

345.12 PROCEDURES FOR WISCONSIN TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship (TES) is a state-supported program administered by the Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB). The program offers scholarship recipients a partial exemption from specified tuition and fees for post high school education at eligible technical colleges in Wisconsin. This program is authorized under 2013 Wisconsin State Act 60.

These scholarships are for use beginning with the 2015-16 academic year. Each school district is entitled to a specific number of scholarships based on 9-12 enrollments. No student may receive both a Technical Excellence Scholarship and an Academic Excellence Scholarship. The high school principal is designated by the Board to select and submit nominations for Technical Excellence Scholarships to the HEAB in accordance with this policy.

Eligibility Criteria for Candidates

The TES program requires a scholarship recipient to be a resident of Wisconsin according to the residency standards of Wis. Stats. §36.27. A recipient must be a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence by the Federal Immigration and Naturalization Service. A scholarship recipient is also required to have registered with Selective Service.

In addition, an eligible candidate for a TES scholarship is a high school senior (a student reaches senior status upon completion of their junior year) meeting the following criteria.

1. In order to be eligible for nomination to a TES scholarship, a student must exhibit interest in and planning for a technical career.
 - a. Prior to September 1, 2017 a student's principal or counselor must affirm that the student has post-secondary plans related to a career in technical education.
 - b. Beginning on September 1, 2017 a student must have an academic and career plan leading to a career in technical education.
2. In addition, in order to be eligible for a TES scholarship, a student must also have completed at least one of the following eight eligibility items:
 - a. Be a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator, which is a high school student who has completed at least three (3) high school CTE courses in program area(s) leading to a degree or diploma in the student's chosen pathway.
 - i. A student may be enrolled in (rather than have completed) the third course at the time of their nomination for TES.
 - b. Participated in a Youth Apprenticeship Program under the supervision of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development.
 - c. Participated in a Technical High School Diploma program as certified by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
 - d. Participated in a Career and Technical Training pathway as defined by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
 - e. Participated in a Skills Standards Program offered by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
 - f. Completed (or be on track to complete) an industry-recognized certification program approved under Wis. Stats. 115.367(2).
 - g. Participated in a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) in Wisconsin: DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, or SkillsUSA.
 - h. Completed a technical training program for high school students if the program is offered by a UW System school, a Wisconsin Technical College System school, a tribal college in Wisconsin, or a private nonprofit college or university located in Wisconsin.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- i. Medical College of Wisconsin Summer Enrichment Programs
- ii. UW-Madison's Summer Science Institute at WIScience
- iii. Marquette University's K-12 Engineering Academies
- iv. MSOE summer programs for K-12 students

The program must be offered BY a Wisconsin college or university; programs held at these campuses but offered by others are not eligible.

Determining Eligible Students

Students who believe they are eligible must submit a "Student request for consideration for the Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship" by December 15th of their senior year (January 21st for the Class of 2015). Lincoln High School's grading/ranking scale includes non-weighted grades. All courses students take are included in the GPA except pass (P) grades which are not factored into GPA, but credit is earned for them. Foreign exchange program credits are transferred in as a pass (P) grade. Scholarship(s) will be awarded to the highest-ranking students after the completion of nine terms (seven for the Class of 2015) (grades 9-12) as of the last day of the term which ended just prior to February 15th. The State of Wisconsin determines the number of scholarships for which the school district is eligible each year.

Students transferring into the Wisconsin Rapids Public School District must legally attend Lincoln High School for at least four full terms (3 full terms for the Class of 2015) prior to February 15th of their senior year to qualify for this scholarship through the District. Courses taken through home based study and foreign study abroad will be recorded on the student's official high school transcript as credit only, not to be included in the GPA.

Ranking of Eligible Candidates

HEAB's recommended ranking system will be used to measure student qualification for the Technical Excellence Scholarship. This consists of ranking eligible students who submitted an application by December 15th (January 21st for the Class of 2015) according to a point system reflective of course work and technical education experience. Under the recommended point system:

1. One point will be given to a student for each credit earned in high school in CTE courses. (The definition of "CTE courses" is the definition approved by the board of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, P.L. 190-270 "Perkins IV," which is: a secondary-level course offered through the DPI-recognized program in areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources Education, Business and Information Technology Education, Family and Consumer Science Education, Health Science Education, Marketing Education, or Technology and Engineering Education; such courses must be taught by a CTE instructor licensed for that specific discipline, except that courses in Health Science Education may also be taught by a health education instructor and/or a science licensed instructor.)
2. One point will be given to a student for each year of activity in a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) in Wisconsin. For activity in multiple CTOS, one point will be given for each year of participation in each of the six CTOS. The District will determine the points awarded.
3. For the purpose of assigning a ranking among eligible candidates, credit hours in process at the time of nomination will be counted toward the number of credits the student has earned.
4. When students emerge from the point system with tied scores, the following process will be used:
 - a. CTE grades become the tie-breaker. Because some students may have the same credit-hours at the time of nomination, the ranking system then assigns rankings to "tied" students based on the grade point earned by eligible students in CTE courses (as defined above). The grades used for this purpose are only those grades earned in CTE courses, not a student's overall grade point.
 - b. If a tie still exists, the principal will appoint a committee who will make the selection based on the following in no particular order:

- i. Activity involvement in grades 9-12
- ii. Student's overall grade point average
- iii. Number of total credits in grades 9-12 completed by the student as of February 15th
- iv. Additional standardized assessments (eg. ACT, Accuplacer, etc.)
- v. Any other factors as determined by the committee

The committee will consist of the high school principal, counselor(s), and teacher(s).

Technical Education Scholar nominees will be designated for the program by February 25 of each year, beginning in 2016. Nominations for the first year of TES will be submitted to HEAB by March 23, 2015.

The District will submit as many alternate names to the HEAB as the school will award scholarships for under the TES allocation formula.

LEGAL REF: 2013 Wisconsin Act 60
 Wisc. Stat. §115.367(2)
 Wisc. Stat. §115.28(59)

CROSS REF.: 345.11 – Procedures for Academic Excellence Scholarships

APPROVED: January 12, 2015