



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](http://www.hecb.wa.gov)

# *Washington Scholars of 2011 – Recognition Award Q & A Sheet*

### *Am I eligible to receive the award benefit?*

Not at this time. Although three Washington Scholars and one Alternate have received recognition in each legislative district, there is a strong probability that scholarships will not be funded in the 2011-13 state biennial budget for Washington Scholars named from the graduating class of 2011 due to severe economic conditions affecting all state expenditures. For this reason, we recommend that you pursue your educational plans without consideration of a monetary benefit through this award.

If circumstances change and funding is made available to provide a scholarship for you as part of the final 2011-13 state biennial budget, the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) will notify you immediately, in writing. We believe that the Washington Scholars program provides important recognition for some of our state's most exemplary high school students even when budgetary constraints preclude financial awards. We are honored to have the opportunity to work with you and to extend congratulations on behalf of the leaders of this state.

### *What must I do at this time?*

- ☛ Submit the on-line “Washington Scholars Recognition Award Response Form” available on the SurveyMonkey site at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Y7W6T9H>, **by the deadline date specified in your award letter.**
- ☛ Contact the HECB to report any changes to your name, permanent address, or e-mail address. Failure to do so may impact the HECB's ability to contact you in the event that a scholarship becomes available for you in the future.

### *What is the award benefit?*

If you become eligible for the scholarship and are offered the monetary benefit, the benefit is a state-funded grant to help pay undergraduate educational expenses at the public and private colleges or universities in the state of Washington. Eligible Scholars who choose 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, and so on, Scholars are responsible for payment of tuition or to make arrangements with the school for payment of tuition. The public colleges may deposit the grant directly into the student's account; private schools must disburse the grant directly to the Scholar.

**Please note:** Scholars pursuing a degree in theology receive honorary recognition only and are not eligible for the 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. On occasion, 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.

The maximum grant to a Scholar enrolled full-time for the current academic year (2010-11) is payable at 90% of public college tuition, not to exceed:

- ☛ \$7,626 - \$7,733 at the public research institutions (UW and WSU);
- ☛ \$7,733 at private colleges and universities (i.e., Gonzaga, PLU, UPS, etc.);
- ☛ \$5,457 - \$5,581 at the public comprehensive colleges (CWU, EWU, TESC, and WWU); and
- ☛ \$2,822 at the public community and technical colleges (i.e., Pierce College, Lake Washington Technical College, etc).

***The actual grants paid for the 2011-12 academic year may be greater or lesser than these amounts.***

### ***How long are eligible recipients able to receive the grant?***

If offered the scholarship, Scholars originally provided with "recognition only" awards may receive up to twelve academic quarters, or eight semesters, of monetary benefit for undergraduate coursework, subject to authorization and funding by the Legislature.

Use of the award is measured solely on the number of academic terms the Scholar receives the scholarship, 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. After the first year, eligibility is contingent upon the Scholar maintaining a minimum 3.30 cumulative GPA.

Full-time enrollment is not required at public institutions but provides a higher grant value than enrollment at less than full-time. Private colleges may require full-time enrollment for the Scholar to meet institutional gift aid criteria (i.e., used for the dollar-for-dollar match to the state grant).

### ***If you have additional 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](mailto:wascholars@hecb.wa.gov)