

Barrett, The Honors College fee funding information

9.15.25

Please note:

- All fee money is invested in enhancing the honors experience for Barrett students.
- Barrett students can play an active role in determining how the fee money is allocated by contacting the Honors College Council at Barrett and/or responding to the annual survey soliciting student input
- All fee requests made by the College are reviewed and approved by student leadership, ASU, and the Arizona Board of Regents.

The fee allows the college to:

- Hire and retain Barrett-dedicated faculty who teach discussion-based honors foundational courses and special topic seminars not offered in standard ASU courses. Students can gain direct insight from Nobel Laureates, Arizona's inaugural Poet Laureate, former UN Ambassadors, ACLS Fellowship recipients, Aldo Leopold Conservation Award winners, and Arizona Professors of the Year.
- Offer small class sizes in honors courses, typically 10 to 20 students per class, compared with 50 to 300 students in many general courses. This gives students more direct contact with faculty and more meaningful discussion opportunities.
- Provide mentorship through over 190 Faculty Honors Advisors who help students plan their courses, shape thesis projects, find research opportunities, and develop academically within their major.
- Provide specialized support through a full-time Internship and Community Outreach Coordinator. This includes access to Barrett-only opportunities that help students gain real-world experience, build professional networks, and position them for competitive careers and graduate programs.
- Employ approximately 100 students across four campuses. These roles give students hands-on experience in multiple fields, helping them build skills and prepare for future careers.
- Provide full-time, dedicated prehealth and prelaw advising from experts who equip students to confidently plan and pursue medical or legal career paths. Barrett offers unique programs and partnerships including:
 - o [The Barrett Premedical Scholars Program](#) with Mayo Clinic which gives students a yearlong experience shadowing physicians, participating in labs, and preparing medical school applications
 - o Research and clinical placements with Banner Health and HonorHealth to provide hands-on experience in healthcare.
 - o [Project Excellence with the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law](#) allows qualified students to take law courses for Honors credit and explore legal fields early.
- Provide scholarships for [travel experiences through Barrett](#), including Study Abroad, Global Intensive Experiences, and Great American Cities programs, giving students opportunities to expand global perspectives while engaging directly with Honors faculty.
- Fund thesis research costs for all students as well as travel to conference or other professional development opportunities. Provide paid student research internships, offering hands-on experience both within and outside ASU. Support an undergraduate research program, Barrett College Fellows, that matches students with faculty mentors and research projects.

- Host hundreds of Barrett events each year across all campuses. These events build community, provide networking opportunities, and give students a sense of belonging and involvement.
- Create and support student leadership opportunities across all campuses and interests, including Peer Academic Leaders, leadership summits, student organizations, and residential student leader positions. These programs build leadership skills and enhance the Honors experience.
- Support and manage over 8,000 individualized Honors contracts each semester. This allows students to pursue personalized coursework across any field of study, tailoring their education to their interests and goals.
- Fund faculty release from other ASU colleges so students can take Honors courses with professors they might otherwise only encounter in large lectures. This ensures that Barrett courses are taught by experts across multiple disciplines, not just within one college.
- Provide resources that support the student experience, including Barrett suites on multiple campuses, sustainability housing and gardening, dedicated study spaces and computer labs, the Student Center, and private study pods.
- Provide lectures and awards programs, including the Gold Standard Awards, offering recognition and enrichment beyond the classroom.
- Employ a professional staff focused exclusively on supporting Honors students.
- Support student financial aid, with 17 percent of fee revenue contributing close to 3 million dollars to student financial aid packages. This ensures access to the full Honors experience for more students.
- Fund summer Honors classes, giving students access to summer session courses so they can stay on track academically.
- Support mentoring programs connecting students with both faculty and peer mentors to foster guidance and academic growth.
- Maintain classroom technology optimized for small, discussion-based learning, supporting high-quality instruction in Honors courses.
- Create Honors sections in various units to provide smaller, more focused coursework specifically for Barrett students.

Who are Barrett Students?

Barrett students are selected for a range of strengths, including academic excellence, leadership, creativity, service, and meaningful involvement. While the average incoming GPA is 3.76, Barrett values the full scope of a student's accomplishments and potential. Students join a peer group recognized not only for strong academics, but for shaping campus life, driving innovation, and making a difference in their communities.

Barrett Differentiators:

- 92% of new Barrett graduates (2023) were employed, continuing their education, serving in the military, or volunteering (internships, etc.) within six months after graduation. This significantly exceeds the national average of less than 85% for bachelor's degree graduates, as reported by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) in their 'First Destinations for the College Class of 2023' report. (More current data has not yet

been released)

- Barrett provides free one-to-one tutoring and other workshops at tutoring centers on all four campuses, including the [Barrett Writing Center](#) and the [Barrett Mathematics Center](#). The Writing Center offers one-on-one tutoring for The Human Event and History of Ideas courses, as well as support for honors theses, scholarship essays, and job or internship applications. Unlike general university tutoring, these centers are designed specifically for honors students to help them succeed in Barrett's most rigorous courses and build confidence in key academic skills.
- Barrett offers more than 600 honors academic experiences each semester across its four campuses and online. This extensive curriculum enables students to explore their academic interests with rigor and flexibility, building a competitive edge for graduate programs and professional pathways.
- Priority registration gives Barrett students early access to course enrollment, making it much easier to secure the classes and schedules they want and ensuring they can stay on track with both their major and Honors requirements.
- More than \$1.4 million in scholarship funding is available annually, with more than 40 distinct scholarships to support students' educational expenses. This financial support helps students access transformative opportunities in research, travel, and service, making a top-tier honors education more accessible & impactful.
- Students earn an Honors designation on transcript and diploma to help them stand out on grad school and job applications.
- Barrett was the first four-year residential honors college in the U.S., establishing a national model that integrates academics with a living-learning community. Students benefit from built-in mentorship, stronger peer networks, and a cohesive honors experience that supports both academic and personal growth.
- Barrett offers structured peer mentorship through the [Barrett Mentor Program](#) (BMP) and Peer Academic Leaders (PALs), connecting first, second and third-year students with experienced upper-division mentors. These programs foster early connections, academic confidence, and leadership development to help students thrive both personally and academically.
- Nearly 40 percent of Barrett graduates go on to graduate school immediately after completing their degree. This reflects the strong academic preparation, research opportunities, and faculty mentorship built into the Barrett experience.
- Barrett students learn from world-class faculty who bring real-world distinction into the classroom. Students gain direct insight from award-winning experts who challenge them to think deeply and lead boldly, including:
 - Leland Hartwell, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine, who teaches special honors seminars on research and cognition
 - Rosemarie Dombrowski, Arizona's inaugural Poet Laureate, who teaches seminars exploring poetry and medicine
 - Amanda Ellis, former UN Ambassador, who leads an honors seminar on global development and diplomacy
 - Gabriella Soto, recipient of the 2023 ACLS Fellowship, who explores U.S. border policies through field-based research
 - Mathew Sandoval, expert in Dia de los Muertos and public celebrations in the U.S. and Mexico
 - Alex Young, 2024 Aldo Leopold Conservation Award recipient for work in wildlife and land stewardship
 - John Lynch, named 2007 Arizona Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation and CASE
- Every Barrett student has access to more than 190 Faculty Honors Advisors who provide mentorship on course planning, thesis direction, research opportunities, and long-term academic development within their major.

- Barrett students are supported by a unique three-pronged advising model, including major advisors, honors advisors, and Faculty Honors Advisors, to align their academic path with research, career goals, and personal growth from multiple expert perspectives:
 - Barrett Honors Advisor-helps students navigate the honors curriculum requirements and connects them to campus-wide resources, opportunities, and programs. Honors advising is mandatory and required each year to make sure Barrett students are supported in achieving academic success and making progress toward their goals.
 - Academic Advisor-Assist in course selection and scheduling
 - Faculty Honors Advisor- Faculty Honors Advisors (FHAs) are disciplinary faculty members at ASU who work with Barrett students to make their honors experience within a field of study as rewarding as possible. There are over 190 FHAs available to Barrett students. They assist Barrett students with research and internship opportunities, thesis support, honors contracts, and more.
- Barrett students have dedicated housing and a strong peer network. Barrett students often say it makes a very large university feel personal.