

 UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND

Quick Reference Guide to Scholarship Criteria

DONOR PREFERENCES IN GIFT DOCUMENTATION

While it is always the University's preference that a gift is as unrestricted as possible, there are times when a donor may wish to include criteria in the documentation that speaks directly to their desired impact. We must ensure that our gift agreements comply with applicable laws and regulations, and that they are in the best interest of both the donor and the University.

ALLOWABLE LANGUAGE IN GIFT DOCUMENTATION

The preferences outlined below meet the "legal, possible, practical" threshold and are allowable scholarship criteria at the University of Richmond. This list will be reviewed on an annual basis and updated as necessary. It is possible that other preferences outside of this pre-approved list may also be feasible; however, preferences not included on this list will need to be reviewed by some/all members of the Gift Acceptance Committee.

- **Student-athlete:** *Preference will be given for a student-athlete.*
- **First-generation student:** *Preference will be given for a student(s) who is the first generation in their family to attend college.*
- **Academic year:** *Preference will be given for a [first-year] student(s).*
- **State or Region:** *Preference will be given for a student(s) from [listed below]:*
 - Virginia
 - Mid-Atlantic region of the United States
 - Southeast region of the United States
 - Northeast region of the United States
 - Midwest region of the United States
 - West Coast of the United States
- **Academic Major:** *Preference will be given for a student(s) who has expressed an interest in majoring in [listed below]:*
 - The top ~10-15 majors at UR, per [IFX data](#), are fine. This list currently includes: *business, leadership studies, biology, PPEL, accounting, healthcare studies, political science, psychology, computer science.*
 - Small majors should generally be avoided, such as: *music, dance, theatre, religious studies, classics, or any of the foreign languages.*
- **Coordinate affiliation:** *Preference will be given for a [Westhampton College/Richmond College] student(s).*

LANGUAGE TO AVOID IN GIFT DOCUMENTATION

Certain criteria are restricted by law and/or University policy and should not be used. Accordingly, the following criteria will not be included in gift documentation as written below.

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| ▪ Race/ethnicity | ▪ Marital and/or parental status (<i>of the student</i>) |
| ▪ Religion | ▪ Age |
| ▪ Sexual Orientation | ▪ Family descendants |
| ▪ Gender (<i>Athletic scholarships are generally exempt</i>) | ▪ Right of nomination or selection (<i>committee or donor</i>) |

WHO CAN HELP?

If you have questions about anything in this guide, or the feasibility of a particular preference, please reach out to the Office of Donor Relations' primary contact for gift documentation:

Katie Bell, Senior Associate Director of Donor Relations
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804-289- 8949

Additionally, you can find more detailed information regarding our policy on criteria in the [Endowed Fund Toolkit](#).