



February 2016

This month we are focusing on scholarships. The deadline is approaching fast, but there is still time to apply. Tips for writing that winning essay are below too. The essay is key to convincing a funder to give you money, so take your time when writing it. Family Dinner & Movie Night is Wednesday, March 2, the UALR Food Pantry is open now and the UALR Career Closet will be open in late March. Now is the time to start thinking about grad school and joining that professional organization that will be beneficial to you when you graduate. See the amazing opportunities below! This month we are highlighting Amber Gossett, a nursing student that has overcome many obstacles to be here. Dining Services wants your opinion-take the survey below to be entered in a drawing for \$!

Best, Cynda Alexander

Non-Traditional Student Programs Coordinator



In this epic journey into the world of dinosaurs, an apatosaurus named Arlo makes an unlikely human friend.

Family Dinner & Movie Night

March 2 in the DSC Ledbetter Rooms

5:30-6:00 Get your Dino-Photo taken and eat dinner while you wait for the movie to start.

6:00-7:30 Movie Time!!



See an egg, pick it up and you might just have good luck! Be on the lookout for a dinosaur egg on Monday, Feb 29 & Tuesday, March 1 for your chance to win \$. All eggs contain a dinosaur and candy, but four eggs will have a Trojan Head. If you find one of the eggs with a Trojan Head, come to the Office of Campus Life to redeem your gift card!

Over 200 eggs will be hidden ALL OVER campus!!

Campus-Wide Events

- **UALR Trojan Food Pantry**, Thursdays, 11am-2pm. Participants will receive a three-day supply of food when they visit. Food requests may be made in person or [completed online](#) for pickup at the pantry.
- **Financial Aid Application Deadline**, Mar. 1. [UALR Private Scholarship](#), [UALR Alumni Scholarship](#), and [FAFSA](#) (Federal and State) financial aid applications for the 2016-2017 academic year must be submitted by this date!
- **Spring Break**, Mar. 21-25 No Classes-have fun!!!
- **Career Closet**, Mar. 23-Apr. 3, DSC Leadership Lounge, upper concourse. Professional development workshop attendees can select an outfit that will help you stand out for job interviews.
- **2016 UALR Research and Creative Works Expo**, Apr. 11th, 9am-4pm event, DSC, Ledbetter Hall. Undergraduates and graduates who have a current or last semester class assignment that might be an interesting presentation are [encouraged to register for this event by March 30](#).

Thinking about Grad School

Are you considering furthering your education by pursuing a graduate degree? Go

Did You Know ... (you really need to read this!)

UALR undergraduate students may apply and be accepted to select graduate programs and begin working toward a graduate degree while completing the

to the [Graduate School web page](#) or your program's graduate coordinator for more information.

Free Microsoft Office 365 Software

Students can download Office 365 for free on up to five personal devices (PCs, Macs, tablets and phones). Students will enjoy the latest versions of Microsoft Office applications on PCs or Macs with access to 1TB of secure cloud-based file storage and sharing.

The Power of Peer Mentoring



Peer mentors draw from their own experience to offer encouragement and support to their mentees and provide a connection to our university.

[Become a Mentor](#)

[Request a Mentor](#)

[Peer Mentoring
Answers](#)

baccalaureate degree. This enables you to complete your graduate degree in a shorter amount of time than the traditional path.

Specific programs may have more rigorous admissions criteria. The student should contact the desired program to determine these requirements before applying.

4+1 Early Entry Program

Once accepted into a graduate program, students can take up to 12 hours of graduate coursework, which will count towards both the baccalaureate degree and the graduate degree.

Admissions Requirements

Undergraduate students may apply and be accepted:

- After completing 75 or more hours of undergraduate coursework with at least 90 hours of undergraduate coursework completed by the time the first graduate course is taken
- Have at least a 3.2 overall GPA
- Complete an application for and be accepted into the desired graduate program and the UALR Graduate School
- Complete an Early-Entry Program form and have it approved by the graduate coordinator and the Graduate School, this form must be approved before the student begins graduate coursework

Program Restrictions

See [UALR Graduate School web page for restrictions.](#)

Credit Reservation Program

UALR undergraduate students may take up to 6 hours of graduate-level courses and reserve the credit for their graduate degree. Unlike the 4+1 program, these graduate-level courses will not count toward both the baccalaureate and the graduate degrees. Instead, the student will choose to use the credit towards either one

degree or the other.

Admission Requirements

Undergraduate students who wish to take and reserve courses for graduate credit must:

- Be within 15 hours of completing graduation requirements
- Submit a form to the Graduate School prior to registration indicating which courses he or she intends to take, this form must be signed by the instructor of the course(s), the program's graduate coordinator, the department chair, and the Graduate School dean
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 in all coursework

For more information regarding these opportunities click [here](#) or talk to your department's graduate coordinator.

Note: As long as you are still working toward your bachelor's degree, undergraduate financial aid may be applied to graduate courses.

Writing a Winning Scholarship Essay

One of the most important parts of applying for a scholarship is having a winning essay--that essay that makes you stand out from all the other applicants.

Tips for Writing a Winning Essay

- Make sure your essay answers the topic.
- Think about what you are going to write and organize your thoughts into an outline before you write.
- Personalize your essay as much as possible.
- Be enthusiastic.
- Use clear, concise, and simple language.
- Use a hook to begin your essay! Use a quotation, poem, thought, amazing

- fact, idea, question, or simple statement to draw you reader into your topic.
- Convey your sense of responsibility by your involvement in extracurricular activities or academic achievements.
- Show your potential for growth by showing how you have grown as a person from participation.
- State your accomplishments without coming across as if you are bragging.

Cutting and Polishing

- Good writing is a recursive process that requires revision and careful editing.
- Try not to fall madly in love with your first draft. It is probably not very good.
- Set your draft aside if time permits. Read it later out loud with fresh ears and eyes.
- Get input from critical readers. "Looks good" is not actually helpful.
- Sweat over the editing. Worry about word choice and word economy (as well as grammar and spelling) once you are happy with the content overall.

More Information on Scholarships

Mar. 1 is the deadline for applying for [UALR scholarships](#) and [government financial aid \(FAFSA\)](#) for the 2016-17 academic year. Be sure to use the following links to find scholarships.

[Academic Scholarship Application](#) applies future UALR students for the entering freshman and transfer scholarships for fall 2016.

[General Scholarships](#) at UALR are available for current students who meet the criteria.

Academic Department Scholarships

- [College of Arts, Letters, and Sciences](#)
- [College of Business](#)
- [College of Education and Health Professions](#)
- [George W. Donaghey College of Engineering and Information Technology](#)
- [College of Social Sciences and Communication](#)
- [William H. Bowen School of Law](#)

[Single Parent Scholarship](#)

[UALR Alumni Association Scholarship](#) Program is the cornerstone of the association.

The association and its members sponsor scholarships programs aimed at rewarding outstanding students.

Athletics Scholarships--For additional information or a scholarship application call 501.569.3306.

[Arkansas Community Foundation Scholarships](#)

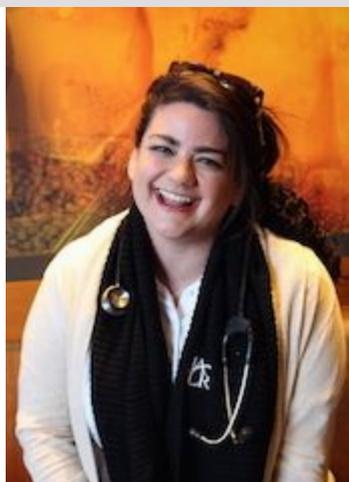
[Non-Traditional Student Scholarships](#)

[Scholarships for Diverse Students](#)

[Grad Scholarships](#)

Highlighting Students: One Story at a Time

“Don’t give up, no matter what happens. Even when you get to the end of your rope, make more rope,” says Amber Gossett. When Amber lost her job, she pulled out that stethoscope and dusted it and her dreams off to return to school. When she wears it, it is a reminder to her that, “for the first time in my life ... I am in the right place and I’m where I’m supposed to be ... following my dream.” Read her story [HERE!](#)



Amber Gossett

Nursing Major and Spanish Minor

Class of 2017



Professional and Student Organizations

Why is it important

Professional organizations are amazing resources for keeping current in your field, professional publications, education and service opportunities, scholarships, internships, jobs, & networking. Likewise, Student Professional Organizations can serve a lot of the same purposes, helping you get hired after you graduate.

[The College of Business clubs](#) include Beta Alpha Psi (Honors Society for Accounting, Finance, and Information Systems Majors), The Accounting Society,

to join professional and student professional organizations?

Check out the complete list of UALR Student Organizations [HERE!](#)

The Marketing Club, The Human Resource Club, Phi Beta Lambda, The Finance Club, and AITP Club. The clubs are specifically for Business majors, but anyone can join Phi Beta Lambda.

The clubs have in common diversity and a strong non-traditional student basis. These clubs are an essential part of the college of business, and an essential part of how the students learn, grow, and become even more than what they were beforehand.



Complete this [SURVEY](#) and be entered to win \$200!

Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start.

~Nido Qubein

Cyndra Alexander, Non-Traditional Student Programs Coordinator
Office of Campus Life
2801 South University Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72204
501.569.3308



You are receiving this email because you are a UALR student.

[Unsubscribe](#)