# AS A SOAR SCHOLAR, I CAN EXPECT:



Advising on academic preparation for education after high school



Financial literacy training



Assistance completing college applications



Assistance obtaining financial aid, including help completing the FAFSA or VASA



Scholarship support of up to \$2,000 to apply toward post-secondary education



Support from an early commitment advisor and the SOAR Scholars community



Recognition as a SOAR Scholar

# THE SOAR SCHOLARS PLEDGE

- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA\* of 2.5
- 2 Meet with my early commitment advisor regularly
- Complete financial literacy training during high school
- Behave in a manner consistent with my school's Code of Student Conduct
- Attend school regularly without unexcused absences
- Participate in community service activities
- Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a Virginia Alternative State Aid application (VASA) during my senior year
- Apply to an eligible educational institution, including a 2- or 4-year college or university, technical school or registered apprenticeship program

## SOAR Scholars

EARLY COMMITMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



<sup>\*</sup> or comparable academic achievement as determined by SOAR Virginia

### HOW SOAR SCHOLARS WORKS



Students join SOAR Scholars in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade and work with an early commitment advisor during 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades\*.



Students in grades 10 and 11, who meet the pledge requirements, will receive \$500 in an Invest529<sup>sm</sup> account. Students in grade 12, who meet the pledge requirements, will receive \$1,000 in an Invest529 account.



SOAR scholarship funds can be applied toward qualified post-secondary education expenses and/or expenses required for participation in a registered apprenticeship program.

#### **INTERESTED?**

To enroll in SOAR Scholars, students must meet eligibility requirements including:

- Have a valid Social Security Number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number
- Be a Virginia resident and a student in grades 10–12, enrolled in a participating SOAR Scholars high school
- Agree to comply with the SOAR Scholars pledge, including the minimum GPA of 2.5 or higher at the time of enrollment
- Meet the family income threshold as determined by SOAR Virginia





## Visit Virginia529.com/SOAR for more information

<sup>\*</sup> Highland High School students may begin in the  $9^{\rm th}$  grade. Award amounts for  $9^{\rm th}$  and  $10^{\rm th}$  grades are \$250 for students beginning in  $9^{\rm th}$  grade.