



Lavergne High School
250 Wolverine Trl
La Vergne TN 37086-3405

Dear Principal,

The Gates Millennium Scholars (CMS) Program will select the next cohort of 1,000 students in the 2011-12 academic year as Gates Millennium Scholars. This renewable, need-based, merit scholarship provides financial support throughout a Gates Scholar's undergraduate career. For those who choose to study in one of the seven graduate disciplines: computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health or science, the scholarship can continue through the pursuit of a doctoral degree. In addition, students are provided support beyond the classroom through their connections and other resources to enhance development of their leadership skills and to assure them every opportunity to attain their degree.

There are three components of the GMS scholarship application process:

- (1) Student Application (Nominee Personal Information Form)
- (2) An educator's evaluation of the student's academic record (Nominator Form)
- (3) An evaluation of the student's community service and leadership activities (Recommender Form)

Students are eligible to be considered for a GMS scholarship if they:

- Are African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American or Hispanic American
- Are a citizen, national or legal permanent resident of the United States
- Have attained a cumulative high school GPA of 3.3 on an unweighted 4.0 scale or have earned a GED
- Will enroll for the first time at a U.S. located, accredited college or university in the fall of 2011 as a full-time, degree-seeking, first-year student (with the exception of students pursuing a high school diploma while concurrently enrolled). First-time college enrollees can also be GED recipients.
- Have demonstrated leadership abilities through participation in community service, extracurricular or other activities
- Meet the Federal Pell Grant eligibility criteria
- Have completed and submitted all three required forms: the student application (Nominee Personal Information Form), an evaluation of the student's academic record (Nominator Form) and an evaluation of the student's community service and leadership activities (Recommender Form) by the January 11, 2012 deadline

We strongly advise prospective Gates Scholars to have all parts of their application completed online. Please refer eligible students to the GMS Website at www.gmsp.org where they can complete the online forms.

Students in 8th through 11th grade who have an early interest in the GMS program, and who want to learn more about what it takes to be competitive for many scholarship programs and for college admissions, can register with our GMS Imagine program by clicking on the "Online Communities" tab on the GMS Website at www.gmsp.org. The online communities will provide regular messaging relevant to each student's grade level as well as an academic calendar to help them prepare for college. Related information is also offered on the site for parents and counselors.

Given your extensive professional, community and personal networks, I ask that you leverage those toward helping us to identify talented students who will be high school seniors during the 2011-12 academic year. We look forward to working with you to select the next GMS class of "Leaders for America's Future."TM

Sincerely,

Larry A. Griffith
Vice President, UNCF
Gates Millennium Scholars Program