Goldwater Scholarship Information Sheet
Adapted from https://goldwater.scholarsapply.org/

What is it?
The purpose of the Goldwater Scholarship is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians, and engineers. Goldwater Scholarships will be awarded to up to 300 students who will be college juniors or seniors in the following academic year. Goldwater Scholars demonstrate outstanding potential, in the pursuit of research-oriented careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering. The award covers eligible expenses for undergraduate tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to a maximum of $7,500 annually. Sophomore awardees are eligible for two years of funding; junior year awardees are eligible for one year of funding. An institution can nominate 4 students for the Goldwater; they typically receive around 1200 nominations and select around 300 Scholars.

Who is eligible for the Goldwater Scholarship?
1. Current sophomore, or junior, pursuing a bachelor's degree on a full-time basis.
2. Have a GPA of at least 3.70.
4. Have a demonstrated interest in obtaining a Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. leading to a research-oriented career in mathematics, computer science, the natural sciences, or engineering. Students who plan to study medicine are eligible for a Goldwater Scholarship only if they plan a research career rather than a career as a medical doctor in a private practice.

Who is competitive?
The Goldwater criteria are as follows:
• Academic achievement (Grades, level of courses, awards, scholarships)
• Progress toward research goals (Research activities, career goals, course work)
• Research essay (Technical content, bibliography, and organization/grammar)
• Letters of recommendation (Commitment to research, intellectual curiosity, and potential for research contributions)

Competitive applicants will score highly in each of these areas. This means that they are pursuing research, independent study, and/or graduate coursework in their fields of study, with a clear trajectory toward obtaining a Ph.D. and conducting research. Often, competitive applicants have also completed summer research experiences either at Notre Dame or other institutions (e.g., through an NSF REU).

What is my next step if I am interested in applying for the Goldwater Scholarship?
Visit http://cuse.nd.edu/fellowships/goldwater for information about next steps.