

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WAUZEKA-STEUBEN**

**WISCONSIN TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP (TES)**

Beginning in 2015, Technical Excellence Scholarships are to be awarded to Wisconsin high school seniors who have the highest demonstrated level of proficiency in technical education subjects. The number of scholarships each high school is eligible for is based on total student enrollment.

The new TES scholarship program is to begin awarding scholarships to seniors graduating from high school in the spring of 2015. The scholarships are for use beginning with the 2015-2016 academic year.

The scholarships are only for use at a Wisconsin Technical College within the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) located within the state. The value of the scholarship is up to \$2,250 per year, to be applied towards tuition. Half of the scholarship is funded by the state, while the other half is matched by the institution.

Eligibility for the TES scholarship does not exceed 6 semesters, or a total of three years. Semesters are defined as fall or spring semesters, not summer sessions or other shorter sessions.

In order to receive a TES scholarship, a student must be enrolled on a full-time basis by September 30th of the academic year following the academic year in which he or she was designated as a scholar, at a participating Wisconsin Technical College in the state. (Recipients of TES scholarships may NOT wait to claim the scholarship for one year after high school graduation, but after claiming the scholarship a student may take up to one year off from school and reclaim the scholarship upon their return to enrollment.)

No student may receive both a TES scholarship and an Academic Excellence Scholarship (AES), an existing program under HEAB that was a model for the TES program.

Nominees to the program are to be selected by each school board of a school district operating one or more high schools, and each governing body of a private high school or tribal high school.

The enabling legislation on the TES program (2013 Wisconsin Act 60) requires the school districts to designate scholars for the program by February 25 of each year.

TES scholarships are allocated to high schools under the same formula used for the Academic Excellence Scholarship (AES); schools awarding AES scholarships may award the same number of TES scholarships. TES program is provided in statute with a formula designating how many scholarships are available in each high school. The formula is based on student enrollment in the high school and is identical to the formula provided in current law for AES.

TES scholarship allotment by high school population (total enrollment) is as follows:

<u>HS enrollment</u>	<u>Number of AES scholarships per school</u>
1-79	10 scholarships statewide among all HS with enrollments below 80
80-499	1
500-999	2
1000-1499	3
1500-1999	4
2000-2499	5
2500+	6

**Ranking of Eligible Candidates:**

Act 60 requires that nomination for TES scholarships be made by school districts for the student(s) who has/have the highest level of proficiency in technical education subjects. Act 60 calls for schools to create a ranking system to measure student qualification for the TES scholarship.

**Ranking system for TES-eligible students**

The Wauzeka-Steuben School District has created a point system to rank eligible candidates within each high school and has sought approval for its ranking system from HEAB.

For purposes of ranking the qualified scholarship candidates and designating scholars and alternates, the District will use the following areas for consideration:

1. The student shall accrue points as follows for each 0.5 high school credit in either (1) a high school course that constitutes a Career and Technical Education (CTE) course; and/or (2) a course offered by, or in connection with, a Wisconsin Technical College in which the students are eligible to earn both high school and post-secondary credit and that the High School Principal determines is sufficiently connected to a defined CTE pathway (e.g., the course is not primarily considered to be a general math, English, science, social studies, or foreign language course):
  - 1.0 point           Grade of at least C- (but less than B-)
  - 1.5 points           Grade of at least B- (but less than A-)
  - 1.5 points           For each points-eligible 0.5 credit that a senior scholarship candidate is taking (i.e., the 0.5 credit is in progress, but not yet complete) during the semester in which the high school designates its scholars and alternates
  - 1.5 points           For each point-eligible 0.5 credit that a senior scholarship candidate has completed, but for which no transcript grade has been assigned (e.g., a course a transfer student took at a previous high school for which the District approved high school credit but did not assign a grade to include in the student's current GPA)
  - 2.0 points           Grade of at least A-
2. Student Participation for each year of activity in a Career and Technical Student Organization in Wisconsin ([http://cte.dpi.wi.gov/cte\\_ctso](http://cte.dpi.wi.gov/cte_ctso)).
3. Letter of recommendation submitted with student application.

For the purpose of assigning a ranking among eligible candidates, credit hours in process at the time of nomination should be counted toward the number of credits the student has earned.

When students emerge tied from the TES selection committee, CTE grades become the tie-breaker.

**Naming and Selection of Alternates**

On the TES nomination form, HEAB will ask schools to submit the names of as many alternates, as the school will award scholarships under the TES allocation formula.

**Responsibilities of District**

1. The District shall ensure the individual student:
  - a. has been enrolled in the School District of Wauzeka-Steuben for at least four (4) full semesters immediately prior to graduation to compete for the scholarship;
  - b. has acquired senior status; and
  - c. is eligible to compete for the scholarship (following the end of his/her seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) semester).
2. The District shall determine, and have in writing, a policy defining the grading system used in that high school, including whether it is weighted or unweighted, which subjects are included in the GPA on the official high school transcript, how pass-fail grades are incorporated into the GPA, how grades from study abroad or from alternative or home schools are incorporated into the GPA, and how to incorporate grades earned in another country by students with permanent resident status.
3. The CTE faculty of the school shall determine, and have in writing, a policy that describes the tie breaking procedures and criteria used to determine the scholars and alternates and to put them in rank order.

**Legal References:** 2013 Wisconsin Act 60; Wisconsin Statutes §§ Sections 39.415, 118.13, 118.51 (13); HEA9, PI 9.03 (1) Wisconsin Administrative Code

**Cross References:** Policies 345.11 High School Class Rank; 345.42 High School Grade Level Classification; 463 Rule Student Request for Consideration of the Wisconsin Technical Excellence Scholarship; 461 Wisconsin Academic Excellence Scholarship

**Adoption Date:** 1/19/2015

**Date Revised:**

**Date Reviewed:**