

## MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

*Merit scholarships range from \$7,500 to \$15,000 annually and are awarded based on academic and co-curricular achievement, as well as character and citizenship. The maximum merit scholarship a student may receive per annum is \$15,000.*

### **Awards Requiring No Additional Procedures:**

**University and 1856** Awarded to students based on academic excellence, leadership and character. All applicants to St. Lawrence are considered on the basis of their application for admission.

### **Awards Requiring an Additional Essay:**

Please submit your essay by the relevant application deadline: Regular Decision-February 15; Early Decision-November 15 or January 15.

**Community Service** Awarded to students based on past and current participation in community service. Please submit a resume of your community service involvement and a 200-500 word essay responding to the following question: *“Of the community service projects in which you have been involved, which has had the most meaning to you and why?”*

**Presidential Diversity** Awarded to students of African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American, and Native American heritage. A 200-500 word supplemental essay is required, responding to the following question: *“Describe an experience you have had that has led you to value diversity.”*

**Vilas** Awarded to students interested in the field of business. A 200-500 word supplemental essay is required, responding to the following question: *“Imagine you are granted \$100,000 to invest in an existing business or to create your own. How would you utilize the funds?”* (All Vilas Scholarship essays – including those from Early Decision applicants - will be considered as a group in March. Finalists selected for this scholarship will be required to interview, all expenses paid, in New York City in March 2005.)

### **Awards Requiring Nomination from Participating High School:**

**Augsbury/North Country** Awarded to students in northern New York and southern Ontario. Students from participating school districts in these areas must be nominated by their high school guidance counselors in order to be considered.

## EARLY DECISION INFORMATION

### **Q. Are there advantages to applying Early Decision?**

A. If you have thoroughly researched your college options and are sure St. Lawrence is your first-choice college, applying Early Decision may allow you to complete the application process earlier in your senior year. The academic profile of students admitted Early Decision is very similar to that of students admitted Regular Decision, although the percentage of applicants offered admission Early Decision is higher.

### **Q. Is applying Early Decision at St. Lawrence a binding agreement?**

A. Yes. By applying Early Decision, you agree that you will enroll at St. Lawrence if admitted and you will withdraw all applications from other colleges.

### **Q. Will I be considered for merit scholarships?**

A. Yes. You will be considered for the University Scholarship and the 1856 Achievement Award on the basis of your admissions application. If you submit the required essay for the Community Service, Presidential Diversity or Vilas Scholarship by the appropriate Early Decision deadline, you will be considered for those awards as well.

### **Q. Will applying Early Decision affect my financial aid package?**

A. No. If you apply and are eligible for need-based financial aid, your financial aid package will be the same as it would be if you applied Regular Decision. In order to be considered for need-based financial aid, please request an Early Version Financial Aid Application (EVFAA) from the Financial Aid Office as soon as you decide to apply Early Decision or download it from our website at [http://web.stlawu.edu/admis/finapply\\_early.html](http://web.stlawu.edu/admis/finapply_early.html).

### **Q. Will I be able to compare my financial aid package with those from other colleges?**

A. No. Since you agree to withdraw all applications from other colleges if you are admitted to St. Lawrence, you will not have the opportunity to compare your financial aid package from St. Lawrence with offers from other schools. If this is something you and your family want to be able to do, Early Decision is not a good option for you.

### **Q. If I am not admitted Early Decision, will my application be reviewed again in the regular decision application pool?**

A. Students not admitted Early Decision may be denied admission or may have a decision on their application deferred until Regular Decision. If you are denied admission your application will receive no further consideration. If your application is deferred, it will be reviewed again in March.

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