

ITEM 118-103-R0303 ATTACHMENT 1

MONTANA BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Policy and Procedures Manual

PAGE: 501.1 (1 of 1)

SUBJECT: STUDENT AFFAIRS

Effective: July 1, 2003

Section: 501.1

Montana University System
Honor Scholarships

Issued: February 26, 2003

Approved:

A. Board policy:

The Board of Regents of Higher Education will award Montana University System Honor Scholarships annually.

1. The scholarships, ~~valued at a fixed amount and consisting of a waiver of tuition, registration fee and a cash stipend,~~ may be utilized at any campus of the Montana University System or Dawson, Flathead Valley, and Miles community colleges (hereinafter referred to as eligible campus) as a waiver of registration fee and tuition, provided ~~satisfactory academic progress is maintained.~~ the provisions of A.2. are met. ~~The fixed amount will be determined by September of the academic year in which the scholarship is awarded.~~

2. The honors scholarship is renewable annually provided the student maintains a 3.4 GPA and demonstrates progress toward a degree by completing at least 30 credit hours after two semesters, 60 credit hours after four semesters, and 90 credit hours after six semesters. If the student is not able to obtain the credits or GPA required for progress toward a degree due to circumstances beyond his/her control, the student may appeal to the financial aid office at the educational institution.

3. The scholarship may be received a maximum of 8 semesters.

B. Procedures:

1. Montana University System Honor Scholarship. One scholarship may be awarded to a member of any graduating class having 50 or fewer graduates. An additional scholarship may be awarded for each additional 50 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, the school may award a scholarship to the next eligible student with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

2. The high school principal, or designee, must certify to the Commissioner of Higher Education that the prospective recipient is a graduate of a high school 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 3.5, 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 an eligible campus ~~of the Montana University System.~~

3. The eligible high school students must apply for the scholarship. Before the student can submit an application, the student must apply to and be accepted by one of the eligible campuses. The student must then complete a scholarship application to be considered for the scholarship and submit it to the designated high school counselor, along with a copy of his/her the acceptance letter from ~~one of the eligible campus units of the Montana University System, or Dawson, Flathead Valley or Miles community college.~~ The completed scholarship application must be submitted to the high school counselor (designated by the high school principal) by ~~December 15th~~ January 31st of the award year ~~for the student to be considered for the scholarship.~~ Any eligible student who does not submit the required scholarship application and acceptance letter by the application deadline will be deemed to have relinquished the scholarship.

4. If the recipient of a Montana University System Honor Scholarship decides not to ~~enroll at~~ attend an

⁴~~See Section 940.13 of the Policy and Procedures Manual concerning administration of fee waivers.~~

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~~eligible campus of the Montana University System or Dawson, Flathead Valley, and Miles community colleges,~~
the student should relinquish the scholarship at once. In such cases where the scholarship is relinquished prior to ~~June 30th~~ May 15th of the award year, the high school principal or designee 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.

5. If there is a tie between top ranking students, the principal, or designee, shall use the following process to break the tie:

i. If the GPA for the students is exactly the same, the results of the students' ACT composite test score taken before November 31st of the award year will be used.

ii. If the students did not take the ACT test, the results of the SAT test taken before November 31st of the award year will be used.

iii. If the students took both, or one student took the ACT and the other the SAT, a comparability chart will be used, with the ACT highest test score based on the comparability chart prevailing.

iv. 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.

6. A recipient must utilize the scholarship within 9 months after high school graduation.

7. The computation of actual grade point averages and the size of the graduating class shall be as of the end of the 6th semester of high school or, in the case of a student graduating in three years, at the end of the 4⁵th semester of high school. 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 5⁶th semester in the case of a student graduating early).

~~8. 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 and the three community colleges.~~

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, November 18, 1999 (Item 104-103-R0999), January 18, 2002 ([ITEM 114-102-R0102](#)) and May 24, 2002 (Item [114-101-R0302](#)).