



BATEMAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

PROGRAM DETAILS

The Bateman Scholars Program is a **FREE** immersive college prep program which includes counseling for college selection, 45+ hours of ACT test prep, one-on-one mentoring, college visits countrywide, interview prep, a laptop computer (if deemed needed), and financial-aid application assistance, among other supports. We invest over 300 hours in our high-school Scholars, and they benefit from significant resources at no cost to them (valued at approximately \$3,000 for juniors, \$5,000 for seniors). Scholars who remain in the Program during college and graduate school will continue to be supported by College Choice Foundation in small, but meaningful ways. We provide resources that promote academic, social, and emotional success, including when funding allows, covering the costs of certain indirect expenses like textbooks, airfare, and enrollment fees. Additionally, Scholars will have the opportunity to attend two college-readiness camps hosted by College Choice Foundation. We do NOT provide scholarships, but we work tirelessly to help students find affordable options for higher education.

If admitted, Applicant will be requested to submit additional documentation.

We take a holistic approach in reviewing applications and look forward to reading yours soon. In March/April/May, qualified applicants will be invited to attend an interview and parents/guardians will be asked some questions as well. Additional documents may be requested like tax returns. Scholar selections will be announced in late spring, and the program for Class of 2025 will begin on April 27, 2024, with Part 1 of our **mandatory college admissions camp**. There will be a college week-long trip in July (tentatively, July 15-19). **There is also a mandatory college prep camp that admitted students should plan to attend on July 26-28 located at Samford University.**

Questions should be directed to info@collegechoicefoundation.org or Josephine Lowery at (205) 401-4212. If there are extenuating circumstances that might affect your application, please contact us.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

Students who meet the qualifications below should apply. Take a look and see if you could be the next Bateman Scholar!

- Applicant must be a current sophomore or junior currently enrolled in a Birmingham City School (A. H. Parker, George W. Carver, Huffman, P. D. Jackson-Olin, Ramsay, Wenonah, Woodlawn) or at Homewood High School.
- Applicant must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident.
- Applicant should have a weighted GPA of 3.7 or higher.
- Applicant's high-school curriculum should be rigorous (i.e. Advanced Placement and Honor courses).

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- Applicant should be involved in extracurricular activities, community service, and/or have work experience.
- Applicant should show strong personal character, impressive work ethic, and leadership abilities.
- Applicants must be open to attending a four-year college or university outside of the state of Alabama.

In determining eligibility for College Choice Foundation, we will also consider other factors such as your family's income, which must be \$80,000 or less, a family's assets, the size of a student's family, and any unusual expenses. Students with divorced or separated parents must report the income and assets of both biological parents and stepparents (as applicable).

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for Bateman Scholars Program, applicant should complete the on-line application on or before **March 15, 2024**. Anyone who finishes their application 100% by the deadline will be offered a **FREE ACT Test prep course** with All Pencils Down (2 days/12 hours) May 18 & June 1. As part of the application, Applicant will be asked to provide the following:

→Supplemental Questions. As part of the Application, Applicants will need to answer the following questions and save your responses as a PDF to upload to your Application. Unless indicated differently in the question, please respond to each question in 400 words or fewer. We read your entire Application closely and pay particular attention to the responses to these questions. They are designed to help CCF get to know you better so be authentic, reflective, and thoughtful in your responses and be sure to proofread them. You should pretend you are answering these questions as a college applicant and provide in-depth responses. Note: we have included a few additional optional questions you may answer but they are not required.

- Why are you interested in being part of College Choice Foundation?
- What experiences have shaped you into the person you are today? Describe any struggles that have impacted you and/or have you ever felt limited in any way?
- Describe an instance where you failed. How did you overcome this situation or describe a time when you had to step out of your comfort zone.
- Write a note to your future roommate that reveals something about you or that will help your roommate – and us – get to know you better.
- If you have any career goals, what are they and why? (It's okay not to know what you want to do).
- If you could wake up anywhere tomorrow, where would it be? This can be a real place or a work of fiction.
- College is a place (and time) of self-discovery and personal growth. Other than a degree and a career path, what do you want to get out of your college experience?
- Everyone knows that I... (finish this sentence in 10 words or less)
- No one knows that I... (finish this sentence in 10 words or less)
- CCF should know that I... (finish this sentence in 10 words or less)



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- Is there anything else not included anywhere else in your application you want to discuss?
- *Optional:* What is distinctive about your personal experiences and development (e.g., family support, culture, disability, personal background, community, etc.)? Why are these experiences important to you?
- *Optional:* Everyone has different priorities when considering their higher education options and building their college or university list. Tell us about your “non-negotiable” factor(s) when searching for your future college home.
- *Optional:* We know you lead a busy life, full of activities, many of which are required of you. Tell us about something you do simply for the pleasure of it.
- *Optional:* Who in your life is depending on you? What are they depending on you for?
- *Optional:* What is a new skill you would like to learn in college?
- *Optional:* Write a thank-you note to someone you have not yet thanked and would like to acknowledge.
- *Optional:* If you could teach any college course, write a book, or create art of any kind, what would it be?
- *Optional:* You have been given the power to change one thing about the world. What will you change, and how? Why did you pick this to change?

→Current high-school transcript.

→Current resumé or provide a list of honors, awards, extracurricular activities, sports, community service, work experience (with dates), and hobbies.

→Federal Student Aid Forecaster. As part of this Application, Applicant should complete the Federal Student Aid Forecaster (<https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator/>). If your parents are divorced, include the information for the parent who provided more than half of your support over the past 12 months. Once you complete this form, a page will populate which shows your Estimated Federal Student Aid. This may include estimates for Federal Pell Grant, Direct Loans and Average Work-Study Funds. Scroll to the bottom of the screen and click on ‘Print or Download PDF’ to save this information to your device, print and scan or screenshot it because you need to upload a copy of “Your Estimated Information” next. NOTE: “Your Estimated Information” is just an estimate and could change when you complete the FAFSA in October of your senior year. Do not follow the next steps suggestion by creating an FSA ID.

→Recommendation Surveys. Additionally **(to be sent separate from the Application/not uploaded)**, Applicant will also need a Recommendation Survey from two core-course teachers from your high school or dual enrollment program (e.g. Math, English, Science, Social Studies) who can attest to your qualifications, and a Guidance Counselor Form from your high-school guidance counselor. In the Application, you will be asked to provide the name and email address of the core teachers from whom you want to request a recommendation from and your guidance counselor. Applicant should inform the recommenders that you are applying for the



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Bateman Scholars Program and let them know that they will be receiving an email from College Choice Foundation with a link to the forms mentioned above. Most importantly, let them know that the deadline for the recommendation letters and forms is April 1, 2024.

OPTIONAL MATERIALS

→Applicant may upload any additional information that may benefit your Application.

→Applicant may also upload one or two additional letters of support/recommendation from an employer, church, or civic-organization leader.

Application Profile Photo

- Applicant will need to upload a current photo to your CampDoc Application profile.

If admitted into the program, please note these dates. Also, Applicant and a parent/guardian will need to sign the Participation Agreement detailed below.

Some dates to take note of:

April 27: Part 1 EPIC Camp College (one day)
May 18 & June 1 (ACT Test Prep)
June 8 (ACT)
July 26-28: Part 2 EPIC Camp College
July 13 (ACT)
July 15-19 college visits
Fall Break: college visits.

College Choice Foundation Participation Agreement (the “Agreement”)

Participation in the Bateman Scholars Program or any activity or other program of College Choice Foundation (hereinafter, collectively, “Programs”) is a privilege, not a right. College Choice Foundation reserves the right to unilaterally discontinue Student’s participation in the Programs at its sole discretion at any time. Student shall abide by the Code of Conduct set forth below, now and at all times while a Student is a part of the Programs. Additionally, Student is expected to be fully engaged with College Choice Foundation, and to fully participate in the Programs and take advantage of the resources offered by College Choice Foundation. Unless there is an emergency, Student should attend all meetings, presentations, workshops, ACT test prep, mentoring sessions and college visits. If Student works, Student should give timely notice to his/her employer when he/she needs to be off for College Choice Foundation activities. Student should work diligently towards completing and filing college applications.

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There will be a weekly email sent out that describes on-going events, as well as a Rolling Agenda that details what the students should be doing. Student should complete the weekly Roll Call within a day or two.

Respecting the privacy of our students and the families of students (parents, siblings) is a basic value of College Choice Foundation, however, there will be circumstances when information about a student may need to be shared, and/or information may need to be collected. College Choice Foundation will endeavor to protect the privacy of the students and their families as it relates to sensitive personal and financial information regarding a student **at the request of the student or parent**. However, in order to adequately assist students with the college search, admission, selection, and attendance processes, Student and Parent hereby release to College Choice Foundation, Student's mentor, Student's financial aid assistant, and College Choice Foundation's community partners which include, but are not limited to, All Pencils Down, The Connell School of Writing and College PrepU, the following information any other information reasonably requested by College Choice Foundation as it relates to the Student's college search, admission, selection, and attendance processes: College Choice Foundation applications, including the CampDoc applications, transcripts, standardized test scores, progress reports, résumé, family's financial status, divorce decrees & other filings with government agencies, citizenship paperwork, DACA forms, or other paperwork relating to citizenship status, notes about plans for life after high school (college choices, colleges visited, application status, potential areas of study, GPA, and other data collected via surveys and questionnaires), admissions decisions and financial aid awards, scholarship offers and Social Security number(s) of Student and family members completing the FAFSA or CSS Profile (*but only to College Choice Foundation*). Usernames and passwords for any accounts requested by College Choice Foundation shall be shared only with College Choice Foundation personnel, including directors, staff, committee members, and mentors. Students and Parents agree that College Choice Foundation personnel may access, edit and add information to Student accounts on the Student's behalf such as the Common App, ACT Board, FAFSA, CSS Profile and IDOC. Additionally, Student and Parent agree that College Choice Foundation can share with colleges and universities a Student's name, email address, phone number, birthday, high school, grade level, graduation year, school counselor and any other reasonable information related to college admissions requested by the college and/or university with college and universities. Additionally, Students and Parents consent to providing personal data such as a Student's name, email address, phone number, birthday, high school, grade level, graduation year and school counselor to partners like Level All. Student and Parent consent to the sharing of current and past tax returns & W-2 forms with colleges or universities to which a Student has applied, IDOC, FAFSA, and CSS Profile if requested. Additionally, Students and Parents consent to College Choice Foundation providing information to grant agencies, foundations, corporations/businesses, other entities, and individuals College Choice Foundation seeks funding from gathered from surveys, questionnaires, videos, conversations, and other modes of communication such as Student quotes, ACT test scores, GPA, scholarships and financial aid amounts, and colleges applied to, college accepted to.

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Parent and Student hereby consent to allow College Choice Foundation, their assigns and licensees, to make and use photographs and digital recordings or videos of the Student (regardless of who is creating these photographs, recordings or videos), or general (non-financial) information about the Student and to reproduce them as College Choice Foundation may see fit, (e.g., in paper publications and digitally) by College Choice Foundation for the purpose of illustration, promotion, marketing, or publication in any manner, which includes being posted on any website of College Choice Foundation, its community partners or via social media, e.g., Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Snapchat, and Instagram, sent by email or in presentations by College Choice Foundation. Parent and Student hereby grant College Choice Foundation, their assigns, licensees, or anyone else approved by College Choice Foundation, a non-exclusive, royalty-free, transferable, sublicensable, perpetual, worldwide license to host, use, distribute, modify, run, copy, display, translate, and create derivative works of the images and/or videos created by College Choice Foundation or at their request, including, without limitation, all likenesses and any text that may accompany any such images and/or videos, edited or unedited, in whole or in part, individually or in conjunction with any other images and/or videos, for the purpose of illustration, promotion, marketing, or publication in any manner. Parent and Student hereby waive any privacy rights that Student or Parent may have with respect to all such images, videos, text, information, material, and content.

Student is aware that certain elements of the Programs may be physically demanding, for example, college visits. Furthermore, Student understands that certain risks and dangers exist in activities in which Student may participate. These risks may include but are not limited to loss or damage to personal property, injury, illness (e.g., COVID-19), or fatality. Student acknowledges that while College Choice Foundation will make every reasonable effort to minimize exposure to known risks, all hazards and dangers associated with the Programs cannot be foreseen. Student acknowledges that in signing this release Student is agreeing to learn and follow the safety rules and procedures established by College Choice Foundation. Student furthermore agrees to notify a member of College Choice Foundation if Student does not understand any of said rules and procedures, or if Student is unable to participate in any activity.

Student understands and assumes all dangers and risks associated with the Programs, and in consideration of being allowed to participate in the Programs and with College Choice Foundation and to enter and engage in Programs' activities on the property of others, Student hereby RELEASES, INDEMNIFIES, AND HOLDS HARMLESS, and waives all claims that Student may have or that in the future may arise, against College Choice Foundation, the premises owner/manager/lessee of any property on where Student engages in activity pursuant to Programs, and all of the officers, directors, advisory board members, managers, agents and employees of all of the forgoing directly or indirectly arising out of Student's participation in the Programs or entry onto such property. Student further agrees to hold College Choice Foundation and all the officers, directors, advisory board members, managers, agents, and employees of all of the foregoing, harmless from liability for any such injury or damage whether arising in tort, contract, or otherwise. Student's signature below is also intended to bind Student's successors, heirs, representatives, executors, administrators and assigns.

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Parent gives permission for Student to participate in the Programs. Parent releases and gives up all claims of negligence, that Parent or Student now has or may have in the future against College Choice Foundation, its agents, and employees, including College Choice Foundation's Board of Directors and Officers and Advisory Board Members, arising out of Student's participation in the Programs. Parent also understands that Student's participation is on a completely volunteer basis. Parent hereby releases, holds harmless and indemnifies all of the entities and persons named above which Student releases, holds harmless and indemnifies, and regardless of the sufficiency or validity of Student's agreement, including without limitation, College Choice Foundation and all its officers, directors, advisory board members. Parent fully consents to and ratifies the statements above made by Student. If Student breaches the terms of this Agreement, Parent understands that Student will be expelled from College Choice Foundation, and if this happens during a college visit, Parent will be expected to pay for Student's travel home.

Parent does hereby further give consent for all emergency medical care (including surgery, if deemed necessary and recommended by at least two attending physicians) prescribed by a duly licensed physician for Student in the event of injury or illness to Student during the Programs. Emergency medical care may be given under whatever conditions are deemed necessary or whatever conditions may then and there exist, to preserve and protect the life, limb, health, and well-being of Student. Parent requests that in the event of any medical or other emergency involving Student during the Programs, when Parent is not readily available to be contacted by phone, that the person listed in the Application as emergency contact, be contacted. This person will have authority to speak for Parent with respect to the emergency needs of Student.

Parent will furnish all applicable medical information, including known allergies, family physician's name and phone number, insurance information, emergency contact, any current medications being taken by Student, and the dosage of all non-prescription medication (e.g., Tylenol, Advil) as requested by College Choice Foundation.

This Agreement shall apply to and be binding for any college trip/visit in which Student participates with College Choice Foundation. While attending a college visit, Student shall comply with all policies of College Choice Foundation pertaining to travel. Student shall be considerate and respectful – especially of the host and their room and possessions, be in the residence hall or hotel room by 11:00 pm each night, as applicable. While a student is on a college campus or at a hotel, Student should remain on campus or at the hotel. Student shall not possess or consume alcoholic beverages, vape materials, nicotine products, and non-prescription drugs. Student will attend and be on time for all scheduled activities.

Student shall abide by the following Code of Conduct now and while a Student is a part of the Programs:

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- Student is expected to behave in a manner consistent with College Choice Foundation's Mission Statement as set-forth on College Choice Foundation's website and to comply with all policies of College Choice Foundation.
- Student agrees to be a person of good moral character.
- Student has not committed, nor will Student commit any act inconsistent with the highest standards of public morals and conventions or which may reflect negatively upon College Choice Foundation.
- Student has not violated, nor will Student violate any federal, state, or local law.
- Student acknowledges that College Choice Foundation has adopted a zero-tolerance drug policy, including the misuse of prescription or over-the-counter medications, other chemical substances, or other intoxicants, and agrees to abide by said policy. Moreover, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to possess alcoholic beverages for consumption. Student assumes full responsibility for his/her compliance with state laws. Underage consumption of alcohol by Student shall be considered a violation of this Code of Conduct.
- Student will promptly and punctually attend and behave in a courteous manner at all College Choice Foundation's scheduled functions and events. Student shall conduct himself/herself in a courteous, polite, and professional manner at any such function or event.
- Student agrees that if he/she maintains or is involved in social media sites such as websites, Twitter, Facebook, blogs, message boards etc., he/she will present a positive image which will not contain behavior such as negative postings, inappropriate photos, or inappropriate language.
- Student agrees that any contact with the media regarding Student's participation in the Program will be coordinated through College Choice Foundation. Student is not authorized to speak on behalf of College Choice Foundation. No formal interviews or photo shoots will be agreed to or undertaken without prior knowledge of and approval from College Choice Foundation.
- Student acknowledges and agrees that he/she will remain in good academic standing. To remain in good academic standing, Student must regularly attend classes and make timely progress towards graduation and shall not be on academic probation.
- Student must maintain at least a 3.70 GPA during high school.
- Student shall be polite and respectful to fellow students, teachers, administrators, support staff, and visitors at their high school and college.
- A violation of Student's High School's Code of Conduct or their College Honor Code or Code of Conduct shall be considered a violation of College Choice Foundation's Code of Conduct.

All issues related to the Code of Conduct and consequences for violation(s) thereof shall be determined solely and exclusively by College Choice Foundation. Student agrees to accept such determinations made by College Choice Foundation.



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Student and Parent have fully read, understand, and agree to this Agreement. Student and Parent understand and agree that, by signing and/or by typing their names, they are electronically signing this Agreement. Student and Parent further understand and acknowledge that their electronic signature will be binding as though they had signed a paper version of this document. Student acknowledges that he/she did not type his/her Parent's name in the box below. Student and Parent agree that a printout of this Agreement may be accepted with the same authority as the original electronic version.