



The Evans Scholar Story

In fall 2011, 825 outstanding caddies from across the country will attend colleges throughout the United States on a full tuition and housing grant from the Evans Scholars Foundation.

These recipients are called Evans Scholars, and their grant – valued at \$70,000 over four years – comprises one of the country's most unique scholarships.

Most students attend one of the 14 universities where the Evans Scholars Foundation owns and operates a Scholarship House. In each House, they live and work together, electing chapter officers and running social and service activities.

Candidates are selected for the Scholarship based on four criteria: a strong caddie record, excellent academics, demonstrated financial need and outstanding character.

The Evans Scholarship Program has been administered by the Western Golf Association, headquartered in Golf, Illinois, since its inception in 1930. It is one of the nation's largest privately funded scholarship programs and was founded by Charles "Chick" Evans Jr., famed Chicago amateur golfer and winner of the 1916 U.S. Open and U.S. Amateur.

Since the first two Scholars enrolled at Northwestern University in 1930, more than 9,400 men and women have graduated as Evans Scholars. "This scholarship is the culmination of years of hard work both on the golf course and in the classroom," said John Kaczowski, president and CEO of the Western Golf Association and Evans Scholars Foundation.

"The Evans Scholarship is truly a life-changing opportunity for the deserving young men and women who may not otherwise have been able to realize their dream of earning a college education," said Jeffrey Harrison, vice president of education for the Evans Scholars Foundation.

The program has a college graduation rate of over 90 percent and an overall GPA for current Evans Scholars above a 3.2 on a 4.0 scale.

Scholarship funds come mostly from contributions by more than 500 member clubs and more than 100,000 golfers across the nation. Evans Scholar Alumni donate over \$4 million annually; proceeds from the BMW Championship also support the Program.

The program's founder, Charles "Chick" Evans, Jr., won 54 tournaments over a competitive career that spanned four decades. He received worldwide fame in 1916 when he won both the U.S. Amateur and the U.S. Open. After deciding to retain his amateur status, he used his golf earnings to establish the Charles Evans Jr. Trust in 1928 to assist golf caddies.

For the last two decades, the number of grants in force in any given year has averaged about 820. There are about 170 women Scholars.