Merit Scholarship Opportunities

AT VANDERBILT
Each year Vanderbilt awards merit scholarships to students who represent the top one percent of all first-year applicants. These scholarship recipients have assembled exceptional academic records and are leaders both in their intellectual and social communities, eloquently expressing their passions in their own unique voices. Through participation in Vanderbilt’s merit scholarship programs, these scholars will enrich the campus with their talents and receive the resources to develop those talents further than they ever dreamed.
Signature Merit Scholarship Programs

Three signature scholarship programs comprise the majority of Vanderbilt’s honor scholarships. Recipients of these scholarships are guaranteed full-tuition awards, plus summer stipends for study abroad, research, or service projects:

• The Ingram Scholarship Program recognizes students who plan to combine a professional or business career with an exceptional commitment to community service. The program supports students who are committed to developing their personal roles in the solution to societal problems and who have the maturity and initiative to lead positive social change.

• The Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship Program, Vanderbilt’s largest academic merit scholarship program, recognizes students who combine outstanding academic achievement with strong leadership and contributions outside the classroom.

• The Chancellor’s Scholarship Program honors students with outstanding academic records who have worked to build strong high school communities by bridging gaps among economically, socially, and racially diverse groups. Chancellor’s Scholars also will have demonstrated significant interest in issues of diversity education, tolerance, and social justice.

All merit-based scholarship awards are renewable through four years of undergraduate study as long as the recipient maintains satisfactory academic performance. Each of the four undergraduate schools awards a number of scholarships proportionate to the school’s enrollment. The application decision plan a student selects (Early or Regular Decision) is neither an advantage nor a disadvantage in the merit-based scholarship selection process. Financial need is not a factor unless otherwise indicated.
Mission and History

E. Bronson Ingram, chairman of the Vanderbilt University Board of Trust from 1991 until his death in 1995, conceived the Ingram Scholarship Program in 1993 as a way to encourage Vanderbilt students to combine a professional career with a commitment to community service. Ingram’s own life exemplified volunteerism and an untiring commitment to mobilizing resources of the business community to assist nonprofit community groups. His endeavors are being continued by his family, including his wife, Martha Ingram, chairman emerita of the Vanderbilt University Board of Trust.

The Ingram Scholarship Program challenges students to create and implement substantial service projects in the community. The program supports students who demonstrate a willingness and ability to combine a successful business or professional career with a lifelong commitment to finding solutions to critical problems facing contemporary society.

Scholarship Benefits

Ingram Scholars receive full-tuition support each year plus stipends for special summer service projects. Vanderbilt will provide additional need-based financial aid to those Ingram Scholarship recipients whose demonstrated financial need exceeds the amount of full tuition. Scholarships are renewable annually through the senior year contingent on the maintenance of a 3.0 minimum GPA and fulfillment of service-related requirements. Throughout their years as an Ingram Scholar, students are required to maintain a twenty-hour monthly service commitment and to complete at least one summer service project.

Additional summer support is available for students who work closely with a faculty member on a research/service project. Ingram Scholars meet weekly in large and small groups to discuss individual and collective progress, and to reflect on the personal meaning and societal implications of service. The Ingram Scholarship Program is coordinated by a faculty director who oversees scholar activities associated with the Ingram Scholarship Program.

Timeline

DECEMBER 1, 2014
Electronic submission or postmark deadline for Ingram Scholarship Program applications

LATE JANUARY 2015
Ingram Scholar Finalists invited to interview on campus

FEBRUARY 15–17, 2015
Ingram Scholar Finalists interview on campus

LATE FEBRUARY 2015
Notification via online posting for Ingram Scholarship Program recipients

Application and Selection

Applicants must apply to be considered for the Ingram Scholarship Program. The application will be available via your MyAppVU portal after you apply for admission. Ingram Scholars are selected on the basis of commitment to community engagement, strength of personal character, and leadership potential. In evaluating candidates, the selection committee reviews scholarship application essays and two letters of recommendation. Ingram Scholar finalists are also required to interview on campus with the selection committee. Find more information about the Ingram Scholarship Program at vanderbilt.edu/ingram.
Cornelius Vanderbilt
Scholarship Program
Exceptional Promise ➔ Infinite Possibilities
Mission and History

The Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship Program began in 2007 with a gift from the Sartain Lanier Family Foundation of Atlanta designated to unite and strengthen Vanderbilt’s existing full-tuition academic merit scholarships under the aegis of a coordinated and cohesive scholarship program.

The Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship Program honors the vision of Vanderbilt University’s founder, Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, who endowed the university in 1873 with a gift of $1 million to “contribute to strengthening the ties which should exist between all sections of our common country.” Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholars continue that mission, bringing intellectual and community leadership to the Vanderbilt campus. They forge interdisciplinary and interpersonal connections that unite people and ideas across the world.

Scholarship Benefits

Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholars receive full tuition plus a one-time stipend to be used towards a summer study abroad or research experience usually following their sophomore or junior year. Vanderbilt will provide additional need-based financial aid to those Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship recipients whose demonstrated financial need exceeds the amount of full tuition. Scholarships are renewed each year as long as the recipient maintains at least a 3.0 GPA. Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholars have the opportunity to participate in a series of programs designed especially for highly talented students.

Application and Selection

Applicants must apply to be considered for the Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship Program. The application will be available via your MyAppVU portal after you apply for admission. Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholars are selected on the basis of academic achievement, intellectual promise, and leadership and contribution outside the classroom. In evaluating candidates, the selection committees review the entire application for freshman admission along with the Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship application. Audition scores are a factor in merit scholarship selection for Blair School of Music recipients.

Timeline

DECEMBER 15, 2014
Electronic submission or postmark deadline for Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship applications

MID-MARCH 2015
Notification by email and mail for all Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship recipients
SCHOLARSHIP | DIVERSITY

CHANCELLOR’S SCHOLARS

LEADERSHIP | CITIZENSHIP
Mission and History

Chancellor Joe B. Wyatt initiated the Chancellor’s Scholars Program in 1985 to recognize students with outstanding leadership skills, strength of character, academic achievement, and a deep-seated commitment to diversity and social justice. Chancellor’s Scholars have worked to build strong communities in their high schools by bridging gaps among economically, socially, and racially diverse groups, and they have demonstrated significant interest in issues of diversity education, tolerance, and social justice. Chancellor’s Scholars are expected to build upon these earlier commitments through continued active engagement in academic and leadership opportunities at Vanderbilt. The program is funded with gifts from alumni, faculty, staff, students, corporations, and friends of the university.

Scholarship Benefits

Chancellor’s Scholars receive full tuition plus a one-time stipend to be used towards a summer study abroad or research experience following the sophomore or junior year. Vanderbilt will provide additional need-based financial aid to those Chancellor’s Scholarship recipients whose demonstrated financial need exceeds the amount of full tuition. Scholarships are renewed each year as long as the recipient maintains at least a 3.0 GPA. Chancellor’s Scholars are supported by the Office of Honor Scholarships and by the Office of the Dean of Students.

Application and Selection

Applicants must apply to be considered for the Chancellor’s Scholarship Program. The application will be available via your MyAppVU portal after you apply for admission. Chancellor’s Scholars are selected on the basis of commitment to diversity, leadership, community engagement, and academic achievement. In evaluating candidates, the selection committee reviews the Chancellor’s Scholarship application along with the entire application for freshman admission.

Timeline

**DECEMBER 15, 2014**
Electronic submission or postmark deadline for Chancellor’s Scholarship applications

**MID-MARCH 2015**
Notification by email and mail for Chancellor’s Scholarship recipients
National Merit and National Achievement Scholarships

Vanderbilt provides scholarship assistance for students named National Merit or Achievement Finalists. Students must be admitted and designate Vanderbilt as their first choice school with the National Merit Corporation by the final deadline to receive Vanderbilt’s National Merit or Achievement Scholarship. For those finalists who also receive one of Vanderbilt’s merit scholarships, we guarantee an additional $2,000 in National Merit or Achievement total scholarship dollars per year from all sources (with Vanderbilt supplementing any smaller corporate or one-time National Merit Corporation awards). Those finalists who do not receive an additional merit scholarship from Vanderbilt will receive a total of $5,000 per year in National Merit or Achievement Scholarship from all sources (with Vanderbilt supplementing any smaller corporate or one-time National Merit Corporation awards).

Additional Merit Scholarships

Vanderbilt offers a limited number of merit-based scholarships in amounts starting from $8,000 per year, including the following:

- The Carell Family Scholarship for students who have held part-time employment during their high school years and demonstrate financial need (full tuition and fees).
- The Maggie Craig Memorial Scholarship for students who are residents of Giles County, Tennessee, and have attended school there at least five years (up to cost of attendance).
- The Curb Leadership Scholarship for students who place creativity at the center of their lives and use their talents and leadership to transform their communities ($8,000).
- The John Seigenthaler Scholarship for outstanding minority students interested in a career in journalism and/or public policy (full tuition).
- The Fred Russell-Grantland Rice Scholarship for students interested in pursuing a career in sports journalism ($20,000).

The majority of these awards are based solely on academic achievement, but several have specific qualifications. Vanderbilt also awards scholarships designated for students residing in Houston, Texas, and selected counties in Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Candidates for these scholarships will be identified by the Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships on the basis of academic achievement and fulfillment of any specific scholarship qualifications. Students wishing to ensure their consideration for these awards are encouraged to submit the Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship application by December 15, 2014.
Applicants must apply to be considered for the Ingram, Cornelius Vanderbilt, and Chancellor’s Scholarship Programs. There is a separate application required for each of the three signature scholarship programs. These applications will be available via your MyAppVU portal after you apply for admission. Students who wish to be considered for one of Vanderbilt’s other merit scholarships are encouraged to complete the Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship application.

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<th>Scholarship Program</th>
<th>Application Required?</th>
<th>Application Encouraged?</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Ingram Scholarship Application, Letters of Recommendation</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship Application</td>
<td>December 15, 2014</td>
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<td>Chancellor’s Scholarship Application, Letter of Reference</td>
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<td>Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship Application</td>
<td>December 15, 2014</td>
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* Qualified students may also be identified for consideration by the Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships on the basis of the application for freshman admission.

To be considered for merit scholarships, you must apply for admission separately (admissions.vanderbilt.edu/apply). Please note that the admission deadlines are different from the merit scholarship deadlines.

Still have questions regarding merit scholarships at Vanderbilt? Please contact:

Office of Student Financial Aid and Undergraduate Scholarships
2309 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37203-1725
Tel: (615) 322-3591 or (800) 288-0204
Fax: (615) 343-8512
Email: scholarships@vanderbilt.edu
Web: vanderbilt.edu/scholarships

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