

HIGHER EDUCATION ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP 461

The top academic student shall be determined by computing the highest cumulative GPA after the seventh semester. In the event of a tie in the GPA for the position of top student, the student to receive the State Academic Excellence Scholarship shall be determined by using the following sequential criteria:

Step One:

Students will be given an opportunity to withdraw their name if they plan to attend school out of state or if they do not plan to attend any post high school training institution.

Step Two

ACT scores will be the next criterion to be used. The student with the highest ACT score (on a scale of 136) will be determined the recipient. Scores from ACT tests taken up to June 30 of the junior year will be considered. Any ACT taken after June 30 of the junior year will not be considered.

Step Three:

If step two does not produce a recipient, the Superintendent will supervise a coin toss or drawing to determine the recipient.

2009 Senate Bill 407 passed May 12, 2010 now allows schools with an unweighted grading system to designate alternates. In past years, schools were not able to list alternates unless the students' GPA was exactly the same and the school used a district policy for determining ties. Schools are now allowed to list all students with a GPA of 3.8 or higher as alternates.

If the student with the highest GPA decides to forfeit the scholarship due to attending an out-of-state school or not pursue further education, they would still be identified as an Academic Excellence Scholar for that high school and receive the issued certificate from Wisconsin Higher Education Aids Board. The next alternate, based on GPA, who is attending either a Wisconsin public university, private university, or public technical college would be awarded the scholarship money.

Each of the students with GPAs 3.8 or higher would need to complete the Academic Excellence Scholar intent form (see Exhibit 461) to indicate their school of choice and provide necessary information. All students will be listed on the Wisconsin Higher Education Aids Board form.

In order to be eligible for consideration of the Academic Excellence Scholarship, the student must have attended Phillips High School as a full-time student both semesters of their junior and senior years.

Approved: 07/10/90

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