



VANGUARD SCHOLARS

Igniting Potential, Inspiring Futures

Vanguard Scholars is a free, comprehensive six-year program designed to empower high-achieving Black students in Canada by equipping them with the academic, professional, and leadership skills needed to thrive in selective universities and high-trajectory careers.

Benefits and Opportunities

- Six-year holistic support system
- Academic Enrichment, leadership development & university counselling
- On-campus university residential experience
- Competitive internships & mentorship
- \$1,500 stipend for both Summer Academies
- A laptop provided

BUILDING UNIVERSITY SUCCESS, CAREER PATHWAYS, AND ECONOMIC POWER.

YEAR 1

GRADE 11

YEAR 2

GRADE 12 TO UNIVERSITY

YEAR 3-5

2ND TO 5TH YEAR OF UNIVERSITY

YEAR 6

EARLY CAREER

Summer Academy 1

6-week residential program focusing on academic enrichment & leadership development

Summer Academy 2

Previous cohort returns. New cohort of Grade 11s come in

University Counselling + Transition

Personalized guidance with university & scholarship applications

Career preparation

Internship opportunities to build real-world experience

Mentorship + University Counselling

Ongoing personalized professional guidance & support in students' fields of interest

Graduation, career counselling & Alumni network

Community network, job opportunities, career support & professional networking.

Backed by Proven Results

Vanguard Scholars is modelled after the successful Thrive Scholars initiative in the U.S., which has supported thousands of high-achieving students on their path to academic and professional success.

92% Admitted to top colleges

99% College graduation rate

81% STEM persistence rate

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Who Should Apply?

- Self-identify as Black
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.7+ or 84%
- Demonstrate financial need
- School & community involvement
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Enrolled in Grade 11 at a high school in Canada

Application Checklist:

- ✓ Online application
- ✓ Two reference letters
- ✓ High school transcripts
- ✓ One essay & a short video

Application & Enrollment Timeline

January 31st, 2026
Deadline to Apply

Mid- to -late February
2026
Pretesting Online

Mid-March 2026
Interview Process

Mid-April 2026
Admission Decision

May 2026
On-boarding

Early July-Mid August
2026
Summer Academy at
University of Toronto

For more information or register for an info session:

- www.blacknorth.ca
- vanguard@blacknorth.ca



Northbridge
a FAIRFAX company



“Summer Academy changed my life. I had never heard of MIT until summer academy. I graduated in June 2025 with almost all A's thanks to Summer Academy. My classmates and I formed a company and we will launch our first satellite from Vandenburg Air Force Base in November 2025.”

- THRIVE SCHOLAR, 2025

“Thrive Scholars is so much more than just a college access and career development program. You have an entire support system guiding you through your college journey.”

**6-YEAR THRIVE PROGRAM
SCHOLAR,
UCLA, CLASS OF 2023**

**Start Your
Application
Today!**