



# State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board

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## GOVERNOR'S DAIRY SCHOLARSHIP (GDS)

**May 3, 2018**

Beginning in fall 2018, Governor's Dairy Scholarships (GDS awards) are to be awarded to Wisconsin students who have demonstrated an involvement in the state's dairy industry and who intend to continue in or return to dairying after a period of vocational study in dairy science and dairy issues which the GDS award will support.

The GDS program is to begin awarding scholarships for use in the fall of 2018, including studies over the 2018-19 academic year. The scholarships are for use beginning with the 2018-19 academic year.

GDS awards are open to prospective students at any age and at any point in a dairying career. The awards are meant for use in obtaining vocational, applied training in dairy production, dairy industry development, and dairy promotion. Degrees, diplomas, certificates, or other credentials that can be completed in two years or less are acceptable courses of study; four-year bachelor's degrees are not eligible for funding under the program. The awards may be used only at

- A Wisconsin Technical College within the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS)
- A campus of the University of Wisconsin System having a dairy science program or a dairy learning center (At the time of this writing the eligible campuses include only UW-Madison, UW-River Falls, and UW-Platteville)

GDS awards may be used to support enrollment in the Farm and Industry Short Course (FISC) at UW-Madison.

The value of the scholarship is up to \$2,500 per year, to be applied towards tuition.

Awards are for vocational, applied training in dairy production, dairy development, and dairy promotion. Students pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Dairy Science may not apply the GDS award to their degree studies.

GDS awards must be applied for through the State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB). HEAB has a standard application form. Applications may be filed each year beginning May 1 and should be applied for by June 1 for applicants to receive consideration for that fall's academic year. HEAB may also accept applications after June 1 dependent on the availability of funds to be awarded.

### Eligibility criteria for candidates:

To be eligible for a GDS award, applicants must meet three eligibility requirements. **The first requirement (Basic eligibility) is multi-part; the second and third requirements offer multiple options for eligibility.**

1. **Basic eligibility:** Like most financial aid programs offered through HEAB, the GDS program requires an award recipient be a resident of Wisconsin according to the residency standards of s. 36.27, Wis Stats. A recipient must be a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence

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by the Federal Immigration and Naturalization Service. A scholarship recipient is also required to have registered with Selective Service (if required).

HEAB **recommends** that applicants for the GDS award complete a FAFSA, the Free Application for Student Aid, promulgated by the US Department of Education. If a FAFSA is completed, FAFSA submissions should be completed by June 1 of the year an applicant applies.

2. **Past or current dairy eligibility:** In addition to the basic eligibility criteria above, applicants for a GDS award must meet one of the following criteria centering on their involvement in the dairy industry:
  - A. Operate (or have operated) a dairy farm in Wisconsin
  - B. Are employed by (or have been employed on) a dairy farm in Wisconsin
  - C. Have been the dependent of an operator of a dairy farm (have grown up on a dairy farm) in Wisconsin
  - D. Be employed by a dairy products processor in Wisconsin
  - E. Be employed in development or promotion of the dairy industry in Wisconsin
  - F. Be a student of dairying in Wisconsin, defined as one or more of the following:
    - i. Be a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator in a Wisconsin high school, in a CTE occupational area that includes Agriculture and Natural Resources, or Technology and Engineering, or Marketing.
    - ii. Have completed a CTE Concentration at a Wisconsin high school not more than five (5) years prior to completing the application for a GDS award, in conjunction with obtaining a diploma from that high school. (Non-graduates must hold a Certificate of General Educational Development (GED) or a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED).) Each applicant for a GDS award will be asked to establish their eligibility through the GDS application form. Eligible concentrations include Agriculture and Natural Resources, or Technology and Engineering, or Technology and Engineering, or Marketing.

Per the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), CTE Concentrators in Wisconsin high schools are high school students who have completed at least three (3) high school CTE courses in program area(s) leading to a degree or diploma in the student's chosen pathway.

For purposes of the GDS award, a high school student may be enrolled in (rather than have completed) the third course at the time of the student's application nomination for the GDS.
    - iii. Participated in a Youth Apprenticeship Program under the supervision of the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) in the dairy industry (see [https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/youthapprenticeship/program\\_info.htm](https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/youthapprenticeship/program_info.htm)).
    - iv. Participated in a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) in Wisconsin: DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, or SkillsUSA (see [http://cte.dpi.wi.gov/cte\\_ctso](http://cte.dpi.wi.gov/cte_ctso)). Priority will be given to applicants with participation relevant to dairying.

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- v. Completed (or be on track to complete) an industry-recognized certification program approved under s. 106.273, Wis. Stats. See <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/det/cteincentive/>. Eligible certifications must be within the concentrations of Agriculture and Natural Resources, or Technology and Engineering, or Technology and Engineering, or Marketing.
  - vi. Have completed at least twelve (12) credits of coursework in dairy or agriculture at a Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) campus.
3. **Future dairy eligibility:** Applicants for a GDS award must also intend to enter or to remain in dairying or in dairy development in Wisconsin. This can include employment in dairy farming, operation of a dairy farm, or employment in dairy development or dairy promotion in Wisconsin.

Evidence of intent to enter into or to remain in dairying will be sought in the application for the GDS award, and will be part of the ranking process used by HEAB to determine award recipients.

**Eligibility Limits:**

Eligibility to receive a GDS award is limited to two (2) years. Awards need not be in successive years.

Successful applicants seeking a second-year award need to re-apply each year. The application process will identify prior recipients of a GDS award.

To receive a GDS award, a student must enroll by September 30th of the academic year in which the GDS award is made, in an eligible program at an eligible campus of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) or of the University of Wisconsin System. Enrollment will be verified by HEAB prior to the award being paid.

**Ranking of eligible candidates:**

Applicants for the GDS award are asked to submit an application for the award to HEAB beginning May 1. Applications must be filed by June 1 in order for applicants to receive consideration for that fall's academic year. HEAB has prepared an application form that must be used.

HEAB **recommends** that applicants for the GDS award complete a FAFSA, the Free Application for Student Aid, promulgated by the US Department of Education. If a FAFSA is completed, FAFSA submissions should be completed by June 1 of the year an applicant applies.

HEAB will examine the applications and ranks GDS applications as "well-qualified," "qualified," or "not qualified" based on application materials.

All applications ranked as "well-qualified" will be awarded a scholarship. As a guideline, HEAB staff are directed to select no more than 15 applications each year as "well-qualified."

HEAB then sorts the "well-qualified" applicants by county of residence. Within each county that has at least one "well-qualified" applicant, one "well-qualified" application will be selected to receive an award. HEAB staff will make the best subjective judgement possible among each county's applicants based on the applications submitted and will award a scholarship to one qualified applicant from each county.

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After one applicant in each "county group" has been awarded a scholarship, all other "well-qualified" applications are to be placed into a statewide pool. HEAB staff will determine how many scholarships remain to be awarded, and applications are then selected at random to receive an award until the number of awards is exhausted.

Because circumstances sometimes arise which change students' plans, HEAB would then draw at random five (5) applications whose submitters would be designated as "alternates." These applications would receive an award if one becomes available after the selection process.

If HEAB receives fewer than 80 applications from eligible applicants for an academic year, HEAB may increase the amount of the award, equally to all recipients, in an amount at HEAB's discretion.

HEAB may also accept applications after June 1 dependent on the availability of funds to be awarded.

Information about GDS is also available at [www.heab.wisconsin.gov](http://www.heab.wisconsin.gov)

For more information, please contact:

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