

VBC Christian College Scholarship Fund

Purpose

To encourage and train individuals to develop a ministry heart and Christian perspective in any God honoring vocation by financially assisting them and their families in the pursuit of a post-High School education at a Christian College/University. (Col. 3:22-24)

Scholarship Information

VBC will award accepted applicants with a scholarship of up to \$1,500.00 per year, depending on the balance of the scholarship fund. This amount is based on enrollment in a full school year. Applicants starting school in the spring may be eligible for a pro-rated amount.

Requirements

College: The Christian college to which application is made must be approved by the Elder Board.

Application: Student must submit scholarship application and associated documents to the Pastor supervising youth ministries at least 30 days prior to the start of the school year. Documents will include the following:

- Essay with discussions of the spiritual standing of the applicant and their ambitions including reasons behind choice of college and major. The essay will also include a discussion of how the applicant may be used by God in their choice of vocation.
- Signature of a non-family member adult at VBC that will commit to pray for applicant and support the applicant spiritually and emotionally while at college.

Enrollment: Applicant must be enrolled full time as defined by the college or provide satisfactory justification for part-time status.

Academics: Applicant must maintain satisfactory grades, as determined by the Pastor supervising youth ministries, and be in good standing with the school.

Financial: Applicant must secure and follow-up on any financial aid forms or documents required by the college. Many colleges offer church matching scholarships, but the student is responsible for securing these.

Church: There is a two-fold requirement for church ministry. Reports must be submitted at the Christmas break and end of the school year describing the applicant's involvement in church ministry. The ministry requirement may be tailored to the applicant with approval from the scholarship coordinator at VBC.

- The applicant must be or in the process of becoming a member in good standing with VBC. If the college attended is out of the area, then the student must also maintain a regular affiliation with an evangelical church where they are attending.
- The applicant must be involved in an official ministry in the church where they attend or be fulfilling the ministry requirements tailored to their situation. There may also be specific ministry requirements tailored to the skills and abilities of the applicant such as a mentoring/accountability relationship with a younger youth in the church at the discretion of the pastor supervising youth ministries.

Administration

- VBC will fund the scholarship out of an accrual account to which members of the church body may make donations. If the scholarship fund does not have sufficient assets to provide all of the approved applicants with \$500 scholarships in a given year, the assets in the fund will be divided equally among the approved applicants for that year.
- A student may receive no more than four years of assistance for time spent earning an undergraduate degree. In cases where a student is enrolled in a five-year undergraduate degree program, which is standard for the student's major at their college, a student may receive up to five years of assistance.
- Checks will be sent directly to the college's finance office. Address will be supplied by applicant on application.
- Application process will be administered by the Pastor supervising youth ministries. A list of applicants along with pastoral staff recommendations regarding scholarship approval for each applicant will be submitted to the elder board for approval. Response to applicant will be given in writing by the Pastor supervising youth ministries, including acceptance or decline with stated reason/s.
- Applicant must re-apply and repeat the process each year with a separate scholarship-continuation application.
- Donations to the scholarship fund are tax deductible, but may not specify a particular individual. Help to specific individuals should be given to them personally.