

**MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Policy and Procedures Manual**

SUBJECT: STUDENT AFFAIRS

Policy 501.1 - High school honor scholarships

Montana University System Achievement Award

November 18, 1999; Issued December 10, 1999Board policy:

1. The Board of Regents of Higher Education will award ~~High School Honor Scholarships~~ **Montana University System Achievement Awards** annually in accordance with the following procedures.
2. The ~~scholarships~~ **awards** may be utilized at any campus of the Montana University System or Dawson, Flathead Valley, and Miles community colleges as a waiver of registration ~~fee~~ and ~~incidental fees~~ **tuition**, provided ~~satisfactory academic progress is maintained.~~ **the student maintains a 3.25 GPA in the sophomore, junior and senior years and the student completes at least 30 credit hours the freshman year, 60 credit hours the sophomore years, and 90 credit hours the junior year. The maximum number of semesters the scholarship may be received is 8 semesters, including the first semester, depending on funds available. If the student is not able to obtain the required credits due to circumstances beyond his/her control, the student may appeal to the financial aid office at the educational institution.**

Procedures:

1. ~~High School Honor Scholarship~~ **Montana University System Achievement Award**. One ~~scholarship~~ **award** may be awarded ~~may be given~~ to a member of any graduating class having 25 or fewer graduates. An additional ~~scholarship~~ **award** may be awarded ~~given~~ for each additional 25 graduates or major fraction thereof. In cases where a school has ten or fewer graduates and students in the top 25 percent decline the ~~scholarship~~ **award**, the school may ~~give the~~ award a ~~scholarship~~ to the next eligible student with a grade point average of 3.0 ~~5~~ or higher.
 - a. The high school principal must certify to the Commissioner of Higher Education that the prospective recipient is a graduate of an ~~accredited~~ high school of ~~accredited by~~ the state **Board of Public Education** and has been enrolled in an ~~eligible~~ accredited high school for at least three years prior to graduation, ranks within the highest one-fourth of his or her class in scholarship, has a minimum grade point average of 3.0 ~~5~~, has met college preparatory requirements (see [Section 301.7](#)), and is the highest in scholarship of those members of the graduating class desiring to attend a campus of the Montana University System.
 - a. If the recipient of a ~~High School Honor Scholarship~~ **Montana University System Achievement Award** decides not to enroll at a campus of the Montana University System or Dawson, Flathead Valley, and Miles community colleges, the student should relinquish the ~~scholarship~~ **award** at once. In such cases where the ~~scholarship~~ **award** is relinquished prior to ~~December 31~~ **June 30** of the award year, the high school principal may certify the next ranking eligible member of the same graduating class, but such person will be subject to the same restrictions as the original holder of the ~~scholarship~~ **award**.
 - 1) **If there is a tie between top ranking students, the principal shall use the following process to break the tie:**
 - a) **If the GPA for the students is exactly the same, the results of the students' ACT composite test score will be used.**
 - b) **If the students did not take the ACT test, the results of the SAT test will be used.**
 - c) **If the students took both, or one student took the ACT and another the SAT, a comparability chart will be used, with the ACT test score prevailing.**
 - d) **If the test scores are the same, the number of honors classes the students have completed will be used, with the student scoring the highest points in GPA and numbers of honors classes prevailing.**
 - c. A recipient must utilize the ~~scholarship~~ **award** within 9 months after high school graduation.
 - d. The computation of actual grade point averages and the size of the graduating class shall be as of the end of the ~~7th~~ **6th** semester of high school or, in the case of a student graduating in three years, at the end of the 5th semester of high school. ~~Weighted grade point averages may be used to break a tie.~~ The student has until the date of high school graduation to meet the Montana University System college preparatory requirements (see [Section 301.7](#)). **However, to remain eligible the student must maintain a 3.5 or higher GPA through the 7th semester (the 6th semester in the case of a student graduating early).**
 - e. The ~~scholarships~~ **awards** shall specify the terms of the award and which fees are covered **shall be determined by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education in conjunction with the Presidents of the Montana University System.**

^[1] See Section [940.13](#) of the Policy and Procedures Manual concerning administration of fee waivers.

History: Item 5-006-R0774, Policy regarding Fee Waivers, Montana University System, amended June 7, 1976 (rescinded); Item 18-006-R1077, Honor Scholarships, Montana University System, October 28, 1977, December 15, 1989, November 20, 1997, May 21, 1998, and November 18, 1999 (Item [104-103-R0999](#)).

MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Policy and Procedures Manual

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
Policy 940.13 - Fee waivers

Effective November 16, 2001; Issued November 27, 2001

Section 5 under Procedures

5. The Board of Regents will grant the following waivers to be used at campuses of the Montana University System subject to specified conditions:

a. ~~High School Honor Scholarships~~ Montana University System Achievement Award. Registration fee and incidental fees tuition will be waived at any Montana University System campus or Dawson, Flathead Valley, and Miles community colleges for a recipient of a ~~High School Honor Scholarship~~.^[1] Montana University System Achievement Award. The scholarship award must be utilized within nine months after high school graduation. The waiver will be valid through the completion of the first academic year (2 semesters) of enrollment, recipient's program of study, not to exceed 8 semesters, exclusive of any credit earned prior to high school graduation. Eligibility will continue ~~for no more than three years after the date of issuance of the scholarship provided satisfactory academic progress~~ a 3.25 GPA is maintained as indicated in Section 3, "Continued eligibility for fee waiver and the student completes at least a cumulative of 30 credit hours the freshman year, 60 credit hours the sophomore year and 90 credit hours the junior year."

b. Community College Honor Scholarships. Registration and incidental fees will be waived at any Montana University System campus for a recipient of a Community College Honor Scholarship.^[2] The holder of the scholarship must enter the Montana University System within nine months after receiving the associate degree from the college. The waiver will be valid through the completion of the first academic year (2 semesters) of enrollment, exclusive of any credits earned prior to high school graduation or community college graduation. ~~Eligibility will continue for no more than three years after the date of issuance of the scholarship provided satisfactory academic progress is maintained in accordance with Section 3, "Continued eligibility for fee waiver."~~

c. Honor Scholarship for National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists. ~~Incidental Tuition~~ and registration fees shall be waived for National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists from Montana. This scholarship (fee waiver) will be valid through the first academic year (2 semesters) of enrollment exclusive of any credits earned prior to high school graduation. The holder of the scholarship must enter one of the Montana University System campuses within nine months after high school graduation. A satisfactory standard of scholarship must be maintained as prescribed in Section 3, "Continued eligibility for fee waiver." The scholarship is not transferable to another person and becomes void three years from the date of issue.^[3]

Definitions:

1. G.P.A. means Grade Point Average.
2. FTE means full-time equivalent.

History:

Item 5-006-R0774, Policy Regarding Fee Waivers, Montana University System, as amended June 7, 1976 (Rescinded); Item 18-005-R1077, October 28, 1977, as revised January 16, 1978, April 11, 1978, January 21, 1983, January 30, 1984, November 4, 1988, June 21, 1989, April 26, 1990, July 31, 1990, November 9, 1990, March 22, 1991, July 30, 1992, November 11, 1993, July 7, 1994, November 20, 1997, May 21, 1998, November 18, 1999 (Item **104-103-R0999**), and November 16, 2001 ([ITEM 113-109-R1101](#))

^[1] See Section 501.1, ~~High School Honor Scholarship~~. Montana University System Achievement Award

^[2] See Section 501.2, Community College Honor Scholarship.