Merit-Based Scholarships

Through The Davidson Trust, Davidson is first committed to a strong need-based financial aid program to assist students whose families are unable to finance the full cost of a Davidson education.

Davidson offers admission to those students in each year’s applicant pool whose significant achievement and potential will enrich the college community. Davidson awards merit-based scholarships to approximately 10 percent of each enrolling class in recognition of outstanding academic and personal excellence, leadership, service, the arts, and athletics.

Merit scholarships are awarded without regard to financial need and are intended to recognize those students whose accomplishments mark them as having extraordinary potential for impact on the Davidson community and future contributions to society. Recipients are selected primarily on the basis of the strength of their applications for admission. In the case of interest- or talent-specific scholarships, selection is also based on the outcome of an audition, writing sample, portfolio review, and/or interview.

All merit scholarships are renewable for a student’s four years at Davidson, provided grade point average, progress-toward-degree requirements, and any award-specific requirements are met. A description follows of the four types of merit-based scholarships that are available.

*To be considered for merit scholarships at Davidson, applicants must complete their application for admission by the deadline of their chosen admission plan: Early Decision I: November 15; Early Decision II: January 2; or, Regular Decision: January 2.

SPECIAL NOMINATION SCHOLARSHIPS
This highly competitive category of scholarships involves those applicants who have been nominated for consideration either by their schools or by members of the admission staff (who make recommendations based on the strength of the student’s application for admission to Davidson).

Finalists must participate in mandatory selection interviews. Please see the individual scholarship descriptions for details.

Special Nomination Scholarships are renewable, providing the recipients: 1) earn a minimum 3.0 grade point average; 2) make satisfactory progress toward their degrees; and 3) are significantly involved in the life of the Davidson community.

John Montgomery Belk Scholarships
Up to eight comprehensive fee scholarships with two additional special study stipends are offered in each first-year class. The Belk Scholars program recognizes students who combine outstanding academic ability with integrity, compassion, leadership, and distinction in a variety of areas, including student government, service, religious life, the arts, and athletics.

Belk Scholar nominees must submit their completed admission applications no later than December 3.

Belk finalists are required to interview on campus during Belk Scholars Selection Weekend, March 21–23, 2013.

Lowell L. Bryan Scholarships
Two $30,000 scholarships are offered to outstanding first-year scholar athletes. The Bryan Scholars program recognizes students who have the capacity to contribute in a superlative manner to Division I athletics and to the academic and co-curricular life at Davidson.

Bryan candidates must submit their completed admission applications by October 15. Bryan finalists are required to interview on campus the first week of November.

Charles Scholarship
The Charles Scholarship, founded by the Niamogue Foundation of Chicago, recognizes Chicago Public School students with established financial need whose leadership ability and academic and personal achievements show them to be capable of making significant contributions to the life of the college. Finalists are required to participate in individual selection interviews to be held in Chicago in March 2013.

SPECIAL COMPETITION SCHOLARSHIPS
No separate scholarship application is required for these awards.

Finalists are required to interview on campus during Scholars Weekend, April 11–13, 2013.

Thompson S. and Sarah S. Baker Scholarships
Up to two comprehensive fee scholarships with two additional special study stipends are awarded in each first-year class. The Baker Scholars program recognizes those students whose outstanding academic accomplishments, purposefulness, service, and maturity mark them as capable of the highest achievement.

William Holt Terry Scholarships
Two $25,000 scholarships, each with an additional special study stipends are offered annually in each first-year class to students who have demonstrated exemplary leadership skills and personal qualities through academic success, student government, athletics, service, or other activities. Terry Scholars also participate in the Terry Leadership Program.

(over)
Missy and John Kuykendall Scholarships
Two $15,000 awards are offered in each first-year class to students who exhibit, in their habits of mind, leadership, and character, the potential to provide the Davidson community the kind of servant leadership that characterized the Davidson presidency of John W. Kuykendall. Scholars are chosen on the basis of their personal character, maturity, leadership ability, and academic accomplishments.

SPECIAL APPLICATION SCHOLARSHIPS
These scholarships are defined with reference to particular areas of study or talent, and require that the Special Application Scholarship Form and any required materials be submitted by the application deadline for your admission plan.

Bremer German Scholarship
This $5,000 scholarship is offered to a first-year student who expresses an interest in German as a major field of study and who has shown significant experience and success in the field.

Patricia Cornwell Scholarship
Established by this member of the Class of 1979, this $10,000 award recognizes one first-year student with exceptional ability and promise in writing. Cornwell Scholars may be creative writers of poetry, fiction, or drama; writers for film; writers who combine creativity with a knowledge of science or technology; journalists; or other writers who demonstrate extraordinary talent. The award is renewable providing the student meets grade point requirements, makes satisfactory progress toward the degree, and remains actively involved in the writing community.

Julius Dobson Neely and Joseph Dobson Scholarship
This $10,000 scholarship is offered to one first-year student in each entering class who expresses an interest in Latin as a major field of study and who has shown significant experience and success in the field.

Music Scholarships
Up to three $10,000 scholarships will be awarded to members of the Class of 2017 on the basis of mandatory competitive auditions held during Scholars Weekend, April 11–13, 2013. Students invited to compete are selected from CD auditions. Candidates must submit the attached Special Application form; audition CDs submitted without this application form will not be considered for the scholarships. Visit www.davidson.edu/academics/music/scholarship for additional information.

Pepper Visual Arts Scholarship
One $10,000 scholarship is awarded in each first-year class. Selection is based upon the Art Department’s review of the applicant’s portfolio. (Required format: 12–15 images, sent as hard-copy thumbnail images or larger printouts. Please do not send discs.) The scholarship is renewable on the basis of satisfactory academic progress and significant involvement in the visual arts.

W. Olin Puckett Scholarship
One $15,000 scholarship is offered in each first-year class to a student leader with academic distinction who is preparing for a career in medicine or the life sciences.

Wachovia Teaching Scholarship
One $10,000 scholarship is awarded in each first-year class to a student interested in pursuing a career in teaching at the secondary school level.
Special Application Scholarship Form

Check application plan: □ Early Decision I Postmarked by November 15 □ Regular Decision Postmarked by January 2 □ Early Decision II Postmarked by January 2

To be considered for Special Application Scholarships, applicants must: complete their application for admission by the deadline of their chosen admission plan (indicated above); and submit this form and all required materials for any scholarship(s) selected below by the application deadline of their chosen admission plan.

Applicant’s Name _____________________________________________ Birthdate (mm/dd/yy) ______________________ (Please print)

Mailing Address _________________________________________________________________________________________

Area Code/Telephone __________________________ E-mail ___________________________________________________

- Bremer German Scholarship
  Students must submit:
  * a letter discussing their interest in the award and their experiences and involvement in the study of German.

- Patricia Cornwell Scholarship
  Students must submit:
  * a letter describing your interest in the award and the role writing plays in your life
  * 8–10 pages of your best work in the genre(s) of your choice (i.e. fiction, poetry, journalism, non-fiction, etc.)
  An interview is required during Scholars Weekend, April 11–13, 2013, for all finalists. Keep a copy of your submission. If you are selected as a finalist, you will need your submission for the interview.

- Julius Dobson Neely and Joseph Dobson Scholarship
  Students must submit:
  * a letter discussing your interest in the award and your experiences and involvement in the study of Latin

- Music Scholarships
  Students must submit:
  * a letter discussing your interest in the award
  * a letter of recommendation from your current music teacher
  * an unedited CD recording (approximately 10 minutes in length) made by the applicant
  The required recording guidelines can be found at www.davidson.edu/academics/music/scholarship.
  On-campus auditions for all finalists are required during Scholars Weekend, April 11–13, 2013.

- Pepper Visual Arts Scholarship
  Students must submit:
  * a CD portfolio (12–15 images, sent to the Office of Admission and Financial Aid as a hard-copy thumbnail or larger printout. Please do not send discs.) Each image should be labeled with applicant’s name, title of work, year the work was completed, dimensions of work, and media of work.

- W. Olin Puckett Scholarship
  Students must submit:
  * a letter discussing your interest and qualifications for this award

- Wachovia Teaching Scholarship
  Students must submit:
  * a letter discussing your interest in the award and vision for a career in secondary education