

UNO Scholarship for Women in Computer Science

This scholarship was founded by BSCS alumni Sabrina D. Farmer in 1995. It is awarded twice a year and can be received twice by a single recipient. As a woman in Computer Science it can feel like you are outnumbered and sometimes alone, but there are many women wishing you success and hope you join them in the very rewarding career a Computer Science degree can bring.

About the Founder

Sabrina Farmer graduated from University of New Orleans with a BS in Computer Science in Dec 1995. After graduation she accepted a job in southern California as a contractor to the Department of Defense. She relocated to Silicon Valley in 1997 and stayed in research in both the private and public sectors for several years. She has since worked for several Internet companies both as start-ups and well-established businesses including Excite@Home, WebMD, and Netsuite. She is currently an Engineering manager at Google responsible for Gmail and lives with her husband and two young children.

Her work has taken her around the world including Australia, Ireland, Switzerland, and Japan. She has been a strong advocate for women in engineering including speaking at the University of New South Wales and currently leads a Diversity project at Google. She also works with several businesses on their diversity programs. She founded this scholarship in 1996 after she graduated as a way to give back and encourage women to work through their fears of what will happen and rely on their ability to bring their talents to an industry that will only be successful with diverse points of view and perspectives.

“There were many times I questioned my abilities as a Computer Scientist while in school, especially when it felt like I knew so much less than my fellow students. The thought of changing paths occurred to me several times. In my last year I realized it wasn’t that I knew less than my peers, but that I focused on what I didn’t know, and that is actually what will drive your success. In the last 15 years I’ve had an incredibly rewarding career that has included working with some of the best and brightest (men and women) and traveling the world. I’m currently at Google and constantly finding challenges and problems to solve. I live with my loving husband and two wonderful children as well as our crazy dog, and while I constantly seek work life balance I know it is achievable. This scholarship was created to encourage women to stick with this career because while there are challenges, the rewards are sweet.” – Sabrina Farmer

An applicant must:

1. be a female registered full-time at the University of New Orleans
2. be enrolled with a major or minor in the department of Computer Science
3. be enrolled in or completed CS2125
4. exhibit dedication to the field of Computer Science

Award will consist of:

1. up to \$3000 per semester for tuition and books.
2. up to 1 year mentoring from founder Sabrina Farmer, Engineering Manager Google (optional)

Applications should be submitted no later than Friday, June 12, 2015, at 4:30 p.m., in the Women’s Center, in the Earl K. Long Library, Room 201. Submit your application in a large envelope marked with your name and “UNO Women in Computer Science Scholarship.” Make a copy of your documents for your own records before submitting your packet.

For additional information and application forms please contact the Women’s Center at womenscenter@uno.edu, 504-280-7285, or visit www.uno.edu/womens-center



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APPLICATIONS DUE BY June 12, 2015
in the Women's Center, Earl K. Long Library, Room 201

Applications must include the following:

1. Completed **application form**
2. A **letter of recommendation**; it is recommended it be from a professor but can be from anyone who can speak to why you chose Computer Science.
3. Brief answers to **personal history questions**
4. **College Transcript** – unofficial transcript from Webstar, or an official Registrar's transcript
5. **List of jobs and activities** for past ten years or since high school graduation
6. **List prior schooling**, including high school, vocational training and colleges, and dates of attendances
7. **List of honors and scholarships** from high school to the present (optional)

APPLICATION FORM

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Local Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Student # _____ S.S.#: _____

Employer _____ Position _____

Work address _____

Work Phone _____ Hours worked per week _____ Annual Income _____

Marital Status _____ Number of Dependents _____ Ages _____

Standing at UNO (circle): SOPH /JR /SR Major _____ Minor _____ GPA _____

Completion of CS2125 or semester/year of enrollment _____

Credit hours completed _____ College semesters completed _____ Hours remaining for graduation _____

Number of semesters until graduation: Regular _____ Summer _____ Scheduled graduation date: _____

PERSONAL HISTORY QUESTIONS

Please thoroughly answer each of the following questions. Answers to all questions should be no longer than three typewritten, double spaced pages and can be as short as you wish.

1. Why did you choose Computer Science?
2. What do you think will be your biggest challenge for success in this career? or What fears/concerns do you have about this field?
3. What are your future educational and career plans?
4. What was the most difficult obstacle you have had to overcome or are overcoming to attend college?
5. How do you intend to use the mentoring?
6. Please add any other information that you feel is pertinent to your application.

Before you submit your application, make a copy of everything for your own records. Submit your materials in a large envelope with your name and "Women in Computer Science Scholarship" on the front.

