SECOND READING BY BOARD

po5451.01

Vol. 35, No. 2 - Technical Corrections - July 2026 WISCONSIN ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

5451.01 - **WISCONSIN ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP**

Wisconsin's Academic Excellence Scholarship is a State-supported program, jointly administered by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB). The program offers scholarship recipients an exemption from specified tuition and fees for post-high school education at eligible higher education institutions in Wisconsin.

By the deadline set by the HEAB ~~February 25th of each school year,~~ the ~~School~~ Board will designate the appropriate number of senior(s) from the high school with the highest grade point average in all subjects as scholars eligible to receive an Academic Excellence Scholarship.

The following standards must be met to qualify for the Academic Excellence Scholarships. The student and alternates must:

A. be a resident of the United States who is either a U.S. citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

B. be a Wisconsin resident as defined in 36.27, Wis. Stats.;

C. have achieved senior status and have been in attendance for four (4) consecutive semesters, during their freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior year(s);

D. be selected based on the Grade Point Average (GPA) on the student's official transcript as of the last day of the semester which ended just prior to the deadline set by the HEAB ~~February 25th~~.

Beginning with courses taken in the 2025-2026 school year, weighted grades will be used to calculate GPA for the Academic Excellence Scholarhip. This change will not apply retoractively to prior coursework.

Students enrolled under full-time public school Open-Enrollment Program who qualify based on the standards identified above are eligible for the Academic Excellence

Scholarship in the school they actually attend.

The designation of scholar will be awarded to the qualifying student(s) with the highest weighted grade point average. The scholar's GPA shall be computed to as many places past the decimal point as necessary to determine a distinction between the scholars.

In the event of a tie involving the GPAs:

A. the first tie-breaker will be the scholar with the most laude points;

B. the second tie-breaker will be the scholar with the highest ACT composite score;

C. in the event there is still a tie, a random draw will determine the scholar.

Except for the limitation on the number of designated scholars, the faculty of the high school shall select the applicable number of seniors for designation as scholars and shall certify, in order of priority, any remaining seniors with the same grade point average as alternates for the scholars or, if there is no remaining senior with the same grade point average, any remaining seniors with the next highest grade point average, but not less than 3.800 or the equivalent, as alternates for the scholars.

T.C. 1/31/22

© Neola 20 26 ~~16~~

Legal
39.41, Wis. Stats.

Wis. Admin Code HEA 9