

# **UW REGULATION 8-253**

## **Superior Student in Education Scholarship Program**

### **1. PURPOSE.**

To establish a policy for administration of the Superior Student in Education Scholarship program authorized by Wyoming Statutes and the Board of Trustees, and to encourage students to pursue teaching careers in Wyoming.

### **2. GENERAL INFORMATION.**

The Superior Student in Education Scholarship Program was created by Wyoming Statutes 21-17-114, which authorized the Board of Trustees of the University of Wyoming to establish and promulgate the rules for a scholarship fund to encourage Wyoming students demonstrating superior academic achievement to pursue careers in teaching.

### **3. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.**

- a. Each year the Board of Trustees (or designee) may award Scholarships to sixteen (16) Wyoming high school graduates of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) each semester at the University or any Wyoming community college, who major in a teacher preparation program.
- b. No student shall be awarded a Scholarship under this program to attend more than ten (10) semesters of which no more than five (5) semesters shall be at a community college.
- c. The Scholarship shall be in addition to any Hathaway merit scholarship awarded to the student.

### **4. DEFINITIONS.**

- a. "College" means the University of Wyoming's College of Education
- b. "Program" means the Superior Student in Education Scholarship Program.
- c. "Scholarship" means the Superior Student in Education Scholarship authorized by Wyoming Statutes 21-17-114 as amended.
- d. "Student" means an individual recipient of a Scholarship under this Program.
- e. "Teacher preparation program" means a University of Wyoming College of Education Teacher Education Program, a teacher preparation program in another University of Wyoming college approved by the College, or a Wyoming

community college curriculum or set of courses which the College will accept for transfer into its teacher preparation program.

## **5. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS.**

- a. Selection criteria are:
  - i. The applicant or his/her parent or lawful guardian must be a resident of Wyoming and have been a resident for at least five years;
  - ii. The applicant must document a high school GPA of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale or a minimum university/community college GPA of 3.25 on a 4.0 scale;
  - iii. The applicant must achieve a minimum composite score of 25 on the ACT or a minimum score of 1120 on the SAT (verbal + math);
  - iv. The applicant must be a Wyoming high school graduate.
- b. Other factors considered by the selection committee include courses completed, participation in extracurricular activities, and the student's responses to prepared questions. In an effort to encourage diversity in the field of education, special consideration will be given to applicants representing diverse backgrounds.

## **6. APPLICATION PROCESS.**

Applications for the Superior Student in Education Scholarship are accepted annually and must be received by the last Friday in January. Application forms and instructions are distributed by the Office of Teacher Education in the College of Education.

Each year, all Wyoming high schools and community colleges will be notified by the College of the availability and deadlines for application.

## **7. SELECTION PROCESS.**

- a. Scholarship recipients are selected by a committee of the College faculty named by the Dean of the College.
- b. Scholarships will be made pursuant to criteria set forth in Section 5, regardless of an applicant's intended teaching specialty.

## **8. ENTRY TO THE PROGRAM AFTER STARTING COLLEGE.**

- a. A student transferring to the University from a community college will be eligible to apply for a Scholarship if he/she enters into a teacher preparation program.
- b. A student currently enrolled at the university will be eligible to apply for a Scholarship if he/she enrolls in a teacher preparation program.

## **9. OBLIGATIONS OF STUDENT WHILE IN COLLEGE.**

- a. The student must advise the College within fifteen (15) days of:
  - i. Any action or circumstance that causes the student to discontinue pursuing a teaching career; or
  - ii. Receiving a grade point average that is below the minimum stated in Paragraph d. of this section and any circumstances related thereto.
- b. The student must enroll and remain enrolled as a full-time student in a teacher preparation program at the University or a Wyoming community college.
- c. The student must complete all required University forms and documents associated with this Program.
- d. The student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.75 overall. Failure to maintain the required cumulative GPA is grounds for denial of a Scholarship for a succeeding term, but not permanently so long as the student remains a full-time student enrolled in a teacher preparation program. Any temporary withdrawal of the Scholarship is counted as a semester of use. The student, if enrolled, is responsible for paying all charges assessed by the institution during the temporary Scholarship withdrawal period. A student who does not fulfill all requirements may be granted a probationary semester upon successful appeal to the College.
- e. The Student must be enrolled in a teacher preparation program leading to a bachelor's degree.

## **10. UNIVERISTY OBLIGATIONS.**

- a. The University shall disburse Scholarship funds to the student for each semester of the year for which the selected student is eligible under these rules.
- b. Each semester, the College will notify the Office of Student Financial Aid in writing of the name and Social Security number of each student who has been awarded a Scholarship for that semester. The Office of Student Financial Aid will take all necessary actions to cause the Scholarship funds to be credited to the student's account at UW or to reimburse the Wyoming community college for Scholarship funds advanced to the student by the community college.

## **11. TREATMENT OF EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES.**

- a. A student may defer using the Scholarship for a semester or more while remaining enrolled, with written notification to the College. This permits the student to select

which ten (10) semesters to use the Scholarship. When a student chooses not to use his/her Scholarship for a given semester but does choose to enroll in college, he/she must continue to maintain the minimum GPA to remain eligible to use his/her Scholarship for future terms.

- b. Students who interrupt their teacher preparation program must receive written approval in advance from the College if they wish to continue in the Scholarship Program upon their return to the teacher preparation program.

## **12. APPEAL OF DECISIONS.**

Decisions of the College or the Office of Student Financial Aid may be appealed using the appeals procedures of the appropriate entity.

Source:

University Regulation 253, Revision 3; adopted 7/17/08 Board of Trustees meeting