

TES General Information

2013 Act 60 (Senate Bill 334) created the new Technical Excellence Scholarship (TES) program which began awarding scholarships in the 2015-2016 college academic year. Nominees to the program are to be selected by each school board of a school district operating one or more high schools, and each governing body of a private high school or tribal high school. (For schools with enrollments under 80, the process contains special steps.) No new grades or test scores can be considered after February 25th.

HEAB will contact each Wisconsin school in February to inform them about the program, provide information on the program requirements and criteria, and establish communication between the schools and HEAB on the new program

Schools and districts may use HEAB criteria for the first year of the Technical Excellence Higher Education Scholarship program (TES) or they may seek approval of their own criteria. HEAB intends that a district's use of HEAB's criteria for the first year will not preclude a district from developing its own criteria at a later date if the district chooses.

PROCESS FOR STUDENT SELECTION AND NOMINATION

The TES program is provided in statute with a formula designating how many scholarships are available in each high school. This enrollment count is taken on the third Friday in September and counts students in grades 9-12.

<u>Enrollment</u>	<u>Number of Scholarships</u>
1-79	10 scholarships statewide among all HS with enrollments below 80
80-499	1
500-999	2
1000-1499	3
1500-1999	4
2000-2499	5

SCHOLAR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

The senior student who is determined to possess the highest level of proficiency in technical education subjects must be nominated by the K-12 district board or designated high school representative to HEAB for an award. This also applies to seniors enrolled in the school operated by the Wisconsin Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing or the school operated by the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

HEAB is aware of several opportunities in high school technical education that are not wholly within the high school classroom experience. Examples include:

- The Youth Apprenticeship Programs offered through the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD)
- Technical skill assessments and certifications (TSAs) offered by other state agencies including DWD but also including the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Participation in a Technical Education High School Diploma program as certified by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) or in the study for and obtaining of one of the professional and technical skill assessments or credentials listed by DPI in its materials describing the Technical High School Diploma program
- TSAs granted by industry, including national and industry-recognized TSAs that may be granted by software firms, professional associations, and similar groups
- Successful participation in select other programs such as the enrichment programs offered to Milwaukee-area high school students by the Medical College of Wisconsin

HEAB believes that success in such programs is a valuable indicator of proficiency in technical subjects. HEAB also believes that it would be difficult or impossible to catalog each and every program that could serve as an indicator of technical proficiency. HEAB also wants to make certain that the standards and process for selecting scholarship recipients under TES be as inclusive as possible, in order to benefit as many deserving students as possible and also to help assure the program meets its assigned task of encouraging technical education in Wisconsin.

HEAB's PROCESS FOR SCHOLAR SELECTION

The TES selection process consists of three parts: a candidate would need to meet a definition of eligibility for a TES scholarship; the candidate's grades would be considered; and a process would be constructed for consideration of alternate candidates.

1. An "eligible candidate" for a TES scholarship would be defined by administrative rule in order to help ensure that school officials identify candidates for the scholarships, as well as to help school officials determine the relative levels of technical proficiency among their greater student membership.
2. A nomination process for school district selectees for the TES program would be constructed to allow districts to explain their selections to HEAB and to help ensure that candidates' qualifications and credentials are fully known to the district and to HEAB.
3. The selection process would also provide for selection of alternate candidates by school districts, as is done under the AES program.