



STATE OF WASHINGTON

HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

917 Lakeridge Way • PO Box 43430 • Olympia, WA 98504-3430 • (360) 753-7800 • FAX (360) 753-7808 • www.hecb.wa.gov

Washington Scholars-Alternates of 2009 -- Q & A Sheet

Am I eligible to receive the award benefit?

As a Washington Scholars-Alternate, you are not initially eligible to receive the cash scholarship. You may become eligible to receive the grant if one of the original Scholars from your district relinquishes or otherwise forfeits the award within one year. The Higher Education Coordinating Board will notify you immediately, in writing, if an award becomes available for you.

What is the award benefit?

The award is a state-funded scholarship to help pay undergraduate educational expenses at the public and private colleges or universities in Washington State. A Scholar who chooses to attend a private college may receive the scholarship if the school agrees to match the state grant with institutional gift aid on a dollar-for-dollar basis. Most private schools do provide matching grants during the regular academic year, fall through spring

Because the scholarship may be used toward any legitimate educational expense such as tuition, books and supplies, room and board, etc. It is the Scholar's responsibility to pay tuition or make arrangement with the school for payment of tuition. The public colleges may deposit the grant directly into the student account, however, private schools must disburse the grant directly to the Scholar.

Please note: Scholars pursuing a degree in theology receive an honorary recognition only and are not eligible for the state grant.

If I become eligible for the grant, what is the dollar value of the award?

While the intent of the award is to mirror the cost of resident, undergraduate tuition and services & activities fees at Washington public colleges and universities, the grant value is subject to annual appropriations by the Legislature and may be prorated in some circumstances. Grant values are re-evaluated annually.

Occasionally, adjustments to the grant amount may be made during an academic year as funding dictates. The maximum grant payable will not exceed the Scholar's actual tuition charges. "Overload" credits are not included.

Examples of maximum grants payable to a Scholar enrolled full-time for this academic year (2008-09) are:

- ☛ \$6,574 - \$6,720 at the public research institutions (UW and WSU);
- ☛ \$6,720 at private colleges and universities (i.e., Gonzaga, PLU, UPS, etc.);
- ☛ \$4,701-\$4,843 at the public comprehensive colleges (CWU, EWU, TESC, and WWU); and

- ☛ \$2,730 at the public community and technical colleges (i.e., Pierce College, Lake Washington Technical College, etc).

The actual grants paid for the 2009-10 academic year may be greater or lesser than these amounts.

How long are recipients able to receive the grant?

An intact award provides up to eight semesters or 12 academic quarters of grants for undergraduate study, subject to authorization by the Legislature. Use of the award is measured solely on the number of academic terms the Scholar receives a grant, regardless of the amount paid or whether the student attended full- or part-time. With the exception of the first year, grants may be issued for non-consecutive terms of study. Full-time enrollment provides a higher grant value but is not required.

Alternates assume eligibility for an award relinquished by the original recipient. Most relinquished awards are intact, however, a reduced benefit is possible if the original Scholar received a grant for one or more academic terms before forfeiting the award.

What are my responsibilities at this time?

- ☛ Fully complete and return the “Preliminary Response Form” to the address noted at the end of this page. The response form may be viewed and printed from the HECB Web site at <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/Paying/waaidprgm/wsp.asp> and clicking on “For 2009 WA Scholars-Alternates.” You cannot submit the form online. You must mail a printed response to the HECB.
- ☛ Notify the Board of any changes to name, permanent address, or e-mail address during the next twelve months. Failure to do so may impact the Board’s ability to contact you in the event that an award becomes available for you within the next year.

If you have further questions, please contact:

Washington Scholars Program
Higher Education Coordinating Board
PO Box 43430
Olympia, WA 98504-3430

Direct: 360.753.7843
Fax: 360.704.6243 or 360.753.7808
E-mail: wascholars@hecb.wa.gov