EMERGING LEADER SCHOLARSHIP

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
High School seniors who have indicated an interest in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets are eligible for consideration. The applicant must be offered and accept admission to Virginia Tech and the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets. ROTC participation is not required. Applicants must also complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and indicate Virginia Tech as a recipient institution. The FAFSA is available in most school guidance offices. The FAFSA is required regardless of financial need.

WHAT IS PROVIDED?
Out-of-state awardees (applicants who are ineligible for in-state tuition rates) receive a scholarship of $2,000 their first year, $3,000 each year their sophomore and junior year, and $4,000 their senior year for a total of up to $12,000. In-state awardees receive a scholarship $1,000 their first year, $2,000 each year their sophomore and junior year, and $3,000 their senior year for a total of up to $8,000 over the four year period. Both out-of-state and in-state awardees must remain a cadet in good standing with the university and the Corps of Cadets to renew the scholarship each year. Also, at the beginning of their junior year and each successive semester, the awardees must meet Corps physical fitness standards and must have attained a cumulative 2.5 grade point average minimum to continue the scholarship.

HOW MANY ARE AWARDED?
At least 100 in-state and 100 out-of-state scholarships are awarded each year. Nearly two-thirds of our entering cadets have been awarded this scholarship in recent years.

HOW IS THE SCHOLARSHIP DECIDED?
The scholarship is awarded based on merit. Awardees typically have mostly “A”s and an SAT average of 1260. These academic standards must be matched by evidence of leadership potential, such as involvement in Junior ROTC, student government, athletics, work experience, or other extracurricular activities.

HOW DO I APPLY?
Applicants must choose, “Yes” to the Virginia Tech application question which asks, “Do you wish to enroll in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets?” Applicants must complete an online application no later than March 1st through a link in their Virginia Tech account. Make sure you have indicated you are a “cadet” applicant when completing the application for admission. Applicants will be notified of whether or not they were awarded the scholarship no later than April 15th.

1 The Emerging Leader Scholarship may be reduced to a level sufficient, when added to other scholarships being received, to cover the cost of tuition, fees, room, board, and books.
WHO ARE THE HIGHTY TIGHTIES?
The Regimental Band of Virginia Tech was formed in 1883 and became Band Company of the Corps in 1892. In 1921, the band adopted its current name of “Highty-Tighties”, a name derived from a cadet band company cheer that had the catch phrase “Highty-Tighty” in the first line. Since then the Highty-Tighties have built a national reputation of excellence. The Band recruits musicians who apply to Virginia Tech and enroll in the Corps of Cadets, in either the civilian track (non-ROTC) or the military track (ROTC) of the Corps. Cadets in the civilian track incur no military obligation and many band members choose this track. Preferred experience is at least three years in a marching band, but enthusiasm for music is taken into consideration, and we turn away no one with basic skills.

DO I HAVE TO BRING MY OWN INSTRUMENT?
Personally owned equipment is not required; the Band provides quality instruments for all sections to include reeds, mouthpieces and other accessories. Distinctive cadet uniforms are also included at no cost provided the student remains in the Corps for the entire academic year.

WHEN ARE PRACTICES HELD?
Rehearsals are scheduled on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 4:45pm and ending at 6:00pm. College credit can be earned each semester for participation in this program.

WHERE DO THE HIGHTY TIGHTIES PERFORM?
Opportunities for performances are plentiful. The band provides pre-game and halftime entertainment at all home football games as well as pep band support at all women’s home basketball games. We also accompany the women’s basketball team to all ACC and NCAA Tournaments. For those interested in jazz, we have a 17 piece dance band. The Highty-Tighties participate in at least two major parade events each year and all expenses are funded by the university. Past performances include: Presidential Inaugural Parade, Washington, DC; Governor’s Inaugural Parade, Richmond, VA; Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, New York; Saint Patrick’s Day Parade, Savannah, Georgia; Cherry Blossom Parade, Washington DC; Thanksgiving Day Parade, Philadelphia, Pa; Azalea Festival Parade, Norfolk, VA; Festival of Lights Parade, Ft Meyer, FL; Mardi Gras Parade, New Orleans. Other performances include: military parades and retreats, pep band for VT football pep rallies, public concerts, and performances in support of the university.

WHAT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?
Cadets in Band Company are offered leadership opportunities including section captains, performance officer and NCO, drum major and company commander. Cadets are eligible to earn a minor in leadership studies through participation in the Corps. This leadership minor is one of only a handful offered by any university in the country.

ARE THERE HIGHTY TIGHTY SCHOLARSHIPS?
The Highty-Tighty Corps Alumni provide a one-year, $1,000 scholarship to new band members, paid $500 each semester.

WHO SHOULD I CONTACT IF I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION?
If you have questions or would like to get further information, please contact the Corps of Cadets recruiting officer at 888/882-6777, email us at corpsofcadets@vt.edu, visit us at www.vtcc.vt.edu or come stay with us for our Spend the Night Program (click the link under “Experience the Corps”, or go to: http://www.vtcc.vt.edu/join/spend-the-night/spend-the-night.html ).