

FGLI Resource Brochure

2020-21

Vanderbilt University
FGLI Initiative

The logo features the text "FGLI" in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, with "VANDERBILT" in a smaller, white sans-serif font directly below it. The text is centered within a purple, rounded, abstract shape that overlaps a larger, lighter purple shape behind it, all set against a yellow background.

FGLI
VANDERBILT

Transitioning From High School

Classes, Scheduling and Registration

Classes: In college, you are able to schedule your classes when you want. It is not uncommon to have classes all throughout the day, or even into the evening. Classes are offered from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm, and you will likely have gaps in your schedule. This means you will have to manage your time differently than you did in high school, but it also gives you the flexibility to choose what works best for you!



Registration: Each semester you will be assigned a registration period (time and date) by your class year. You will be required to meet with your academic advisor (CASPAR or major) before you register to discuss your options. Most students will have liberal arts requirements in addition to major requirements, though they vary by school. It's best to balance your schedule between these types of courses, which your academic advisor can help you do.

Assignments: Submitting things on time is your responsibility, and your professors will not hold your hand. Be sure to know what is expected of you by reading the syllabus.

Transitioning From High School

Academic Resources

Ask for help! There are so many resources on campus (many discussed below), and you should never be afraid to ask if you need something. Whether it be asking a professor for help with course material or asking your VUceptor where you can get mental health help, everyone is here to help you succeed!



Professors and TAs: Some larger courses will have one or multiple TAs (teaching assistants) in addition to a professor. TAs are often graduate students getting a PhD in the field and may lead smaller discussions or be the ones to grade your assignments. They are a great resource to reach out to for help!

Office hours: Utilize your professor's office hours to go over any questions you have over course materials, and to review any questions you missed on exams. For those of you who are shy and don't participate much in lectures, attending office hours is a good way to show you are engaged with the course. For your large lecture classes, it helps the professor put a face to the name.



Attending office hours can be intimidating...to make it easier, come with questions prepared! Don't be nervous, professors like when their students utilize their office hours.

Professors can also teach you a lot outside of the course- they can give you professional advice or serve as mentors throughout your college career.

Ask them about their career path and their research to learn more about them outside of the class you are in. If you form good relationships with your professors, they can also write letters of recommendation further down the line.

Transitioning From High School

Academic Resources

Tutoring: Vanderbilt has many opportunities to get free tutoring. Definitely utilize them and see what works best for you! Below are some resources for tutoring:

Collaborative Learning Suite (1801 Edgehill Ave - by Commons) offers free tutoring services. They have one-on-one 50-minute appointments (with an undergraduate or graduate tutor), weekly roundtables (can sign up with friends), large pre-exam group sessions (usually the night before weed-out class exams).

- Subjects: Biological Sciences, Chemistry (General & Organic), Economics, Mathematics, and Physics -all intro courses and some higher-level courses



Math Tutored Study Halls: Monday through Thursday the math department has tutored study halls in the evening with graduate students. These tutored study halls are a great way to get help as you work through your homework assignments. Attending these study halls could be a good way to encourage you to keep up with your math assignments and to block off a certain amount of time each day to work on them.

- Courses: 1200, 1201, 1300, 1301, 2300

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Drop-In STEM Tutoring: Tutoring in Featheringill Hall for a variety of engineering, science, and math classes. Drop-In tutoring is generally open from 7:00-9:00 PM Sunday-Thursdays. Check the [website](#) to see the courses and hours of the drop-in tutoring.

Physics Help Desk: The Department of Physics has a drop-in help desk staffed by undergraduate physics students to help students in introductory physics. Check the [website](#) for location and time.

Physics Help Desk: The Department of

Transitioning From High School

Academic Resources

[BCC Tutoring/Drop In Hours](#): Weekly Stem Tutoring, academic clubs, STEM mentors, and writing studio specialist. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Dr. Rosevelt L. Noble](#).



CHEMISTRY DROP-IN TUTORING

- Facilitator: Ariel Thorson
- Meets every Sunday (5:00-6:00 PM CST)
- Facilitator: Chisom Maduka
- Meets every Wednesday (7:00-8:00 PM CST)

CALCULUS DROP-IN TUTORING

- Facilitator: Erin Hardnett
- Meets every Wednesday (6:00-7:00 PM CST)

[Writing studio](#): At the writing studio you can make appointments with writing consultants for help with all writing-related assignments (class essays, research papers, internship applications, medical school personal statements) at all stages of the process.

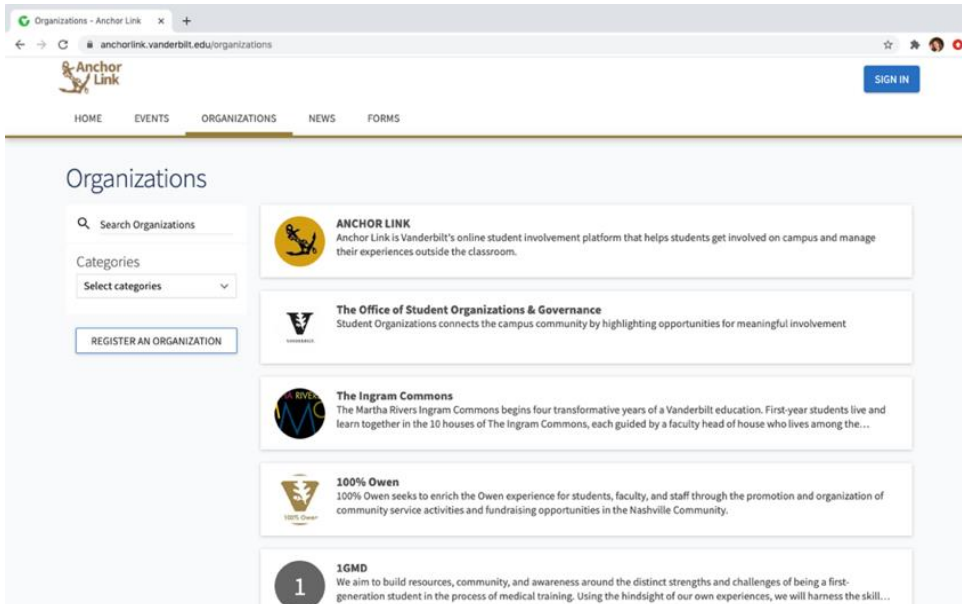


You can choose writing consultant (each has a different specialization/area of expertise i.e. English, history, STEM)

The Writing Studio also has specialists that you can make appointments with at the Black Cultural Center.

Student Involvement

Org fair: Vandy holds a fair to showcase student organizations every fall. Go to it in person (or virtually, this year!) to see all the organizations you could join!

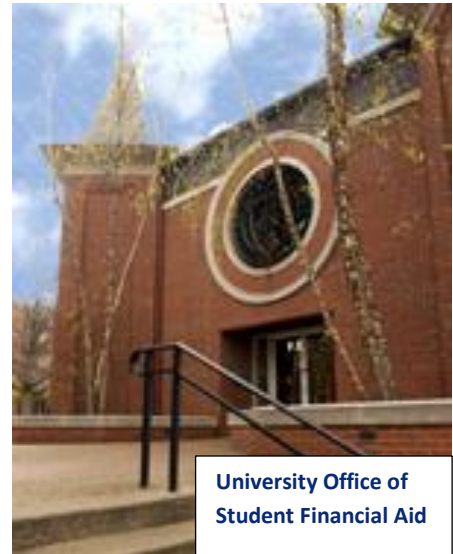


Anchorlink: All official student orgs listed here; you can search to discover orgs that suit your interests!

Finances

Responsible Spending at Vandy

Financial aid: You are assigned a financial aid officer who will help you understand your aid package. Call the financial aid office at (615) 322-3591 or email finaid@vanderbilt.edu with any questions and they will connect you to your financial aid officer. From then on, you can email/call your officer directly.



Experience Vanderbilt

Experience Vanderbilt is an organization (student run) that provides up to \$500 to participate in extracurriculars with fees. Funding can be used for Greek Life, Alternative Spring Break, medical trips, club sports... any on campus organization! Funds can also be used for Vanderbilt Rec Center trips and art classes at Sarratt as well.

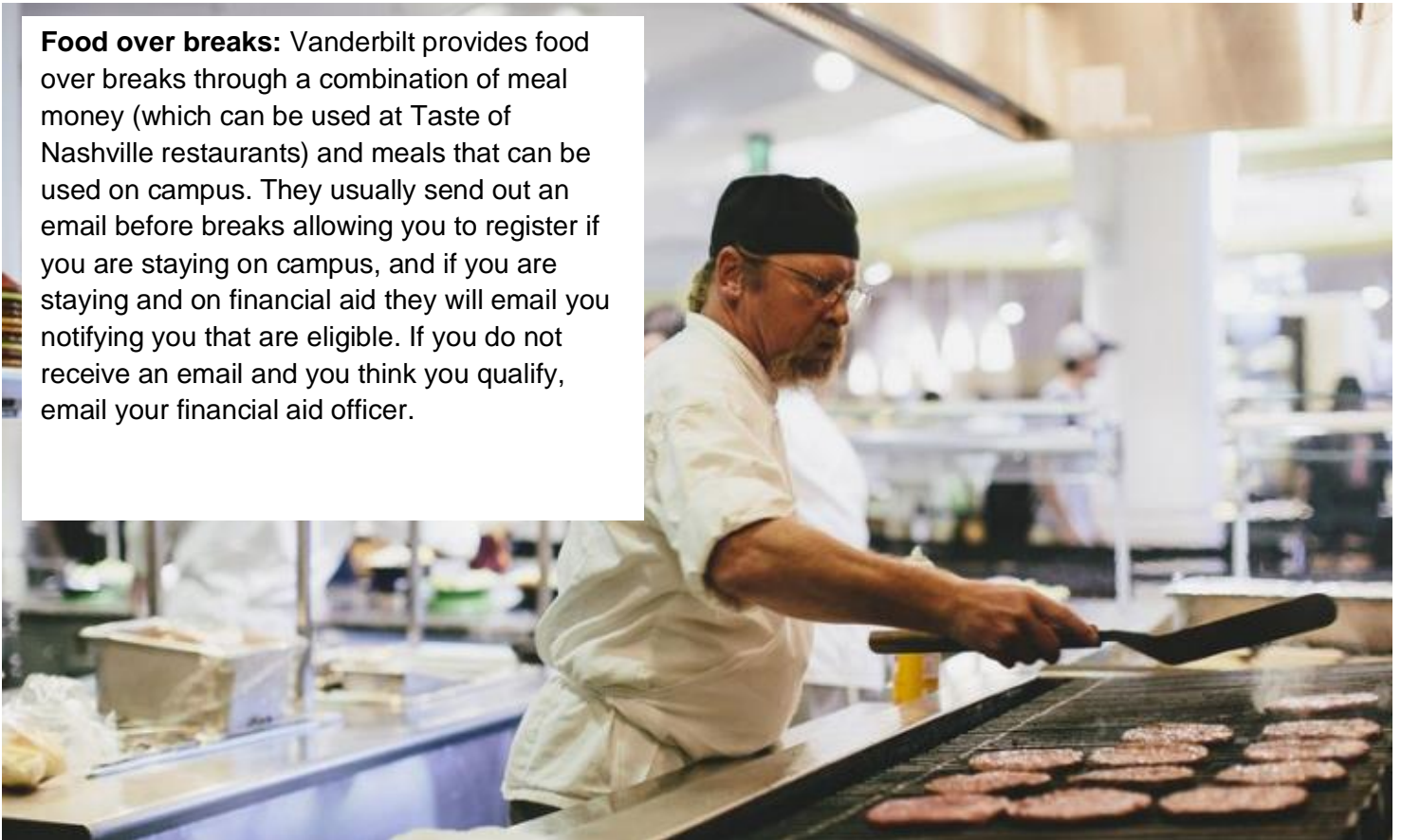


- Funding can only be used for one extracurricular activity and is not guaranteed from year to year. While most people receive funding, not everyone does.
- If you are not involved in extracurricular activities with fees, apply for the Experience Vanderbilt Event Pass. The \$75 pass is loaded onto your commodore card and can be used to purchase tickets to any on-campus events from the cultural showcases to Rites of Spring.
- The application opens at the beginning of the school year for freshman and transfer students.

Finances

Responsible Spending at Vandy

Food over breaks: Vanderbilt provides food over breaks through a combination of meal money (which can be used at Taste of Nashville restaurants) and meals that can be used on campus. They usually send out an email before breaks allowing you to register if you are staying on campus, and if you are staying and on financial aid they will email you notifying you that are eligible. If you do not receive an email and you think you qualify, email your financial aid officer.



Books!!

Books can be expensive, so buy or rent used/discounted books when you can, either from the bookstore or other online sources (Chegg, Amazon, etc.). It's good to wait until you are in class to buy the books, because sometimes they aren't required even though it looks like it from YES.

Jobs

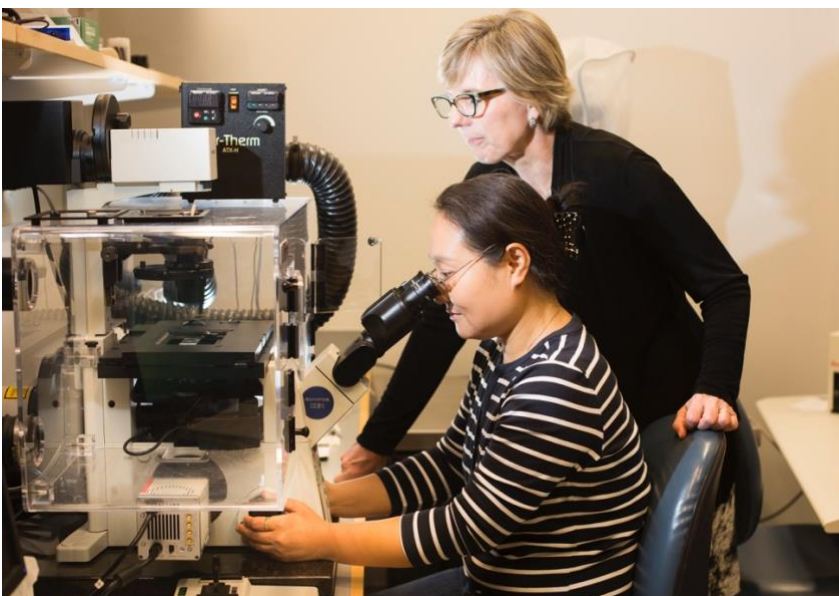
Employment and Federal Work Study

The Federal Work Study Program (FWS) is a government-subsidized student employment program designed to assist students in financing their post-secondary education. Federal Work Study is different from other types of part-time jobs because your employer only has to pay a percentage of your wages – the remaining is paid by FWS.

Federal work-study is a part of a student's financial aid package. Your eligibility is determined by filling out the FAFSA and to participate, you must indicate your interest on the FAFSA application.

Work-study is not “free aid,” you must be hired under a federal work-study eligible position on campus in order to receive these funds. It is not like other grants that appear on your financial aid portal, work-study funds are not automatically applied to your billing portal to pay for the cost of tuition, room/board, etc. You earn the funds by working, and funds are dispersed via direct deposit or check.

The amount posted on your financial aid award under “Federal Work Study” is the maximum amount that can be earned through a Work Study eligible job per semester.



Many On-Campus Work Study jobs are clerical, but there are also many jobs in labs, research assistants, social science research, child care, library services, housing services as well as food services.

You can apply for on-campus jobs at [HireADore](#). You can search for both Federal Work Study (FWS) and non-FWS jobs here

Career Planning

The Career Center offers many resources to help you prepare for your future. Here we highlight some of the resources we have found most useful. Be sure to browse [the Career Center's website](#) for even more resources (list of job boards, what can I do with this major, remote work sites, etc.)

Identity Groups

Career Guidance

Fellowships Advising

Mock Interview Module

Graduate School Advising

Summer Internship Subsidy

Free Coaching Appointments



Health Professions Advisory Office: HPAO provides advice to pre-med students! [Visit the website](#) if you are interested in pre-med. They also do large sessions on Commons during the first semester for freshman to learn about being pre-med.

Join their listserv for important updates! They relay valuable information via email. In order to be added to the ListServ email distribution list, students should send an email (from their Vanderbilt email address) to hpao@vanderbilt.edu and request to be added.

Marginalized Communities

Resources & Identity Centers

[University Counseling Center](#)

- If you belong to another marginalized group, you are able to ask the UCC specifically for a counselor that belongs to your same identity group
- For example, if you are a black student, it is completely fine to ask for a black counselor



[Office of LGBTQI Life](#)

- The Office of LGBTQI Life, housed in the K.C. Potter Center, serves as a central resource center for students a part of the LGBTQI community.
- The Office of LGBTQI Life supports the Vanderbilt community by providing educational, cultural, and social opportunities for all staff, students, and faculty members.
- If you are seeking community, the Office of LGBTQI Life sponsors affinity groups, which provides opportunities for students to gather around a shared identity or interest. Currently, 13 affinity groups are offered, providing students with spaces that affirm and welcome all aspects of their identity.



Marginalized Communities

Resources & Identity Centers

[Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center](#)

- The Black Cultural Center (BCC) seeks to enhance the Vanderbilt experience for students a part of the Black community.
- The facility has several lounge spaces for students of color.
- In addition, the BCC hosts signature programs throughout the year, such as the Harambee March and Pre-Kwanzaa celebration.



The BCC also sponsors the [Vanderbilt Intentional Diversity Experience](#), a program for first-years to make friends with students from different backgrounds than their own

- “...individuals will be placed into groups of two based on measures of similarity but more importantly measures of difference found within their application. These pairs are referred to as VIDE Partners (VPs)”
- “The VPs are then required to engage in six VIDE events, and one VIDE excursion per semester.”



[Student Center for Social Justice and Identity](#)

- The SCSJI, located in upstairs Rand, was created to better serve the needs of Vanderbilt's multicultural community.
- The SCSJI hosts events such as monthly kickbacks and other celebrations to acknowledge the array of cultural backgrounds that make up our student body.

Marginalized Communities

Resources & Identity Centers

[Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center](#)



- The mission of the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center is to provide an affirming space for women at Vanderbilt.
- The center offers a variety of educational and support programs, such as financial and work life workshops, available to the Vanderbilt community.
- In addition, the center offers programming specific to the needs of female students such as the Body Project, which is a peer-led program designed to help young women combat harmful ideals surrounding body image.

[Multicultural Leadership Council](#) (and its 30+ partner organization)

- "The MLC acts as a steering committee and advocate for the organizations under our umbrella and seeks to educate the Vanderbilt student body on issues related to diversity, inclusion, and cultural awareness."
- [View their list of member organizations here](#)



Having Fun

Free Buses

WeGo provides public transportation to major locations in the Nashville metropolitan area. All WeGo busses are free for Vanderbilt students. Simply board the bus and swipe your Commodore card at the bus' payment terminal.

Popular Locations:

- Opry Mills
- Green Hills (movie theater, Apple store, generally higher end stores)
- Downtown Music City



Passport to Nashville: The Passport to Nashville is a program that allows students to use their Commodore Cards to gain free entry to Nashville Venues. Using your Commodore Card you can get free entry to:

- Adventure Science Center
- Cheekwood Gardens
- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Ryman Auditorium
- Frist Art Museum

Randy Tarkington's Work-Life Balance Newsletter

Mr. Tarkington has a weekly newsletter that lists all of the events going on in Nashville (and prices of these events). Go [here](#) to subscribe to the newsletter. It's a really great + easy way to get exposed to new events off of campus.



Enter VPB lotteries/Commodore Cruise!

- **The Commodore Cruise** is a program from the Office of Housing and Residential Experience that raffles off free tickets to a dinner and Nashville experience every month. Past Commodore Cruises include tickets to Nashville Predators games, concerts (Ariana Grande, Chance the Rapper), or plays (Dear Evan Hanson, The Color Purple). Students are emailed every month of the upcoming cruise and the email includes the link to enter the raffle.
- **The Vanderbilt Programming Board (VPB)** and **CityVU** periodically send out emails with raffles to win free outings in Nashville for excursions like pottery painting, tickets to Lana Del Ray concerts, and tickets to the Listening Room Cafe. Emails about the raffles are sent out to students' emails.