



Book	Policy Manual
Section	READY FOR 4-14-2026
Title	Copy of WISCONSIN ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP
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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 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 three (3) consecutive semesters during their junior and senior year(s);
- D. be selected based on the Grade Point Average (GPA) on the student's official transcript.

The grade point average (GPA) computation will be in accord with School Board Policy 5430 - Class Rank. In selecting the scholarship recipient(s) for the Academic Excellence Scholarship, unweighted grades for seven (7) semesters will be used to compute grade point averages.

Students enrolled under the Chapter 220 Program and 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 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 ACT composite score;

The scholar with the highest ACT composite score will be selected.

B. the second tie breaker will be the highest pre-junior level test score (Act Suite Assessment);

C. participation in co-curricular activities.

In the event there is still a tie, a coin flip will determine the scholar.

If a student is nominated for the AES scholarship and chooses to attend school out of state, they shall submit a written statement indicating that the student understands that by not enrolling in a Wisconsin school they are giving up the AES permanently and releasing it for the use of an alternate. The written release should be signed by the student and one (1) parent if the student is under eighteen (18) years of age. Should this occur, the School District of Tomahawk will notify the State of Wisconsin Higher Education Aids Board of the decision, and will identify the alternate candidate(s). The State of Wisconsin Higher Education Aids Board will notify the qualifying alternate that they will receive the scholarship.

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39.41 Wis. Stats

Last Modified by Coleen Frisch on March 3, 2026