



Blankenbeckler Scholarship

The **Blankenbeckler Leadership and Service Scholarship** is named in honor of Karen Blankenbeckler, Vice President for Academic Affairs, for her leadership and service to The Bear Creek School for more than 25 years.

Blankenbeckler Scholarships are awarded to **new, incoming grade 7 and grade 9 students** who meet the qualifications below. If you are motivated to influence the world, Bear Creek offers this opportunity to reward your emerging skills and affirm your desire to lead with wisdom, compassion, and courage.

Benefits of the Blankenbeckler Scholarship

- Annual award of \$5000
- Renewable through grade 12
- Important accolade to position yourself for collegiate eligibility

Qualifications*

- Be entering grade 7 or grade 9 as a new student in the fall of 2020 (must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident).
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (or equivalent) in previous two school years and demonstrate ongoing academic strength in current year.
- Express a spirit of leadership through service, influence, and dedication to the lives of others.

Deadlines—All scholarship requirements must be submitted/completed by the dates shown below and prior to acceptance or enrollment. Scholarships are not awarded after admission decisions have been made. Scholarship applications may be considered on a rolling basis after the above dates; however, please call to Admission Office to inquire if this possibility is available.

Sibling Applicants:

- ❑ October/November 2019—Start the application process by submitting an online application. Additional items are required and are listed in the applicant's Admission Portal. Schedule visit/interview dates early.
- ❑ On or before December 14, 2019—Take either the Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE) or the Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT). Advanced registration is required, please plan accordingly.
- ❑ On or before December 16, 2019 (deadline for **all** items)—Submit/complete all Admission Portal required items. This includes completing the visit/interview (schedule well in advance as visit/interview dates fill quickly and may not be available as this deadline approaches).
- ❑ On or before January 6, 2020—Submit all specific scholarship items (see below) to the applicant's Admission Portal.

Non-Sibling Applicants:

- ❑ October, November, or December 2019—Start the application process by submitting an online application. Additional items are required and are listed in the applicant's Admission Portal. Schedule visit/interview dates early.
- ❑ On or before January 24, 2020 (deadline for **all** items)—Submit/complete all Admission Portal required items. This includes completing the visit/interview (schedule well in

advance as visit/interview dates fill quickly and may not be available as this deadline approaches).

- ❑ On or before January 31, 2020—Submit all specific scholarship items (see below) to the applicant's Admission Portal.
- ❑ Admission Testing—Advanced registration is required, please plan accordingly.
 - Take the Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT) on or before January 4, 2020 **or**
 - Take the Independent School Entrance Exam (ISEE) on or before February 1, 2020.

Specific Blankenbeckler Scholarship Items

1. Letter of recommendation—From the Admission Portal, send an email to an individual of the applicant's choice requesting a letter of recommendation. The person selected should be someone who has observed the applicant in a leadership capacity and can knowledgeably comment on how the applicant's leadership qualities have impacted others. It is strongly suggested that the applicant or applicant's family confirm with the Admission Office that this item has been received by January 6, 2020 (sibling applicants) or by January 31, 2020 (non-sibling applicants).
2. List of applicant's positions, awards, honors, and/or recognitions which demonstrate leadership accomplishments. Include frequency, duration, and estimated hours of involvement. This item should be uploaded to the applicant's Admission Portal.
3. Two additional essays (maximum 650 words each), uploaded to the applicant's Admission Portal:
 - Prompt 1: Why do you believe you are qualified for this scholarship?
 - Prompt 2: Define leadership and illustrate how your leadership qualities guide your actions and priorities.

*Note: Because not all applicants apply for this scholarship, the letter of recommendation, list of accomplishments, and two essays will show in the Admission Portal as "optional;" however, they are **required** of all Blankenbeckler Scholarship applicants.*

Notification—Admission decisions and scholarship decisions will be communicated via email to

- Sibling applicants in late January 2020
- Non-sibling applicants between February 13, 2020 and March 13, 2020

Renewal Eligibility (annually in January)

- Maintain a grade point average of 3.0.
- Continue to demonstrate intentionality in pursuing your passion for leadership and service by submitting an updated list of leadership and service commitments (list should include frequency, duration, and estimated hours of involvement).
- Submit an annual renewal essay.
- Receive Division Head approval.

* Note: Children of benefit-eligible Bear Creek employees are not eligible for scholarship consideration.