How to put yourself in line for a MERIT-BASED FELLOWSHIP

The best students receive merit-based fellowships that help defray the cost of attending the UNC Master of Accounting Program. Why? Think of it as a reward for your prior success and a boost towards your future success.

About half of the MAC students receive a fellowship. The maximum award is valued at $10,000 and the average range is $3000 to $6000. To increase your chances of receiving a larger amount, consider the following as you complete your application and interview:

1. **Are you a leader?**
   We’re looking for students who will become leaders in our program and, someday, become leaders in the accounting profession and the business world. When we make fellowship decisions, we often reward those with the strongest potential. What have you done — or what are you currently doing — that demonstrates your leadership potential? If you’ve served as the treasurer of a student group or managed a team of employees at your job, we want to know.

2. **Do you have strong grades and test scores?**
   One of the key predictors for success in our program is your academic horsepower, which is typically demonstrated by your grades and test scores. A few items we’ll evaluate: your grades and your grade trend, the classes that you took (and, yes, non-business courses are often as important as your business courses), your course load, and your standardized test scores, including the split between the different sections. If you received a test waiver/exemption, worry not; we look at each applicant holistically, so there are many other ways to shine!

3. **Can you rock your interview?**
   In school, in the accounting profession, and in the business world, communication skills matter. Can you make solid and meaningful connections easily? If you can build rapport in an interview, it’s very likely you’ll be able to gain the trust of your future classmates and future clients. This matters to us. In your interview, be confident, cordial, clear, and concise.

4. **Have you made an impact on your community?**
   Our students and alumni are known for the positive presence they have outside of the classroom or the boardroom. It’s the Carolina Way. So, how have you made an impact on your community? Do you spend your free time volunteering at a children’s hospital? A local animal shelter? Tell us, so we’ll understand how you can deliver more than just the bottom line.

5. **Do you hustle?**
   When you want something, you need to go get it. That’s called hustle. Participate in webinars or other live events. Ask us questions. Follow up with us. When you go the extra mile, you demonstrate determination and dedication to achieve your goals. We often reward this drive!

6. **Will you contribute to our diverse and inclusive culture?**
   Well-rounded individuals trigger thoughtful discussions within teams, in class or at work. How has being part of a diverse organization or group shaped who you are? And, how could you contribute to creating an inclusive culture in our program? In your interview, your statement of purpose, or the optional diversity statement, share your thoughts with us.

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5. **Who’s your champion?**
   Referrals and endorsements provide us with added confidence when we make fellowship decisions. Do you have a professional or personal acquaintance who’s an alum of our program? Or someone in a finance or accounting role? Have them send us a note to let us know how amazing you are and how well you’ll serve the accounting field.

5. **What else do we really need to know?**
   Explain your shortcomings. (We all have them!) Did your grades slip for a semester? Please tell us about extenuating circumstances. Maybe you contracted an unusual disease. Maybe you had to work extra hours to send money to a family member in need. We consider these situations when evaluating your application for fellowship consideration.

**WE’RE HERE TO HELP.**

Our admissions and career specialists can answer any questions you have about fellowships, the admissions process, or the UNC Master of Accounting Program. Simply contact us at mac_info@unc.edu or 919-962-3209.

**START YOUR APPLICATION**

mac.unc.edu