

VANDERBILT SUMMER ACADEMY TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

Page 1 of 1

To be completed by the applicant:

Name: _____

I am applying to VSA Session ___ I ___ II ___ III

My first choice class is _____
(list course title here)

Please ask your recommender to complete this form and return it to you in a sealed envelope, which has been signed across the seal.

I waive my right to review this reference. ___ Yes ___ No

 Applicant Signature

 Date

To the Recommender:

Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth offers several accelerated academic programs for academically gifted K-12 students. The above applicant has applied to Vanderbilt Summer Academy (VSA). VSA is an intensive academic program in which students take an in-depth course for one, two, or three weeks. Vanderbilt University faculty and scholars teach most VSA courses. Classroom environments typically are *fast-paced, often delving into college-level material*. Please visit our website, <http://pty.vanderbilt.edu> to learn more about our programs. Thank you for taking the time to provide an honest evaluation of this applicant's ability to *succeed in an accelerated academic environment*. Please complete this form and feel free to attach additional comments/letter if you wish. **Please place completed recommendation in a sealed envelope, which you have signed across the seal. Return it to the applicant.**

Recommender's Name _____

Title/School _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

May we contact you in reference to this student? ___ Yes ___ No

In what capacity and for how long have you know this student? _____

COGNITION & UNDERSTANDING – Please evaluate student based on these criteria relating to cognition and understanding of advanced content.

THIS STUDENT....	ALMOST ALWAYS	MOST OF THE TIME	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY
Shows understanding of advanced content as evidenced through course discussions & projects				
Applies learned content to new situations/tasks				
Explains advanced content/concepts clearly and accurately				
Provides accurate content-based evidence to support ideas				
Synthesizes complex content into accurate generalizations about subject-matter				
Excels at learning accelerated content				
Willingly challenges assumptions & ideas to gain clarity of advanced concepts/content				

VANDERBILT SUMMER ACADEMY TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

Page 2 of 2

SCHOLARLY HABITS – Please evaluate student on these criteria relating to scholarly habits.

THIS STUDENT...	ALMOST ALWAYS	MOST OF THE TIME	OCCASIONALLY	RARELY
Is actively engaged both verbally and nonverbally				
Respects and tolerates others' ideas, suggesting alternative points of view with evidence when necessary				
Communicates ideas with clarity				
Asks for assistance/clarification when appropriate				
Perseveres even when content/task is challenging				
Willingly takes intellectual risks, evidenced by presented ideas/class products				
Completes work with accuracy and appropriate detail				
Uses class time wisely				
Collaborates effectively with peers and instructors				
Is motivated to learn more in areas of interest				

Please provide your response to the following. You may attach a separate sheet if you wish.

1. How does this student typically respond to challenging course content?

2. Why do you think this student would benefit from an accelerated academic program like VSA?

3. Based on the student's course choice, stated on page 1 of this form, please describe student's level of interest and motivation in the chosen discipline.

4. VSA is a residential program. Students stay on campus for the duration of their VSA course. In some courses, students will observe/work in research laboratories or other professional settings; conduct their own independent research; and/or formally present projects to faculty and peers. Please evaluate this student's level of maturity and preparation for this kind of immersion in an active academic community.

5. Additional comments:

6. Overall Recommendation:
 Highly Recommend Recommend Recommend with reservations Do not recommend

Signature of Recommender

Date