

Policy

BOARD OF EDUCATION
HORTONVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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WISCONSIN ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP (Beginning with Graduation Class 2024)

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 or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence and a Wisconsin resident
- B. Have achieved senior status and have been in attendance for their junior and senior year(s)
- C. Must 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 February 25th. (for schools operating on a semester system)

The grade point average (GPA) computation will be in accord with Board Policy 5430 - Class Rank – Laude System. In selecting the scholarship recipient(s) for the Academic Excellence Scholarship, 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 a scholar will be awarded to the qualifying student(s) with the highest grade point average.

Tie Breaking Procedure

In case of ties, the determining factors established by the School Board shall be applied. They will apply in order until the tie is broken.

Breaking procedures use the following criteria for purposes of scholarship requirements, in order:

- The eligible students must show evidence of application to a participating Wisconsin institution by the beginning day of the eighth semester.
- If a tie still exists, highest Laude score at the end of seven (7) semesters.
- If a tie still exists, the student(s) with the highest composite ACT score available as of the beginning date of the semester will be the nominee(s).

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- If a tie still exists, the greatest number of Advanced Placement classes taken and passed will be used to determine the nominee(s).
- If a tie still exists, the two students with the greatest number of credits earned through seven semesters will be the nominee(s).
- If a tie still exists, tied students will be ranked according to the most school recognized sports, clubs or organizations they actively participated in through seven semesters of high school (a unit of participation means involvement for a complete season of an activity).
- If a tie still exists, the Board of Education President or his/her designee draws a name(s).

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.