

A nighttime photograph of a city skyline reflected in water. A large concrete bridge with multiple arches spans across the water in the foreground. In the background, several tall buildings are lit up, and a highway sign is visible. The sky is a deep blue.

Partner Institutions

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA  
WILLIAM & MARY

# POSSE VIRTUAL PROGRAM VIRGINIA POSSE

Albemarle County / Charlottesville / Chesapeake / Danville  
Fairfax County / Hanover County / Prince William County  
Richmond / Suffolk / Virginia Beach / Williamsburg-James County



Dear Posse Nominee:

Congratulations on your nomination for the Posse Scholarship. If you're reading this, you've just completed your first-round interview. You were nominated for a reason, and we're so glad to have met you in person.

Now that you know more about Posse, it's going to be important for you to familiarize yourself with Posse's partner colleges and universities so you can narrow down which schools you'd like to be considered for. If you advance to the next round as a semi-finalist, we're going to ask you to let us know your top choice colleges or universities. If selected for this award, you will have the opportunity to attend one of the Posse partner institutions listed in this brochure as part of a team of students—a Posse—from cities across Virginia.

This booklet presents a brief profile of each Posse partner school. We hope you get excited about them; they are among the very best institutions of higher education in the United States. Take a look, but also research these schools further on your own.

Good luck and we'll be in touch soon,

Posse





## CONCEPT

Posse started in 1989 because of one student who said,

**“I NEVER WOULD HAVE DROPPED OUT OF COLLEGE IF I HAD MY POSSE WITH ME.”**

The Posse Foundation identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes. The Foundation extends to these students the opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams—Posses—of 10 students. The Foundation’s partner colleges and universities award Posse Scholars full-tuition leadership scholarships.

## THREE GOALS

1. To expand the pool from which top colleges and universities can recruit outstanding young leaders from diverse backgrounds.
2. To help these institutions build more interactive campus environments so they can become more welcoming for people from all backgrounds.
3. To ensure that Posse Scholars persist in their academic studies and graduate so they can take on leadership positions in the workforce.





**LOCATION:** Charlottesville, Virginia

**CLOSEST CITY:** Richmond, Virginia

**UNDERGRADUATE POPULATION:** 16,000

**WEBSITE:** [www.virginia.edu](http://www.virginia.edu)

The University of Virginia is distinctive among institutions of higher education. Founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1819, the University sustains the ideal of developing, through education, civic-minded, ethical leaders who are well-prepared to help shape the future of the nation and the world. The University is located in the vibrant and picturesque college town of Charlottesville, 100 miles from Washington, D.C. The undergraduate student body of 16,000 is richly diverse with students bringing different skills, backgrounds, and interests to a community that is welcoming and supportive. The University is made up of seven undergraduate schools (Arts & Sciences, Architecture, Education, Engineering, Leadership and Public Policy, Nursing and Commerce) and students learn from, and work with, a talented and engaged faculty who are committed to teaching and cutting edge research.

#### QUICK FACTS

- » UVA offers one of the best financial aid programs in the country and is one of only two public universities nationally that meets 100 percent of every student's financial need.
- » Students enjoy close relationships with their professors in a setting where 85 percent of classes have fewer than 50 students.
- » Experiential learning is central to the educational philosophy at UVA. Students combine classroom study with exciting research, service and field work opportunities.
- » UVA has the highest graduation rate for African-American students of any public university in the country for 19 years in a row, at 87 percent.
- » From Australia to Tibet to Morocco, from marine biology to engineering to architecture, UVA is committed to making education abroad accessible and affordable.





# WILLIAM & MARY

CHARTERED 1693

**LOCATION:** Williamsburg, Virginia

**CLOSEST CITY:** Richmond, Virginia

**UNDERGRADUATE POPULATION:** 6,256

**WEBSITE:** [www.wm.edu](http://www.wm.edu)

William & Mary, founded in 1693, is a premiere public research university widely recognized for its outstanding academics, beautiful campus, and vibrant community. As a “Public Ivy”—one of only eight in the nation—William & Mary offers a world-class education at an exceptional value.

At just under 6,300 undergraduates, William & Mary’s student body is not only one of the smartest in the world, but passionate about serving others. At W&M, professors are teachers, scholars and research mentors, the cornerstone of a thriving intellectual community that produces experienced, engaged, successful graduates.

## QUICK FACTS

- » 60% of declared majors are in STEM and computational fields. These students study in science lab facilities that are ranked top ten in the nation by *Princeton Review*.
- » William & Mary is ranked in the top five national universities for Best Undergraduate Teaching by *U.S. News & World Report*. 100% of courses are taught by faculty.
- » William & Mary has the highest study abroad participation rate among all public universities.
- » 80% of undergraduate students participate in faculty-mentored research during their time at William & Mary.
- » William & Mary is ranked in the top five national universities for Happiest Students by *Princeton Review*.

# THE POSSE FOUNDATION, INC.

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