VBA Bank Day Scholarship Program FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do we have to host the students for a certain amount of time?

No! Banks can host students for any amount of time. Some banks will have students arrive around 9:00 a.m. and stay through lunch while other banks prefer to have the students stay the length of the school day.

Can we discuss the essays with the students?

Yes! We encourage you to discuss the essay topic and

guidelines frequently throughout their visit. It is also helpful to provide copies of the essay guidelines to students the day of their visit. Please see the essay planning document for students' use throughout the day. Feel free to give tips, but keep in mind the students need to write their own essays without assistance.

Does the two-page essay limit include the title page and works cited page? No! Those pages are not included in the two-page limit.

Can homeschooled students participate in the program?

Yes! As long as the student is currently the equivalent of a high school senior, has a cumulative 3.0 GPA or higher, and is a resident of Virginia, he or she is eligible for Bank Day.

Do students have to sign a photo release to have their picture taken?

Yes! Part of the registration process through the VBA is a student photo release. The VBA will notify you of any students who are not able to have their picture taken on Bank Day.

Do we have to hold our Bank Day on March 17, 2020?

No! You can host students any day that works with your schedule, keeping in mind that all student essays are due to the VBA by April 3, 2020, regardless of their actual shadow date.

Does the VBA need to know the specific details of my bank's plans?

Yes! Students, parents and school staff often contact the VBA with questions about Bank Day details. It is extremely helpful for the VBA to have your plans on file to be able to respond to these inquiries.

How will I know which students are coming to my bank for Bank Day?

Students register for Bank Day through the VBA. Once the VBA has a completed student registration form, we will email you with an updated roster for your bank.

Can we offer our own scholarship in addition to the ones VBA distributes?

Absolutely! Some banks offer a scholarship to participating students separate from the VBA Bank Day scholarships. The VBA will be happy to send your bank copies of the students' essays in order to judge them to your own criteria and select your winner.

Should we have a conversation with the students about confidentiality and common courtesy?

Absolutely! For some of these students, this is their first time behind the scenes in a place of business. Gentle reminders before you begin your day will ensure that students know the expectations of being guests at your bank.

Do you have more questions about Bank Day? Contact Monica McDearmon at mmcdearmon@vabankers.org or 804-819-4743.

