

MERIT-BASED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION QUESTIONS AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY - FALL 2025

(Freshman Applicants Only)

Students interested in being considered for the Ingram, Cornelius Vanderbilt, and/or Chancellor's Scholarship Program must first apply for admission by submitting the Coalition Application, Common Application, or the QuestBridge Application to Vanderbilt. Within two business days of submitting your application for admission to Vanderbilt, you should receive an email from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions explaining how to create your online MyAppVU account. Under the Scholarships tab in MyAppVU, you will be able to select the signature program(s) to which you wish to apply. For information purposes only, below are the questions for each of the signature programs to prepare responses in advance. Through your MyAppVU portal, you will upload your response as a PDF or Word document and submit online. Students wishing to ensure their consideration for additional merit scholarships (Carell Family, Curb Leadership, and Fred Russell-Grantland Rice) are encouraged to submit the Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship application.

Ingram Scholars Program

Ideal response for each question should be between 250 and 500 words.

- 1. Explore what you think it means for individuals, communities, and businesses to "serve the common good." How might this inform your personal career aspirations?
- 2. Describe a civic/community service project in which you have been involved that you believe may be scaled to greater impact/benefit. In so doing, focus primarily on how that scaling could be achieved.
- 3. E. Bronson Ingram was known for his innovation. Tell us about a time when you were able to apply innovative approaches or innovating thinking to create or strengthen a new or existing program, system, or initiative.

Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship

Answer only one. If you are applying to more than one school, answer the question for your first-choice school only.

1. For applicants to the School of Engineering, Peabody College of Education and Human Development, and Blair School of Music:

Recognizing that you have applied to a focused area of study, please comment on the reasons you are interested in your chosen academic program. In this context, discuss personal experiences, goals, and interests that relate to your choice of major. Please limit your response to 500 words.

2. For applicants to the College of Arts and Science:

The College of Arts and Science is a liberal arts school, which means that it is committed to introducing every student to a broad range of subjects and educational opportunities in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. How will you embrace the breadth of courses and rich educational experiences offered in and beyond the classroom that are the hallmark of the College of Arts and Science? How will you integrate a liberal arts education into your academic journey or life's passions? Please limit your response to 500 words.

Chancellor's Scholarship Program

Create a chart listing activities in which you have participated or actions you have taken that show your
commitment to building a strong high school community by bridging gaps between economically, socially, and
racially diverse groups and that demonstrate significant interest in issues of diversity education, tolerance and
social justice. For each listing, please include the following information:

Activity	Role	Responsibilities	Years Of Involvement	Hours Spent On Project

Note: Include only the activities related to the mission of the scholarship. Your complete activity chart from your admission file is part of the review.

2. The values promoted by the Chancellor's Scholarship are leadership, scholarship, social justice, tolerance, diversity, and citizenship. Please describe how one of your activities from the list above has contributed to your understanding of these values. Please limit your response to 500 words.

Curb Leadership Scholarship

Describe your artistic or creative practice. What has it meant to you over time? How do you plan to cultivate this practice in the future? Please limit your response to 250-500 words.

Fred Russell-Grantland Rice Scholarship

Please explain how you plan to use your Vanderbilt experience to develop your anticipated career in sports journalism. Include no more than 10 published samples of your work within your document.

Community Scholars Program, Blair School of Music

- Please describe how you have used musical opportunities throughout high school to serve different communities, and share how you imagine using your musical talents in the future to build community connections and promote cross-cultural understanding.
- 2. What aspect of the Blair School's Community Scholars Program is most appealing to you, and if chosen, what do you hope to contribute and gain from the program?