In an effort to increase diversity among the undergraduate student population at Auburn University, the Provost has created, with the help of generous financial support from corporate partners, the Provost Leadership Undergraduate Scholarship (PLUS) Program. The PLUS program assists participants financially by providing them a $2,000 scholarship per academic year renewable up to three years, and supports them academically and socially to ensure that they succeed at Auburn University. This program has been developed to complement goals of the Auburn University Strategic Diversity Plan.

Eligibility Requirements
To be considered for this scholarship, applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

• Be a United States citizen or permanent resident
• Be an incoming freshman with a high school cumulative GPA of at least 3.25
• Have been admitted to Auburn University
• Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Application Guidelines
Applicants must submit the following:

• PLUS scholarship application form
• 300-400 word diversity essay on one of the following three topics:
  (a) The importance of having a diverse student body at a university
  (b) The benefits of diversity to America
  (c) What you will do at Auburn to promote and enhance diversity
• Recommendation letter from a teacher or counselor

Selection Criteria
The PLUS Scholarship Committee will give priority to qualified students that demonstrate the following:

• First generation college students
• Financial need according to federal guidelines
• Alabama residents
• Diverse background – as determined by goals of the Auburn University Strategic Diversity Plan

Maintaining Eligibility
PLUS participants must:

• Agree that by accepting a PLUS award, they are agreeing to participate in the PLUS Retention Program for two academic years
• Take a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester and maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA

Applications must be postmarked on or before Saturday, February 28, 2009.

Please return the application form, recommendation letter, and the diversity essay to:

The PLUS Program
Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs
103 M. White Smith Hall
Auburn University
Auburn, AL 36849-5168
Auburn University  
Plus Retention Program

The purpose of the PLUS Retention Program is to provide academic and social support to assist PLUS program participants as they pursue their undergraduate studies at Auburn University. The program will offer a learning community that provides peer mentoring, leadership opportunities and training, time management and study skills, tutoring and counseling services, and an opportunity to enroll together in a series of classes throughout the freshman and sophomore years.

The PLUS Retention Program works closely with campus, administrative offices, academic units, student organizations, and other retention programs to ensure that PLUS program participants succeed at Auburn University. The Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs is responsible for coordinating the program.

Structure of the Program

**Peer Mentoring:** Undergraduate students that are juniors or seniors with a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.0, or sophomores in the PLUS program will serve as peer mentors for PLUS program participants. PLUS program participants will meet their mentors at least three times a week.

**Leadership Training:** PLUS program participants will be required to join at least two multicultural organizations and attend their meetings regularly. They will also be required to attend leadership seminars.

**College Survival Skills:** Participants will attend workshops that provide necessary skills for students to be successful in college. These skills include time management and study skills.

**Study and Tutoring Sessions:** Participants will be required to participate in study and tutoring sessions in their colleges and/or the Student Success Center for at least four hours a week. These study and tutoring sessions are tracked by the PLUS coordinator.

**Counseling Services:** PLUS program participants will receive continuous counseling by the PLUS coordinator and other campus counseling services during their undergraduate training at Auburn University.

**PLUS Class Enrollment:** Participants will enroll together in cohorts of 10 to 15 students in a series of classes during their freshman and sophomore years.

**NOTE:** PLUS program participants that fail to fully participate in the program in a given semester will have their scholarship terminated at the end of the semester.