



Huntingdon College Economic and Community Development Scholars Program

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

For rising high school seniors

July 14-15, 2025

Developed in partnership with:

- *The Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama*
- *The Huntingdon College Presidential Scholars Program*

"A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm."

~Henrik Ibsen

"For practitioners of community development, as in any field, joining a network of like-minded professionals is important for building skills and becoming aware of opportunities and resources."

~Ben Bernanke

Huntingdon College

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On the Huntingdon College Campus

The Huntingdon College Economic and Community Development Scholars Program, designed in partnership with and sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama, introduces young citizens who are poised to begin their professional journeys to the importance of economic and community development.

Each Alabama Chamber of Commerce is invited to nominate and sponsor one student who is a rising high school senior and who has achieved at least a 3.4 GPA during high school coursework to participate in the program. Nominations are due by May 1, 2025.

This program will:

- *Open students' minds to new career possibilities*
- *Provide hands-on and on-site training and observation*
- *Allow rising high school seniors to network with and learn from young and seasoned economic professionals*
- *Spark critical thinking through think-tanks and problem-solving simulations*
- *Start a flame of understanding regarding the importance of economic and community development*

Who Should Participate

Rising high school seniors with an interest in business, civic affairs, and public service will find this program intriguing and inspirational. Students should have earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 or above in their high school coursework.

Cost

The cost for meals, lodging on the Huntingdon College campus, materials, and entertainment for the program is \$150, paid by the sponsoring Chamber of Commerce. There is no cost to the student.

Chamber Sponsorship Selection Process

- **Step ONE: Chamber conducts internal selection to nominate a Scholar.** *A sample application for the program is enclosed.* The application should be given a deadline and information about where to return the form (Chamber address and Chamber contact).
 - Brochures to be used for student information about the program are enclosed. You may distribute the brochure with an application and the return information and deadline.
 - The deadline should facilitate selection of a student nominee by the May 1, 2025, deadline.
- **Step TWO: Communicate your Chamber's nominee by May 1, 2025,** using the ECDS Chamber Sponsorship Form. You may upload a scanned copy of the attached form and the student's essay.
- **Step THREE: Huntingdon College will notify the student of selection to the program by May 15, 2025.**
- **Step FOUR: Student will complete additional registration information; Huntingdon College will invoice the Chamber.**

Economic and Community Development Scholars Program Application Form

Please complete this form for consideration for selection to the Huntingdon College Economic and Community Development Scholars Program, July 14-15, 2025. **Submit this form to your Chamber of Commerce.** Rising Alabama high school seniors (current juniors in high school) who have earned at least a 3.4 GPA in high school coursework are eligible for consideration.

Name _____
First Middle Last Preferred Name or Nickname

Home address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Cell phone (_____) _____ Email _____

High school _____ City _____

Anticipated month and year of high school graduation _____

High school GPA _____ ACT or SAT composite score _____

In the space below, please list your club or organization involvement, leadership roles, community service, athletic team or music participation, and awards and recognition you have received.

Name(s) of the parent(s) or guardians with whom you live: _____

Please attach a brief essay (no more than one page, double-spaced) on the topic of what makes your home community unique.

For more information, contact your Chamber of Commerce, **Bria Rochelle Stephens**, (334) 398-5150, hc.brochelle@hawks.huntingdon.edu.

Huntingdon College Economic and Community Development Scholars Program

For more information, contact:

Bria Rochelle Stephens

Vice President for Strategic Academic Initiatives,

Director of the Presidential Scholars Program

(334) 398-5150

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