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**2024 Student Application**

Virginia National Bank (VNB) announces the 2024 **Finance Career and Leadership Academy** (FCLA, Academy). This high school program is a groundbreaking initiative designed to provide true, in-depth, and challenging instruction to the students in our communities while offering a distinct path toward careers in banking and finance. The program provides quality financial training that gives young people the perspective and tools necessary to level the economic playing field and make responsible financial decisions. It also offers the potential opportunity for training necessary to enter a lucrative career without incurring six-figure debt and four lost years of earning potential.

**Cost**

* **Free**

**Awards**

* At this time, the 2024 FCLA will only take place in Charlottesville, VA, due to space constraints and construction in Warrenton, VA. Up to ten students will be accepted into the program. The classes will be held at the Pantops office and are scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from February 5 – June 6, 2024 (weather cancellations may extend classes).
* Students who successfully complete the program will receive (1) the *FinLit Alpha Certification* from VNB, and (2), also, a personal letter of recommendation from Glenn Rust, President and CEO of Virginia National Bankshares Corporation (VABK) and CEO of VNB, that may be used for college or employment.
* The most promising and top performing students from the Academy will be considered for VNB’s **College Program** (the Commercial Banking/Staff Development Program). Our partnership with the Center for Financial Training and Education Alliance (CFTEA) has allowed us to create a credentialing program specifically designed to prepare students to meet the demands of our industry, and to do so without the prohibitive cost of a four-year degree. This bank-sponsored, comprehensive, free training program consists of 16 courses of which 14 are accredited college/university courses (41 credit hours that are transferable to a 2 or 4-year college/university) and work projects. Participants receive fulltime pay with full fringe benefits (includes 401k with company match) while completing the program and, if successful in the program, have the potential opportunity for a career with VNB. Also, once employed, should they choose, they may go on to complete a 2 or 4-year degree at the company’s expense.

**Eligibility**

* Applicants must be a junior or senior in high school.

**Selection Criteria**

* Student essay
* Academic standing
* Meeting with FCLA Committee or member of Committee

**Application Requirements**

To be considered for the Academy, applicants must complete all application requirements and submit them via email to [fcla@vnb.com](mailto:fcla@vnb.com) or mail to VNB’s Finance Career & Leadership Academy, Attn: Meghan Crider, 404 People Place, Charlottesville, VA 22911. Application requirements must be received no later than **Thursday**, **November 9, 2023**.

* A completed application form. *Only completed forms will be considered*.
* An essay (250 - 500 words) addressing the following: Why are you interested in attending VNB’s Finance Career & Leadership Academy and why do you think that you would be a good candidate for the program?
* The Statement of Accuracy signed by the student applicant and a parent/guardian.

The FCLA Committee will review the applications, meet with selected applicants, and choose those students who will participate in the Academy. Those chosen will be contacted in January 2024. Students should plan to attend the Academy starting the week of February 5, 2024.

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**2024 Student Application Form**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Please **type** your answers. *Use an additional piece of paper if necessary* | | |
| 1. | Last Name: | First Name, Middle Initial: |
| 2. | Mailing Address Street: City:       State:       Zip: | |
| 3. | Daytime telephone number:  Email address: | |
| 4. | Date of Birth: Month       Day       Year  Junior  Senior | |
| 5. | Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA):       (On a non-weighted 4.0 scale)  If homeschooled, you may provide other testing or grade point equivalency: | |
| 6. | Name and location of high school:    If home-schooled, please provide information regarding curriculum/studies: | |
| 7. | A. List any academic honors, awards, and membership activities while in high school:    B. List any extracurricular activities and school related volunteer activities:    C. List your hobbies and outside interests:    D. List your non-school sponsored activities in the community: | |
| 8. | A. What do you plan to do upon graduation?    B. If you have decided on college and upon the college you will attend, please list the school’s name:    C. If not, list your top (3) college choices: | |
| 9. | Anticipated Field of Study: | |
| 10. | Name & Address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s):*(Include address if different than your own listed in Question 2.)*  Name(s):  Street:  City:       State:       Zip:  Home/mobile phone(s) of parents/legal guardians:  Work phone(s):  Email(s): | |
| 11. | On a separate page, please write an essay (250 - 500 words) addressing the following:Why are you interested in attending VNB’s Finance Career & Leadership Academy and why do you think that you would be a good candidate for the program? | |
| 12 | Session: February 5 - June 6, 2024 (Weather cancellations may extend classes)Please check the box below to confirm your understanding of the time commitment. Charlottesville, VA  T & TH, 6:30 - 8:00 PM  Virginia National Bank  404 People Place  Charlottesville, VA 22911 | |

### **STATEMENT OF ACCURACY FOR STUDENTS**

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent, that if chosen as a participant, my image, story, video, etc. may be used to promote the Finance Career & Leadership Academy (A release form must be signed by the applicant and a parent/guardian).

I hereby understand that if chosen as a participant, according to the Academy’s policy, I will commit to attend all classes and complete the work as assigned.

I hereby understand I must submit this application with all required attachments and supporting information. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered for this program.

**Signature of Academy Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Witnessed by Parent/Guardian of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**