 1943, his alma mater presented him with the honorary degree, Doctor of Laws.

Dr. Edmunds was elected to Stetson's Board of Trustees in 1934, helped organize Stetson's National Alumni Association, and served three terms as its president. He was a judge in Duval County in Jacksonville, Fla. In 1947, he left his probate law practice to become Stetson's fourth president. His 19-year tenure as president rejuvenated the university. He hired new faculty, raised academic standards, enlarged the campus from 33 to 80 acres, raised \$18.4 million and built 16 new buildings. A national leader in higher education, he served as president of the American Association of Colleges and Universities. Beloved by faculty and students, President Edmunds was highly respected on campus, in the state and across the country.



## Areas of Study

Accounting  
Accounting Information Systems  
Africana Studies  
American Studies  
Applied Statistics  
Aquatic and Marine Biology  
Art  
Art History  
Biochemistry  
Biology  
Business Administration  
Business Law  
Chemistry  
Communication Studies  
Computer Information Systems  
Computer Science  
Creative Writing  
Digital Arts  
Economics  
Education, Teacher  
English  
Entrepreneurship  
Environmental Science  
Family Enterprise  
Finance  
French Language  
Gender Studies  
Geography  
German Language  
History  
Humanities  
Integrative Health Science  
International Business  
International Studies  
Journalism  
Latin American Studies  
Liberal Arts in Music  
Management  
Management Information Systems  
Marketing  
Mathematics  
Molecular Biology  
Music (with an outside field)  
Music Composition  
Music Education  
Music Performance:  
    Guitar, Orchestral Instrument,  
    Organ, Piano, Voice  
Music Technology  
Music Theory  
Philosophy  
Physics  
Political Science  
Psychology  
Religious Studies  
Russian Language

Russian Studies  
Social Science  
Sociology & Anthropology  
Spanish Language  
Sport Management  
Theatre Arts

## Graduate Programs

Accounting  
Business Administration  
Counseling  
Education Specialist  
Education  
Elder Law  
English  
Executive MBA  
International Law  
Law & Business Administration  
Law & Health  
Law

## Pre-Professional & Other Programs

Bonner Scholars and Leaders Program  
Discovery Program  
Entrepreneurship, Prince Program  
Honors Program  
Investments, Roland George Program  
Pre-Dentistry  
Pre-Engineering  
Pre-Law  
Pre-Medicine  
Pre-Veterinary  
Study Abroad

Stetson University is an outstanding independent private institution. It is the first private university in Florida and the only to host a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. There is a continuing emphasis on academic quality in the breadth of undergraduate offerings, a focus on small classes, and an intimate 12-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio. Stetson has a strong commitment to values and social responsibility, and encourages students to think about and develop leadership skills and ideas to foster an inclusive community. Stetson University is committed to attracting the highest caliber of students to its campus.

## STETSON AT A GLANCE

**Location:** Stetson University's historic campus is in DeLand, Fla., just 25 miles west of Daytona Beach and 35 miles northeast of Orlando. The DeLand campus serves nearly 2,300 undergraduate and graduate students in the university's College of Arts & Sciences, School of Business Administration, and School of Music. The Stetson University College of Law has campuses in St. Petersburg/Gulfport and Tampa, Fla. The Stetson University Center at Celebration, near Orlando, offers professional development programs for educators; a degree completion program in business; graduate courses in business, education, leadership and counseling.

**Main Campus and Area:** Our historic main campus sits in the heart of DeLand, Fla. — a medium-sized college town with a thriving downtown, all within walking distance from campus. Shopping, restaurants, cultural events, Florida beaches and the attractions and opportunities of Orlando are within close reach.

**School & Class Size:** We have approximately 2,300 undergraduate and 1,600 graduate and law students. Our undergraduate students come from 38 states and 18 countries. With 261 faculty, the student-faculty ratio is 12:1. The School of Music offers a 6:1 student-faculty ratio.

**Degree Programs:** Stetson has more than 60 majors and minors leading to Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Music or Bachelor of Business Administration degrees. Master's degrees are offered in accounting, business administration, education, English, and counseling. The Juris Doctor degree is awarded by the College of Law, which guarantees admission to Stetson undergraduates who meet challenging academic requirements.

**Study Away Program:** Study away programs are life changing, allowing you to experience and learn in a local setting and around the world. From DeLand to Washington D.C. or even China, SU allows you to expand what you learn in a classroom to real life.

**Athletics:** A member of the NCAA Division I Atlantic Sun Conference and the Pioneer Football League, Stetson fields 18 intercollegiate sports. If that's more than you had in mind, we offer a vibrant intercollegiate Club Sports program and a campus-based intramural program.

**Student Activities:** Stetson is home to more than 100 student organizations, including service and special interest groups, student government, social fraternities and sororities, and 17 scholastic and honorary societies including Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa, Mortar Board and Alpha Kappa Psi.

**Accreditation:** We are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS). Our School of Music is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, while the School of Business Administration is accredited by AACSB.

**Outcomes:** Stetson faculty take mentoring seriously. The relationships built here lead students to exciting opportunities after graduation, like getting into top grad schools like Oxford or landing a job at a global company like Google®.

### FOR AN APPLICATION AND NOMINATION FORM, CONTACT:

Vice President for Enrollment  
Management  
Stetson University  
421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8378  
DeLand, FL 32723

Phone: (386) 822-7100  
(800) 688-0101

Email: [admissions@stetson.edu](mailto:admissions@stetson.edu)  
[www.stetson.edu](http://www.stetson.edu)  
[www.stetson.edu/edmunds](http://www.stetson.edu/edmunds)