FUND PURPOSE

Software systems increasingly are serving as a disruptive force to traditional telecommunications markets. The Disruptive Scholars Scholarship (DSS) seeks to identify, develop, and support promising Computer Science students with a passion for both software programming and telecommunications or broadband networks. Disruptive Scholars will become experts in creating and building new software-defined network systems that span this challenging intersection by obtaining a BS in Computer Science (CS) and an MS in the Interdisciplinary Telecom Program (ITP) in only five years.

1. DSS Candidates

CU Computer Science undergraduate students in the junior year are ideal scholarship candidates, though all computer science undergraduates are recommended to apply. Students enrolled in the concurrent CS BS Degree and ITP MS Degree program are allowed up to six (6) credits of overlap between the two (2) programs, and can obtain an MS in ITP with 30 credits rather than the 36 credits required for a standalone degree. ITP will waive the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) requirement to apply for the concurrent degree.

2. Scholarship Parameters

- Candidates are eligible to apply for the DSS within their junior year or higher;
- Awardees will begin enrolling in ITP courses in the fall semester of their senior year of study, the scholarship funding will begin at the same time; and
- Award is for tuition only, up to $10,000 per academic year (student is responsible for paying mandatory student fees and applicable course fees)

3. Scholarship Criteria

- At time of application, must be enrolled as a full-time BS-degree seeking student in Computer Science at the University of Colorado Boulder;
- Receipt of the award is contingent upon acceptance into the BS/MS CS/ITP program;
- Awardees may be eligible in either undergraduate or graduate status;
- The recipient will be employable as a civil servant in the USA;
- Minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.25 as required for BS/MS pursuit;
- Preference will go to Colorado residents; and
- Scholarship recipients making satisfactory progress in the BS/MS program will be renewed for a second year.
4. Candidate Action/Application Process

CS students wishing to be considered for the DSS will submit an application for the Engineering Merit Scholarships by March 1 of each year.

- Requirements to submit application to the BS/MS in CS/ITP by Feb 20 of each year. http://www.colorado.edu/admissions/graduate/apply
- Minimum overall GPA of 3.25 in CS Department courses;
- Three letters of recommendation (at least two (2) must be from CS faculty at UCB);
- A brief letter of interest; and
- An unofficial UCB transcript.
- For additional information about the scholarship, contact the college scholarship coordinator, Gretchen Lee, at 303-735-2440 or gretchen.lee@colorado.edu
- Contact itp@colorado.edu for more information.