

Applications will be open from April 26<sup>th</sup> through May 13<sup>th</sup> for Posse Scholars. Juniors should have a minimum GPA of 3.25 and above average (over 1000) on SAT EBRW + Math, and special consideration for underrepresented students. **Information and the application can be accessed through the HUB (under the “Westside Class of 2017” course).** Currently, Westside has 17 nominations, 11 regular and 6 STEM.

Posse is looking for individuals who have demonstrated leadership ability, communication and team building skills. High school grade point average and SAT scores are considered but are not solely the basis for selection. Posse looks for students who have done well academically, but who may not be considering (or might be missed by) some of the top universities (which often rely more heavily upon traditional admissions measures such as SAT scores). Winners of the Posse Scholarship have been positive contributors to their schools and communities. They are interested in issues of community and diversity. We are looking for the students who have the perseverance and drive to make it in a highly competitive academic environment if given the support of a positive team of peers, a Posse. The Posse Foundation looks for students who are leaders in a tradition or nontraditional way, value academics, value a support system and are open to new ideas and experiences. Please review the information below and talk to your juniors that you think might be a great fit for this scholarship!

These are the notes directly from Posse about each school that will be selecting students next year:

- **Bryn Mawr College** – Location: Bryn Mawr, PA – All girls’ school with a strong family vibe, students may take classes at surrounding universities such as UPenn
  - Regular Nominations
  - Ranked #25 in the US News and World Report Liberal Arts Undergraduate school rankings
- **Carleton College** – Location: Northfield, MN – Strong academics and the majority of students take advantage of study abroad opportunities
  - Regular Nominations
  - Ranked #8 in the US News and World Report Liberal Arts Undergraduate school rankings
- **Colby College** – Location: Waterville, ME – Campus has a net zero carbon footprint, offers farm to table dining and fosters a culture of environmentalism
  - Regular Nominations
  - Ranked #19 in the US News and World Report Liberal Arts Undergraduate school rankings
- **University of Virginia** – Location: Charlottesville, VA – Offer a combination of a liberal arts and traditional university (first 2 years – liberal arts, 2<sup>nd</sup> two years – pick a major and move into a specific college)
  - Regular Nominations
  - Ranked #26 in the US News and World Report Undergraduate school rankings
- **University of Texas**
  - Regular Nominations

- Ranked #52 in the US News and World Report Undergraduate school rankings
- **Texas A&M University**
  - STEM Nominations
  - Ranked #70 in the US News and World Report Undergraduate school rankings

**Regular Nominations:** Students that are interested in pursuing **non-STEM majors**. These students might not have to meet the school's required SAT score or GPA requirement for admittance, but should be close.

**STEM Nominations:** Students must complete 4 years of math and science and have demonstrated strength of high school courses. If students are interested in Engineering, their SAT scores must be competitive with students that are granted regular admission to their programs. They need to see that the student will be able to handle the rigor required to complete for example an engineering degree.

If the student is selected to represent Westside, they will participate in a dynamic interview process during the fall of their senior year. The first interview will be held as a large group, the second will be one on one and the third will be a group of the final 25 selected by each school. The schools will choose their "posse" of 10 students from the final 25. If a student is selected as a finalist (the final 25 for a school) they must be ready to make an early action decision to attend that school that has expressed interest in them. If they do not want to attend that school, they must remove themselves from the third round interview.

Once the students are chosen as Posse scholars, they will attend weekly meetings with the Posse staff and their "posse" to start college preparation classes and leadership training. Throughout their first two years of college the students will meet weekly with their "posse" and a faculty mentor.

WHS Year 1 – 3 Recipients

WHS Year 2 – 4 Recipients

WHS Year 3 – 2 Recipients

WHS Year 4 – 3 Recipients

This year (2017 graduates) – we will be nominating students within the next month

For more information about Posse, please visit their website: [www.possefoundation.org](http://www.possefoundation.org) or watch this short YouTube video: [The Posse Foundation](#).