

NOTRE DAME VISION

Emerging Leaders Scholarship Program Notre Dame Vision 2025

Who are Emerging Leaders?

Emerging Leaders are young men and women currently in high school (or will be in the Fall of 2025) who are open and willing to provide leadership to their peers in faith formation.

- The Emerging Leaders Scholarship is for young men and women who will benefit from Notre Dame Vision's leadership development and faith formation opportunities and become more effective, confident, and faith-filled leaders in their own communities.
- Emerging Leaders are also young men and women interested in exploring a vocation to the priesthood and religious life and learning specific ways to enrich their vocational exploration.
- In addition, the Emerging Leaders Scholarship seeks to support those young men and women who may lack the financial means to attend Notre Dame Vision.

The hope is that these young men and women will continue to grow as faith-filled and committed leaders well after their high school years to provide leadership in the Church, especially relative to forming teenagers and young adults in faith.

Please note that this scholarship is not necessarily intended for just the most obvious and accomplished student-leaders; it is partially intended to cultivate and inspire new leaders who have a diverse array of gifts, personalities, and abilities. Therefore, please think creatively about the types of students to nominate. A nominator is welcome to nominate as many students as he/she likes.

What is the purpose of this scholarship?

This scholarship will enable at least 85 young men and women nominated by their parish, diocese, or Catholic high school from across the country to participate in one of the three week-long sessions of the Notre Dame Vision conference at the University of Notre Dame. The scholarships will cover up to \$335 of the \$485 registration fee for Notre Dame Vision.

During the program week, the scholarship recipients will join more than 175 other high school students to explore God's call in their lives, identify their own gifts, and develop their response to living out their faith. Additionally, the scholarship recipients will observe and learn from 50 collegiate "Mentors-in-Faith" as these Mentors lead small groups, offer witness talks, and serve in various ways as leaders-in-faith themselves.

What are the requirements for nomination?

1. The nominee will complete the online Notre Dame Vision Emerging Leaders Scholarship Application, available on the Vision website as of January 2025.

Four components of nomination to be submitted via the online application:

- Application (from nominee)
- \$100 deposit (from nominee)
- Essay (from nominee)
- Letter (from nominator)

2. The nominee will submit a payment for the deposit of \$100. If a scholarship is awarded, the deposit is non-refundable and non-transferable.
3. The nominee (i.e., the student) will write a two-part essay of at least 200 words and no more than 600 words total **to be submitted in the online application**.
 - The first part of this essay will respond to the following prompt:

Please describe why you want to attend Notre Dame Vision. What are you hoping to experience? How are you hoping to grow in faith and leadership? (To be completed by all applicants.)
 - The second part of the essay will respond to ONE of the following prompts:
 - a. Identify—from your perspective—some of the challenges that exist for you and/or other young people relative to developing your faith life. What obstacles confront you (or young people you know) in deepening your faith? What resources or support could you use more of for faith development? How have you contributed to the faith development of others?
OR
 - b. If you are exploring a vocation to the priesthood and/or religious life, what has that journey looked like for you? What are specific ways you have sought to enrich your vocational exploration? What help or support do you need for this exploration? OR
 - c. What are the financial hardships that may prevent you from attending Notre Dame Vision? Please describe (for example, limited parish/school/diocesan funds, travel costs, and particular family hardship). What other sources of financial assistance are you exploring?
3. A nominator will compose a brief nomination letter **to be uploaded to the online application**. (*separate nomination letters cannot be accepted.*) The nominator should be an adult associated with the nominating high school, parish, or diocese. The nomination letter should also include the name of the parish, school, or diocese along with the mailing address, phone and email address of the nominator to assist with the process of award notification. This letter should address the following questions:
 - What do you value in this young man or woman as a leader or prospective leader in faith formation ministry? How do you see this young man or woman as a person of faith who is open to further growth in faith?
 - How will this young man or woman benefit from attending Notre Dame Vision?

What is the due date?

The Emerging Leaders Scholarship nomination is due on March 15, 2025. All nomination materials must be received online no later than this date. Students will be notified of their scholarship status in mid-March.

Questions?

For questions about the Emerging Leaders Scholarships, contact Craig Gould at cgould2@nd.edu or 574-631-1901. For all other Notre Dame Vision inquiries, please contact ndvi@nd.edu or 574-631-7425.