University Honors College
Middle Tennessee State University
2018–19
for entering freshmen, Fall 2018
The Buchanan Fellowship

The Buchanan Fellowship is the highest award given to an entering student in the Honors College at Middle Tennessee State University. Each year, twenty (20) applicants are chosen to become Buchanan Fellows. Students in each class of Buchanan Fellows are similar in ability but diverse in terms of interests, experiences, and professional goals. Characteristically, they have high aspirations, show strong records of scholarship, and evidence special talents, leadership skills, and community-mindedness. Ideally, each possesses most, if not all, of the virtues espoused by the Honors College: honor, commitment, integrity, discipline, faith, curiosity, character, and creativity.

The benefits of being a Buchanan Fellow are numerous. The foremost benefit is a rich, classical education that provides a superior foundation for graduate school or professional school (e.g., medicine, law, theology). The Buchanan Fellowship provides (1) full payment of tuition up to 16 hours and standard fees even if tuition rises in the future; (2) a $1,000 per year book allowance; (3) consideration for study abroad scholarships; (4) access to the resources of the Undergraduate Fellowships Office, which promotes Honors College students and others for prestigious national and international fellowships (such as Fulbright, Rhodes, Truman, Goldwater, etc.); (5) access to special lectures and events sponsored by the Honors College; and (6) support for preparation and admission to graduate or professional schools. This scholarship does not cover room and board. Buchanan Fellowships are automatically renewed for up to four years provided that the student meets the benchmarks and responsibilities of the award (described below).

Admission of Buchanan Fellows

In order to compete for a Buchanan Fellowship, an applicant must (1) apply for undergraduate admission to Middle Tennessee State University (mtsu.edu/apply); (2) complete this application form; (3) have a high school GPA of at least 3.5; (4) earn a composite score of at least 29 on the ACT (SAT equivalent = 1360 out of 1600); (5) provide an official transcript of all high school work completed; and (6) write an essay on the topic provided in part B on page 4. These are minimal requirements—successful applicants will generally surpass the qualifications required for other MTSU academic scholarships. MTSU is especially open to applications from people with life experiences such as travel, community service, or special challenges and varied perspectives.

The completed application and essay must be postmarked by Dec. 1 of the year prior to fall enrollment. MTSU will notify successful applicants of their acceptance during February or March of the subsequent year. Students who accept must complete a confirmation/acceptance form committing themselves to the fellowship offer by May 1 and to the responsibilities of a Buchanan Fellow.

Responsibilities of Buchanan Fellows

By accepting a Buchanan Fellowship, a student assumes several responsibilities. Among these is a pledge to (1) uphold the ideals espoused in the Honors Creed; (2) serve up to eight hours each semester as a student ambassador in the Honors College; (3) participate fully in a specially-designed cohort curriculum called the Buchanan Seminars; and (4) progress toward graduation according to benchmarks set by the Honors College.

Benchmarks of progress include

- completion of the 20-hour Buchanan Seminars requirement (lower-division courses) by the end of the sophomore year (14 hours to be completed during the freshman year and 6 hours during the sophomore year),
- completion of a minimum of 6 semester hours of upper-division Honors credit by the end of the junior year,
- completion of all requirements for graduation with University Honors (or Distinction in University Honors) including the Honors Lecture Series (UH 3000) by the end of the senior year, and
- maintenance of a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale) at all times.

Failure to meet these benchmarks may result in permanent loss of privileges and financial aid associated with the Buchanan Fellowship.
University Honors College
Buchanan Fellows Application

Part A

Name ____________________________________________  Last  First  Middle  MTSU ID no.

Home Address ____________________________________

Parents' First and Last Names _______________________________

Home Phone ___________________________  Cell Phone ___________________________

MTSU Email ___________________________  Personal Email ___________________________

High School Name ___________________________

City, County, and State of High School ___________________________

ACT Composite Score (or SAT = M + CR) ________  Six-Semester High School GPA (UNWEIGHTED on a 4.0 scale) ______

Do you have Advanced Placement (AP) credit with test scores of 4 or 5?  □ Yes  □ No  If so, how many total hours? ______

Do you expect to receive an International Baccalaureate Degree (IB diploma)?  □ Yes  □ No

Do you already have college credits?  □ Yes  □ No  If so, how many hours? ___________________________

Do you already have dual enrollment credits?  □ Yes  □ No  If so, how many hours? ___________________________

Are you a U.S. citizen?  □ Yes  □ No  Are you classified as out-of-state for tuition purposes?  □ Yes  □ No

List up to five (5) academic or special recognitions you received while in high school, including National Merit or related awards and up to (5) organizations in which you have participated, noting offices you have held.

Academic or Special Recognitions

1. ___________________________________________

2. ___________________________________________

3. ___________________________________________

4. ___________________________________________

5. ___________________________________________

Organizations

1. ___________________________________________

2. ___________________________________________

3. ___________________________________________

4. ___________________________________________

5. ___________________________________________
In descriptive phrases, list any community service projects to which you have devoted more than 40 hours of your time.

1. 

2. 

3. 

List three fun facts about yourself.

1. 

2. 

3. 

List up to three possible areas of significant academic interest.

1. 

2. 

3. 

Part B

Essay: What are you most interested in learning at MTSU and how will you use what you have learned to benefit your community (500 words or less, double-spaced)? We value self reflection, specificity, and creativity.

Part C

Your Buchanan application and essay should be postmarked to the Honors College by Dec. 1 (see address below). Also, please provide an official transcript of all high school work completed. Have your school principal or guidance counselor mail your transcript to date to: Buchanan Fellows Committee, University Honors College, MTSU Box 267, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. Special note: This transcript is in addition to what you may have previously provided to the MTSU Admissions office.

How did you hear about the Buchanan Fellowship? Check all that apply: ☐ Personal letter or pamphlet ☐ Email ☐ Billboards ☐ Word of mouth ☐ Visit to Honors College ☐ High School counselors ☐ other

Have you visited the MTSU campus? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Yes, did you talk with someone in the Honors College? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, who and when? ___________________________