



**Western Golf Association  
Evans Scholars Foundation**

## **THE EVANS SCHOLARS FOUNDATION: HISTORY AND PROFILE**

GOLF, III. – The Evans Scholars Foundation oversees the Chick Evans Scholarship Program, one of the nation's largest privately funded college scholarship programs, providing full tuition and housing grants to deserving caddies for up to four years. The grants are valued at more than \$70,000 per Scholar.

Since the first two Scholars enrolled at Northwestern University in 1930, more than 9,400 young men and women have graduated as Evans Scholars. In fall 2011, 825 Scholars will live at one of 14 Foundation-owned Scholarship Houses at top universities throughout the country.

### **Charles “Chick” Evans, Jr.**

The Chick Evans Scholarship Program was established by and named for Charles “Chick” Evans, Jr., one of golf's all-time greats. He became famous in 1916 when he won both the U.S. Open and the U.S. Amateur, becoming the first golfer ever to capture both tournaments in the same year.

In his amateur career, which spanned six decades, he won 54 titles, including eight Western Amateur championships, and all of the major championships of his day. He remained an amateur his entire life, using his earnings to create a trust fund to benefit deserving caddies.

### **Selection Criteria**

Candidates must meet four primary criteria to qualify for an Evans Scholarship, including demonstrating a strong caddie record, a strong academic record and ACT scores, financial need and outstanding character and community leadership.

### **Program Growth**

The Evans Scholars program grew dramatically after World War II. In 1950, only 84 Scholars were enrolled in school. By the end of the decade, that number had increased to 440, and Evans Scholarship Houses were established at Illinois in 1951, Michigan in 1952, Wisconsin in 1953, Marquette and Michigan State in 1955, and Minnesota in 1958.

By 1970, 823 students were enrolled and Houses had been added at Ohio State in 1962, Colorado and Purdue in 1967, Missouri in 1968 and Indiana in 1969. Houses were established at Miami of Ohio in 1974 and Northern Illinois in 1987.

### **Scholarship House Living**

At 14 universities, Evans Scholars live and work together in a Foundation-owned Scholarship House. In this environment, students develop leadership and communication skills. Most houses are co-educational. The sense of community fostered through group living enables each of the 14 Houses to rank at or near the top in both academic and extracurricular activities compared to other campus organizations. Scholars pay an annual housing fee, and all students take part in House maintenance.

Nearly two-thirds of the Scholars maintain a 'B' average or better, and their graduation rate is over 90 percent, compared to a 50 percent national average.

### **Western Golf Association**

The Western Golf Association, founded in 1899 to conduct tournaments and promote the general interests of golf, sponsors the Evans Scholars program – one of golf's favorite charities, with more than 100,000 annual contributors.

More than 35,000 golfers from across the country donate \$250 or more to the WGA Evans Scholars Par Club, which is a primary funding source of the program. Evans Alumni donate more than \$4 million to the Foundation, and all proceeds from the BMW Championship, conducted by the WGA, also benefit the Evans Scholars. Visit [www.wgaesf.org](http://www.wgaesf.org) for more information.

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