

## VAG Summer Scholarships

**The VAG Student Scholarships are designed for those gifted and talented students who wish to attend academic or artistic programs during the summer months. The scholarships are in amounts ranging from \$100 to \$500 and are available for students, K-12. Application deadline is March 1. All applicants will be notified of their award status by April 15.**

Applying for a scholarship through VAG does not constitute application to a specific program; you must make application to the summer program of your choice directly. **VAG scholarships are contingent on acceptance into the program.** Many programs offer financial aid in the form of scholarships and grants. You must contact the program directly for information on their scholarship and grant offerings. Scholarship checks are made payable to the program.

### Application Instructions

**Please read these instructions carefully prior to completing the application.**

- Applicants must be identified as gifted.
- Applicants must adhere to the space limitations.
- Student essays must be in the student's own handwriting. Any typed portions of the applications must be in a font size of at least 12 points.
- Applicants must **not** submit samples of their work or any portfolio items. Information of this type will be removed from applications prior to evaluation.
- Submit only the required number of recommendations. One parent recommendation and one adult/professional recommendation are needed for the student application. The selection committee will remove any additional letters of recommendation from the application prior to evaluation.
- In general, the best written responses discuss the strengths of the applicant and give specific examples to support them. They are specific to the individual being recommended and help the evaluators understand the personality of the applicant.
- Incomplete applications are not considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application packet is complete. Send the original and three copies.
- A current VAG member must sign the application as a sponsor in order for the application to be considered complete. If there are doubts as to current membership, teacher/parent membership applications may be submitted with the scholarship application.
- No more than one scholarship is awarded to a single individual within a three-year period.
- Students with disabilities requiring accommodations, please contact the VAG office.
- Attach a description of the summer program you are applying for a scholarship to attend. A copy of the program description in the program brochure meets this requirement.

### How Summer Scholarship Applications are Scored

**Written responses on the applications are evaluated holistically. Three independent readers use the following rubric to evaluate the applications.**

- 5 **Superior:** This response answers the questions very thoroughly and completely. Wording is clear and precise, leaving no doubts about the intended meaning. There are detailed and elaborated responses, providing specific and appropriate examples about the applicant.
- 4 **Commendable:** This response is clear and to the point, with generally strong vocabulary. It leaves little doubt as to the intended meaning. There are somewhat detailed and elaborated responses to the questions, specific and appropriate examples about the applicant are evident.
- 3 **Acceptable:** This response is done in a clear and straightforward manner, with little doubt about the intended meaning, but is not as thorough as the responses above. Examples are provided, but little detail or elaboration is evident in the response. It has some elements of a 4 or 5, but lacks the same overall depth and quality shown in those responses.
- 2 **Limited:** This response is vague and lacks a clear focal point. The writing relates to the topic, but it contains few specific examples about the applicant. There is very little in the way of detail or elaboration in the response, and does not fully answer the questions.
- 1 **Inadequate:** This response is very weak; it does not address the question in any meaningful way. It lacks any specific examples about the applicant, and everything is stated in a very basic way. This response also may be off-track and not relevant to the application.

**PART 1 A****Student Summer Scholarship Application (K-12)**

<b>Student Information</b> (To be completed by parent)		Date: _____	
Student Name: _____		Girl <input type="checkbox"/>	Boy <input type="checkbox"/>
		Age: ____	G/T Identified <input type="checkbox"/>
Home Address: _____			
		Street/Box	City
			Zip
Telephone Number: _____	E-mail: _____	Current Grade: _____	
School: _____	School District: _____		
Name of Current VAG Member Sponsor: _____			

**Instructions to be completed by the student:** Please answer the following question **in your own handwriting**. Your response should include information about you personally as well as some of your interests and accomplishments. **This part is extremely important in the selection process.** *You may only use the front of this page and one additional page to answer the question.*

**1. What would you like the Scholarship Committee to know about your accomplishments and interests? For example:**

- Describe your community service;
- Describe your extracurricular interests and/or hobbies;
- Describe your accomplishments and/or awards; and/or
- Describe your future aspirations.

Incomplete or faxed applications **will not** be considered. A complete application includes the original and three copies of:

- Student Summer Scholarship Application, in student's own handwriting, Parts 1A & 1B
- Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form, Part 2
- Adult/Profession Recommendation Form, Part 3
- A description of the program you wish to attend.

Collate and staple each copy of the application and mail to:

Virginia Association for the Gifted  
P. O. Box 26212  
Richmond, VA 23260-6212

**Applications must be postmarked by March 1.** Students will be notified of their award status by April 15. Scholarship awards will be mailed after June 1 and after VAG receives written confirmation from the program with which the student has registered. Scholarship checks are payable to the program.

**Part 1B****Student Summer Scholarship Application (K-12)****PROGRAM INFORMATION** (To be completed by parent)

(Student must apply directly to specific summer programs for admission. This application is for VAG scholarship only.)

Summer Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Program Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Program Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Session: \_\_\_\_\_

Program Tuition Fee: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Scholarship Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Scholarship Range \$100 -\$500) Student scholarships are awarded on the basis of the program indicated on the application. Second choices for programs may not be eligible for award.**

**Instructions to be completed by the student:** Please answer the following question in your own handwriting. Your response should include information about some specific interests you have and how this summer program will help meet your needs. **This part is extremely important in the selection process.** *You may only use the front of this page and one additional page to answer the question.*

**2. How will the selected summer program further support the development of your interests, hobbies, and achievements described in Part 1-A?**

**Part 2****Student Summer Scholarship Application (K-12)  
Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form**

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are you a VAG member? Yes  # \_\_\_\_\_ No  Membership enclosed with application? Yes  No   
 Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title of program student hopes to attend: \_\_\_\_\_  
 How did you learn about this scholarship opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions to be completed by the parent/guardian:** To give a strong recommendation for your child, elaborate on your responses, focusing on your child's strengths. Be sure to include specific examples. The committee is especially interested in supporting evidence outside of the school environment. *You may only use the front of this page and one additional page to answer the question.*

**1. What would you like the Scholarship Committee to know about your child relative to the chosen summer program?**

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**Part 3****Student Summer Scholarship Application (K-12)****Adult/Professional Recommendation Form**

*(To be filled out by an educator, mentor, community member, or adult other than the parent.)*

To recommend a student for a VAG scholarship, complete the entire application form. If you are not a member of VAG, please have a current member sign as a sponsor on the designated line below.

**Scholarship applications are incomplete without the signature of a current member of VAG.** Attach this completed recommendation form to the completed student application form and mail the entire application packet to the VAG office.

Student Name: _____ Name of School: _____ Name of person making recommendation and relationship to student: teacher, mentor, other adult: _____ If teacher, for what class? (Please note subject area, grade, and whether or not it is a class for gifted: _____ <b>Signature of VAG Member Sponsor with Membership # (REQUIRED):</b> _____
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**Instructions to be completed by the adult:** A strong student application can be enhanced when accompanied by a strong adult recommendation. To make a strong recommendation of a student, elaborate on your responses, focusing on the strengths of the applicant. Include examples if possible. If you are making recommendations for more than one student, please individualize your responses. *You may only use the front of this page and one additional page to answer the question.*

**What would you like the Scholarship Committee to know about your nominee's accomplishments and interests relative to the chosen summer program?**

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- Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form, Part 2
- Adult/Profession Recommendation Form, Part 3
- A description of the program you wish to attend.

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