

## Chapter PI 33

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE HIGHER EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIPS

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**PI 33.01 Definitions.** In this chapter:

- (1) "High school" means a public or private school which operates a high school and grants a diploma upon successful completion.
- (2) "Private school" has the meaning described in s. 118.165, Stats.
- (3) "State superintendent" means the state superintendent of public instruction for the state of Wisconsin.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90.

**PI 33.02 Academic excellence higher education scholarships.** (1) Section 39.41, Stats., establishes a program to award scholarships to the 12th grade pupil in each high school who has the highest grade point average in all subjects. No more than 10 scholarships may be awarded annually, under s. 39.41 (1m) (c), Stats., to pupils enrolled in high schools with enrollment of less than 80. If more than 10 pupils from these high schools are eligible for scholarships in any year, the state superintendent shall select the 10 pupils eligible to receive scholarships.

(2) Annually, by December 1, the department of public instruction shall determine the number of high schools with enrollments of less than 80 based on the school's membership reports under s. 121.05, Stats., containing the average pupil count on the third Friday of September for the current school year. If more than 10 of these high schools exist, the following criteria shall be used to determine which pupils will be selected for the scholarship award:

(a) By February 15 of each year, each high school shall provide to the state superintendent the name of the 12th grade pupil who has the highest grade point average in all subjects taken for credit, based on 7 semesters of the pupil's grade 9 through 12 experience. The grade point shall be based on a 4.0 grade point scale; with the grade of "A" equaling 4.0. Weighted grades may not be used in computing this average. In the event that 2 or more pupils from the same high school have the same grade point average, the school board shall select the pupil eligible for the scholarship.

(b) The high school shall also provide the following:

1. A copy of the pupil's high school transcript.
2. The pupil's most recent score earned on the American college test, scholastic aptitude test, or other test which is required by the Wisconsin institution in which the pupil intends to enroll.
3. A letter from the high school outlining the pupil's participation in school activities.

4. A letter from the pupil indicating both of the following:

a. Reasons that the pupil feels qualified for this scholarship.

b. An intent to attend, within one year of graduation from high school, a public or private center or institution of higher education within the state of Wisconsin or a vocational, technical or adult education district school that is participating in the program under s. 39.41, Stats.

(3) (a) If there are more than 10 eligible applicants who have indicated to the state superintendent in writing of their intent to enroll on a full-time basis in an institution of higher education under sub. (2) (b) 4 b, the state superintendent shall appoint a screening committee of not fewer than 5 persons, including at least one representative of a private high school, to read and rate the applications and make recommendations to the state superintendent.

(b) The screening committee shall individually read and rate the applications based on the following:

1. The pupil's grade point average as described under sub. (2) (a).

2. The pupil's most recent score earned on a college entrance test as described under sub. (2) (b) 2.

(c) In the event of a tie, the screening committee shall review and evaluate the pupil's participation in school activities.

(d) If a tie remains, the committee shall read and evaluate the pupil's letter of qualification under sub. (2) (b) 4 a.

(e) The state superintendent shall review the recommendations of the screening committee, choose 10 scholarship recipients and forward the names to the higher educational aids board by April 1.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1990, No. 418, eff. 11-1-90.