



VCU

College of Engineering

FIRST ROBOTICS SCHOLARSHIP

Revised August 2020

Virginia Commonwealth University College of Engineering is proud to be the host site of the FIRST Robotics Regional Competition in Richmond, Virginia. We are pleased to partner with FIRST Robotics to offer merit-based scholarships which are applicable towards tuition and fees and are renewable for up to three consecutive years, providing the student maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.3 as a full-time student with a major in the College of Engineering. Two FIRST scholarships are available, one of which is designated as the Karl Linn Memorial Scholarship. The value of the scholarships is \$16,000 per year for a total of \$64,000 over four years.

Scholarship applicants must fulfill the following criteria:

- Complete the FIRST Robotics Scholarship application by January 15
- Submit a complete application for admission to VCU by January 15
 - Materials required by the University are an application through the [Common Application](#), and original high school transcripts. Standardized test results (either SAT or ACT or both) are optional for admission.
- Meet the regular academic requirements for admission to the College of Engineering
 - College of Engineering majors are: Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering
- Demonstrate active participation on a FIRST team for *at least two years*
 - Participation must include senior year of high school
 - Preference given to FRC, but FTC participants are eligible to apply
- Demonstrate exceptional academic high school performance

Certain scholarships at VCU cannot be combined with the FIRST Scholarship. If an individual student is selected for both the FIRST award and another award that cannot be combined, then the student will only receive the greater award.

- If a student is offered a Presidential or Provost Award they will not receive the FIRST award.
- If a student is offered a Deans' award it will be removed and replaced with the FIRST award.



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Application Instructions

[Online submission](#) for all student created materials is required.

1. Complete your [application for admission to VCU](#)
 - a. Be sure to submit high school transcripts and standardized test scores directly to the VCU Office of Admissions
2. Provide a *single document* with supplemental information. (PDF strongly preferred)
 - a. An essay describing involvement on a FIRST team, and what that experience has meant in your personal development
 - b. A brief resume of your activities and accomplishments through high school
3. Provide contact info for two people to submit letters of recommendation through the online application
 - a. At least one letter must come from an adult leader with your FIRST team
 - b. The other letter may come from another FIRST leader, a teacher, counselor, or work supervisor.
 - c. Please notify your recommenders in advance that they will receive an email from VCU Engineering with a recommendation request
 - d. Recommendations are preferred via the online form. However, in the case of difficulty with the form they may be:
 - i. emailed to engscholars@vcu.edu
 - ii. Submitted in hard copy to:
FIRST Robotics Scholarship Committee
VCU College of Engineering
601 West Main Street, Box 843068
Richmond, VA 23284

Go to <http://egr.vcu.edu/firstroboticsscholarship/> for the application.

Review Timeline

1. Engineering Scholarship Committee will review applicants in late February – March.
2. Top two candidates will be notified in April.
3. If one or both of the top candidates declines the award we will select alternates. This usually happens after May 15.

If you have any questions, please email engscholars@vcu.edu



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About Virginia Commonwealth University:

Virginia Commonwealth University is ranked by the Carnegie Foundation as one of the nation's top research universities. Its teaching, research, public service and patient care missions support full-time and part-time students and faculty of diverse backgrounds.

Located in Richmond, the capital of Virginia, VCU is comprised of two campuses: the 78.7-acre Monroe Park Campus in the historic Fan District of Richmond, and the 52.4-acre MCV Campus two miles east in the financial, commercial, and governmental district of the city. The Virginia Biotechnology Research Park and the Wright-Virginia Microelectronics Center, also part of the University, are outstanding examples of the collaborative initiatives and partnerships that mark VCU's role in the economic growth of the greater Richmond community.

VCU offers nearly 200 baccalaureate, master, professional, doctoral, and post-graduate certificate and degree programs through the College of Humanities and Sciences, and the Colleges of Allied Health Professions, Arts, Business, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Government and Public Affairs, Mass Communications, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health, Social Work and World Studies. In addition, several programs are administered through VCU Life Sciences and the VCU Graduate College. VCU enrolls over 32,000 students, of which approximately 22,000 are undergraduates.

The VCU College of Engineering, an innovation front-runner in academics and research, brings real-world education to Central Virginia. Our collaborative and multidisciplinary partnerships prepare undergraduate, master's and doctoral students for leadership. Part of a premier research university, the VCU College of Engineering enhances regional and global prosperity through cutting-edge developments in tissue engineering, drug delivery, bioinformatics, cybersecurity, mechanical systems and particle science. We make it real by turning great ideas into breakthrough technologies. Our facilities are hubs of discovery, powered by an expanding student body and faculty committed to excellence. We encourage partnering with industry and the community, bringing new collaborators into our projects. Our key research areas include: sustainability and energy engineering; micro and nano electronic systems; pharmaceutical engineering; mechanobiology and regenerative medicine; big data mining; and device design and development. Visit egr.vcu.edu.

There are also many opportunities for students maintain a connection to FIRST. As a longtime partner with FIRST Chesapeake Region, VCU Engineering hosts several workshops and a Kickoff event every year. Many College of Engineering students participate in our FIRST Alumni Association and mentor local teams.