

# *Buchanan Fellowship Application*



University Honors College  
Middle Tennessee State University

2012-2013

**MIDDLE  
TENNESSEE**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

## The Buchanan Fellowship

The Buchanan Fellowship represents 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, strong records of scholarship, and evidence special talents, leadership skills, and community-mindedness. Ideally, each possesses many, if not most, 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. 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 ([www.mtsu.edu/admissn](http://www.mtsu.edu/admissn)) and be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; (2) complete the application form for admission to the University Honors College as a Buchanan Fellow; (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 = 1280); (5) provide an official transcript of all high school work completed; and (6) provide an essay on the topic provided in part B on page 4. These are minimal requirements—successful applicants will generally equal or 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 December 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 (fourteen hours to be completed during the freshman year and six hours during the sophomore year),
- completion of a minimum of six 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Parent's First and Last Names \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code Number Area Code Number

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

High School Name \_\_\_\_\_

City and State of High School \_\_\_\_\_

ACT Composite Score (or SAT = M + CR) \_\_\_\_\_ High School GPA (on a 4.0 scale) \_\_\_\_\_

List up to five (5) academic or special recognitions you received while in high school. Please include National Merit or related awards.

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 *in ranked order* (top choice first) all colleges, universities, or programs to which you expect to apply including MTSU.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

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 affect your community (500 words or less, double spaced)? We value a high level of creativity and self reflection.

**Part C**

Your Buchanan application and essay should be postmarked to the Honors College by December 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 directly to: Buchanan Fellows Committee, University Honors College, MTSU Box 267, Murfreesboro, TN 37132.**

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

