

DISCUSSION/ACTION
February 14, 2014

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD

BOARD REPORT #14-11

2014-15 WHEG - WTCS PROGRAM FORMULA



January 9, 2014

Mr. John Reinemann
Executive Secretary
Higher Educational Aids Board
131 West Wilson Street, Suite 902
P.O. Box 7885
Madison WI 53707-7885

Dear Executive Secretary Reinemann:

I am submitting to you the Wisconsin Technical College System's (WTCS) recommendation for the 2014-2015 Wisconsin Higher Education Grant (WHEG) formula. The formula was developed with the input of technical college financial aid administrators and technical assistance from HEAB staff.

2014-2015 WTCS WHEG FORMULA

Single Formula— Independent/Dependent Students

Student Budget	\$9,270
Award Percentage	11.70%
Maximum Award	\$1,084
Minimum Award	\$500
EFC Range	\$0-\$4,996

Should additional funds become available, I would request the opportunity to modify this recommendation.

For 2014-2015, we recommend the same student budget used for the WHEG formula. We recommend the maximum (\$1,084) and minimum (\$500) awards for the neediest students. This is necessary to address the high unmet financial need of technical college students, which continues to be higher than for students in other Wisconsin higher education sectors. Without additional FY2015 WTCS WHEG funds, we anticipate the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) placing W/Z Codes on our students in April 2014, which is the earliest date in WTCS history. At the present level of WHEG funds, we still anticipate that up to 50 percent of eligible WTCS students would not receive WHEG funds in FY2015, with the same or higher number of student financial aid applicants.

I would also like to make you aware of the WTCS WHEG goals that were developed with the technical college financial aid directors. These goals reflect a level of support for the WTCS WHEG program that would allow us to reasonably meet the needs of technical college students.

- Serve the same or a greater number of technical college students
- Continue to serve technical college students with a high financial need



Morna K. Foy, President
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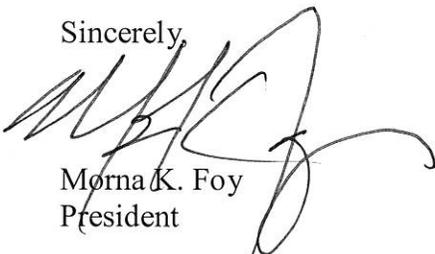
January 9, 2014
Mr. Reinemann
Page 2

- Increase the maximum award amount to at least \$1,850 in order to meet at least 20 percent of a student's calculated financial need
- Have the ability to make awards in the second semester for January starters, in recognition of the non-traditional enrollment patterns of many technical college students
- Tie the WTCS WHEG allocation to WTCS tuition levels over the past three years, in the same way that statute links the University of Wisconsin's WHEG allocation to tuition
- Fully expend the WTCS's WHEG allocation each year
- Maintain student eligibility requirements at six credits and Wisconsin residency, the same as for University of Wisconsin students
- Keep one WHEG formula that applies to both dependent and independent students
- Continue to use the federal methodology to calculate student financial need

While many of these goals are not achievable under the current WHEG appropriation level, they set the direction in which we must work to offer adequate financial aid support to our technical college students. I appreciate the Higher Education Aids Board's efforts to increase the appropriation for the WTCS WHEG, and I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future to secure a better level of support for our students.

Thank you for your assistance in providing vital information for developing our recommendation. We are pleased to offer this recommendation for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Morna K. Foy', written over a white background.

Morna K. Foy
President

**PROPOSED 2014-2015 FORMULA
WISCONSIN HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM**

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Recommendation of the Wisconsin Technical College System President Morna Foy:

$(\$9,270 - \text{EFC}) \times 11.70\% = \text{Award}$

$(\text{Student Budget} - \text{Expected Family Contribution}) \times \text{Student Award Percentage} = \text{Award}$

Maximum Award: \$1,084 Minimum Award: \$500

(See attached letter.)

Other Information

2014-2015 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2013-2014 Appropriation: \$20,797,900

2012-2013 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2011-2012 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2010-2011 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2009-2010 Appropriation: \$18,162,200

Current Formula:

$(\$9,270 - \text{EFC}) \times 11.70\% = \text{Award}$

$(\text{Student Budget} - \text{Expected Family Contribution}) \times \text{Student Award Percentage} = \text{Award}$

Maximum Award: \$1,084 Minimum Award: \$500

Current Year Spending: All of the 2013-2014 funds will be spent. Awards were suspended May 16, 2013.