



July 2010

Proposed Final Rules for College Bound Scholarship

Action

HECB staff request approval of the proposed rules for the College Bound Scholarship. Resolution No. 10-20 is attached for the Board's consideration.

Overview

The 2007 Legislature created the College Bound Scholarship program, which is authorized in RCW 28B.118. The program provides an early commitment of financial aid to inspire seventh and eighth grade students that are from low-income families to prepare for and pursue postsecondary education.

Students who are eligible for free or reduced price lunch, or are foster youth, pledge to graduate from high school with at least a 2.0 GPA and not commit a felony. In order to receive the scholarship, students complete a FAFSA in their senior year and must document that their family income is within 65 percent of the state's median family income (MFI). The scholarship, combined with the State Need Grant, covers tuition and fees at public rates, plus \$500.

The HECB has developed partnerships with K-12 schools, districts, and professional associations, as well as college access programs to implement promotion strategies. More than 60,000 students have completed a College Bound application.

A committee of college access providers, K-12 association members, and financial aid administrators developed the draft rules. The proposed final rules provide clarifications regarding student eligibility to apply for the program and to receive the scholarship. The rules also outline the role of Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the HECB related to program promotion and student tracking. To the greatest extent possible, College Bound Scholarship rules are aligned with State Need Grant program regulations.

Public Comments

Three people provided testimony at the public hearing on April 27, 2010 and five additional individuals submitted written comments. Attached is a summary table of the public comments, analysis, and staff recommendations.

The following areas were modified in the rules as a result of the comments received.

1. High school graduation definition (250-84-020)

- Removed the reference to home school students to avoid confusion since home schooled students, while eligible for the award, are not considered to have graduated from a Washington high school.

2. Eligibility for receipt of the scholarship (250-84-060)

- Clarified all students must be accepted into an eligible institution.
- Expanded the determination of when students begin enrollment by defining it as earned credits for the term or receiving the first scholarship disbursement.
- Clarified that all students have the same five-year timeframe from high school graduation within which to use the four-year award by eliminating an example to avoid confusion.
- Allowed students to enroll year-round without exceeding the four-year scholarship and pro-rate part-time terms of enrollment within the five-year period.

The following comments were reviewed but did not lead to changes in the proposed rules.

1. Definition of high school graduation

- The suggestion was to expand the definition to include options for those who leave high school. The program intent is to encourage progress in high school and graduate from a Washington high school.

2. Further define grade level eligibility at sign-up

- The suggestion was to provide an age range for home school students and criteria for students who repeat the eighth grade. Grade levels are verified by OSPI and parents of homeschoolers.

3. Connection to State Need Grant

- The suggestions were related to removing the annual income verification, requirement to complete a FAFSA, and any references to SNG requirements (undergraduate, etc.). The College Bound Scholarship is essentially the early commitment of the SNG program. The statute notes College Bound combines with other state aid based on tuition. As such, College Bound follows SNG policies and procedures where it does not conflict with the College Bound statute.

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WAC 250-84-010 Purpose

The College Bound Scholarship as authorized by RCW 28B.118 is designed to inspire and encourage Washington middle school students from low-income families to dream big. The early commitment of state funding for tuition may alleviate the financial barriers preventing students from considering college as a future possibility.

WAC 250-84-020 Definitions

“Board” – Higher Education Coordinating Board.

“FAFSA” – Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

“OSPI” – Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

“High School graduation” – Students must graduate from a public high school, private high school approved under RCW 28A.195, ~~or receive home based instruction per RCW 28A.200~~ having met requirements to earn a high school diploma as defined in WAC 180-51-061 or 180-51-066, whichever is applicable..

“C average” – defined as a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

“Legal guardian” – the person appointed by the court to take legal action on behalf of and be responsible for a minor.

“Tuition and fees” – tuition, building, operating, service and activity fees as are used for purposes of determining the State Need Grant award.

“Median Family Income” – the median income for Washington state, adjusted by family size and reported annually in the federal register and used that year for the administration of the State Need Grant program.

The standard “graduate from a Washington high school” is defined as meeting diploma requirements which would not include home school students. Home school students are eligible to apply and must meet requirements outlined in 250-84-060.

WAC 250-84-030 Eligible Applicant

(1) Washington students in 2007-2008 and thereafter may apply who are:

- a. Enrolled in the 7th and 8th grade in a public or private school as approved by RCW 28A.195 or home school as defined by RCW 28A.200, and
- b. Meet the income eligibility as defined in section (2).

Eligible students enrolled in 8th grade in 2007-2008 were granted a one-time extension to sign the pledge during the 2008-2009 school year as 9th graders.

(2) Seventh or eighth grade students are eligible to apply if one of these requirements are met:

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- a. Family income falls within the monthly or annual standards set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for eligibility for participation in the free or reduced price lunch program (FRPL), or
- b. Student participates in the free or reduced price lunch program, or
- c. Family receives TANF benefits, or
- d. Student is a foster youth.

To determine eligibility in unusual circumstances, or for assistance in defining household size, foster youth status, and other criteria, the Board will refer students and families to the district or school staff who oversee FRPL, and will refer to the USDA FRPL guidelines.

If a student qualifies in the application year, the information is not required to be updated throughout the middle and high school years. However, income will be verified using the FAFSA upon college enrollment. See WAC 250-84-060.

(3) Eligible applications are considered complete when the signed pledge has been received by the board.

- a. A student must sign a pledge during seventh or eighth grade that commits them to:
 - i. Graduate from high school with at least a C average.
 - ii. No felony convictions.
- b. The section of the application that indicates eligibility must be completed.
- c. The pledge must be signed by a parent or legal guardian to attest the information is true and accurate.
- d. The signature page for the electronic application, or the signed paper application, must be received by the Board.
- e. The deadline for the application is June 30 of the student's eighth grade year.
 - i. Electronic applications must be received by June 30 and paper applications must be postmarked by June 30.
 - ii. Missing information for applications received on or before June 30th will be accepted beforeuntil the student enters the ninth grade year.

Exceptions to the deadline will be made on a case-by-case basis by the board based on extenuating circumstances.

WAC 250-84-040 Program Promotion to Eligible Students

The role of the board, OSPI and school districts related to notification to students, families, and school personnel about the College Bound Scholarship is defined under chapter 28B.118 RCW.

- (1) The board shall develop and distribute to all schools with students enrolled in seventh or eighth grade, an application pledge form that can be completed and returned electronically or by mail by the student or the school to the board.
 - a. The Board will provide K-12 partners, professional associations, and college access programs with program information annually.

- (2) The role of OSPI is to notify elementary, middle, and junior high schools about the College Bound Scholarship program using methods in place for communicating with schools and school districts.
 - a. OSPI will encourage schools and districts to target communications to eligible students to the greatest extent possible. Methods may include, but are not limited to, personalized letters, integrating the application into student conferences, or holding sign-up events.

- (3) The role of each school district is to notify students, parents, teachers, counselors, and principals about the Washington College Bound Scholarship program through existing channels.
 - a. Notification methods may include, but are not limited to, regular school district and building communications, online scholarship bulletins and announcements, notices posted on school walls and bulletin boards, information available in each counselor's office, and school or district scholarship information sessions.

WAC 250-84-050 Tracking of Scholars

The statute requires the board and OSPI to develop tracking procedures to ensure continued eligibility and to determine compliance for awarding of College Bound Scholarships (RCW 28B.118.020 and 28B.118.040).

- (1) The board shall:
 - a. Develop and implement a student application, selection, and notification process for scholarships.
 - b. Collect authorization to release information from the student and parent(s)/legal guardian(s).
 - c. Develop a web-based application tool and paper application annually.
 - d. Notify applicants of missing information in a timely manner.
 - e. Notify applicants of their status of complete application in a timely manner.
 - f. Treat applications confidentially and hold in a secure environment.
 - g. Provide complete applicants with information regarding the disbursement of the scholarship and contact information for the board.
 - h. Require applicants to update their address and other contact information with the Board.

- (2) OSPI will work with the board to develop student tracking procedures.
 - a. The board and OSPI will share data regarding the progress of College Bound Scholarship students such as current school, grade level, grade point average, and expected graduation date on at least an annual basis through high school graduation, following agency protocols for data exchange and security.

- (3) The board will track complete applicants and monitor progress toward graduation to determine compliance for awarding of scholarships.

- (4) The board will share data and authorized student information from the application for program sign-up efforts and to provide support services to scholars who have already applied.
 - a. The board will share information with schools and approved college access providers who will provide services to College Bound Scholarship students to support their academic success, if the proper release of information has been provided by the student and parent/legal guardian.
 - b. Aggregate data will be provided periodically and as requested to schools, districts, and partners to improve sign-up efforts.

WAC 250-84-060 Eligibility for Receipt of College Bound Scholarships

To be eligible to receive the annual scholarship disbursement, College Bound Scholarship students who have met the requirements outlined in WAC 250-84-030, must:

- (1) Graduate from a Washington high school with at least a C average or receive home based instruction under chapter 28A.200
- (2) File a FAFSA (see priority consideration section under WAC 250-84-070 (1)).
- (3) Be accepted to Enroll at an institution participating in the State Need Grant program within the State of Washington (requirements outlined in WAC 250-20-013).
- (4) Enroll no later than the fall term ~~of the following academic year~~ (as defined by the institution) one academic year following after high school graduation.

For example, students graduating by August 2012, have until fall 2013 to begin using the scholarship.

- a. Students who graduate early will be assumed to ~~enroll~~ with follow the timeframe of their senior year cohort. However, if they enroll early, the four-year scholarship will need to be used within five years of their initial enrollment date.
 - b. Scholarships will not be disbursed prior to fall 2012.
 - c. Students will be considered to have enrolled upon earning credit(s) for the term or receiving the first scholarship disbursement, whichever comes first.
- (5) Have an annual family income at or below 65% of the state’s median family income as determined by the income reported on the FAFSA and verified by the institution the student is attending. See (46)d below.
- (6) Receive the College Bound Scholarship for no more than four academic years within a five year period.
- a. The four-year scholarship may be used during any terms ~~during~~ during within the five-year period, even if enrollment is not continuous.
 - b. The scholarship must be used within five academic years of August of the high school graduation year.

Clarifies students must either meet the high school graduation or home school requirement, and then must be accepted into an eligible institution.

Provides clarity.

Early graduates may enroll early (provided it is after fall 2012 when payouts begin).

Clarification regarding monitoring the requirement to enroll within one year of high school.

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For example, students who graduate from high school in 2011-12 must begin college enrollment by fall 2013, and have through spring of 2017 to receive the scholarship. ~~However, students who begin enrollment in fall 2012 have until Spring of 2016 to receive the scholarship.~~

- c. ~~Each year of~~ The total College Bound award is limited to ~~one twelve academic year (3~~ quarters, ~~2 eight~~ semesters or equivalent, pro-rated for part-time enrollment within the five-year period.) of payment.
- d. If students do not meet the income requirement in section (35) in any year within the five year period, they may still receive the scholarship for any year(s) they do meet the income requirement. Receipt of the four-year scholarship does not have to be continuous.

(7) Comply with the other eligibility criteria to receive the College Bound Scholarship as outlined for the State Need Grant program in WAC 250-20-011 including but not limited to requirements related to residency, undergraduate student status, academic program eligibility including the theology prohibition, enrollment level, satisfactory academic progress, and repayments.

- a. The requirements for state need grant that do NOT apply to College Bound Scholarships are:
- i. The equivalent of five year limitation for state need grant under WAC 250-20-011 (6) since the College Bound Scholarship is a four-year award.
 - ~~ii. Allowable use of summer leading to four terms of payment (WAC 250-20-040(5)) as the College Bound Scholarship award is limited to one academic year (See 6c above).~~

Students who enroll immediately still have the five-year window to use the four-year scholarship.

Rather than limiting annual awards to an academic year, allow students to enroll year-round and not exceed the four-year scholarship in total.

Summer term is allowed per change to 6c above.

WAC 250-84-070 Scholarship Award

The College Bound Scholarship is intended to combine with the state need grant program to ensure eligible students have the opportunity to receive sufficient state financial aid to meet the cost of full tuition, plus \$500 for books each year. The award is intended to replace unmet need, loans, and at the student's discretion, work-study.

- (1) The value of each College Bound Scholarship shall be determined by the Board annually based on the amount of tuition and fees at public colleges and universities (as used for State Need Grant purposes) plus five hundred dollars, less the amount of State Need Grant the student qualifies for based on the student's MFI, and less any other state aid awarded.

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- a. In order to receive the maximum State Need Grant for which the student qualifies, the student must meet the financial aid priority consideration deadline for the institution the student plans to attend.
- b. College Bound Scholarship awards will be prorated for part-time attendance as outlined in WAC 250-20-041 (4b).

Sector College Bound Scholarship award amounts (such as public research, regional and two-year, and private career and private four-year) shall follow base award amounts determined for the State Need Grant program.

WAC 250-84-080 Appeals

Appeals regarding application eligibility (WAC 250-84-030) should be directed to the Board. Appeals regarding scholarship eligibility and awards (WAC 250-84-060 and 070) shall follow the process outlined in WAC 250-20-071 for State Need Grant purposes.

WAC 250-84-090 Grant Disbursement to Institutions

- (1) Cash requests and reimbursements will follow procedures similar to State Need Grant.
- (2) A student-by-student reconciliation will be completed each term and filed with the Board at the end of each academic year.
- (3) Recalculations as a result of awards in excess of tuition charges shall follow the tolerance outlined in State Need Grant rules or guidance.

WAC 250-84-100 Program administration and audits.

- (1) The staff of the Board under the direction of the executive director will manage the administrative functions relative to College Bound.
- (2) The Board will review institutional administrative compliance as outlined in WAC 250-20-061.

Any student who has obtained a College Bound Scholarship through means of willfully false statement or failure to reveal any material fact affecting eligibility will be subject to applicable civil or criminal penalties and repayment.

COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP RULES

Comments, Analysis, and Staff Recommendations

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ISSUE	COMMENTS	HECB ANALYSIS	RECOMMENDATION
Definitions 250-84-020			
High school graduation via CTCs	Consider adding the pathway of high school graduation through community and technical colleges (RCW.50.535) to the definition.	The program is designed, in part, to improve high school graduation rates for students from low-income families. Alternatives to high school graduation lessen the effectiveness of the goal.	No change.
Definition of high school graduation	The Board should not define high school graduation.	The statute requires high school graduation. The rules adopt the same definition as is used by the State Board of Education for Washington's high schools. The CBS rules reference WAC 180-51-061 and WAC 180-51-066.	No change.
Home school completion relative to high school graduation	Home schooled students do not receive high school diplomas.	The home school references should not be included in the definition of graduation from WA high school. See proposed re-ordering in section 060.	"High school graduation" means... or receive home based instruction under chapter 28A.200.RCW having met
Eligible Applicant 250-84-030			
Minimum and maximum age range to define equivalent middle school status for home-schooled students	Specify an age range during which a home-schooled student may enroll in the program.	The statute requires that enrollment be based on grade level not age. The parents of home-schooled students determine and attest to the applicant's grade level.	No change.
Eligibility of students who repeat the eighth grade to apply	Students enrolled in eighth grade are eligible to apply, even if the grade is repeated.	Students in the eighth grade are eligible to apply regardless of a repeated grade level. The grade level is determined by the school district and verified by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.	No change.
Program Promotion 250-84-040			
Promotion to home-schooled students	Use of "existing channels" by school districts is not sufficient to promote the program to home-school students and their families.	The statute limits to "existing channels" the degree to which school districts are required to promote the program.	No change.

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ISSUE	COMMENTS	HECB ANALYSIS	RECOMMENDATION
<p>Eligibility for Receipt 250-84-060</p> <p>Clarification of high school graduation at time of enrollment (per home school comment)</p>	<p>There is no mechanism to determine if home-schooled students meet diploma requirement.</p>	<p>See suggested changes to definitions in WAC 250-84-020. Clarification of requirements upon college enrollment addresses home-schooled students.</p>	<p>...must: <u>(1) Graduate from a Washington high school with at least a C average or receive home-based instruction under RCW 28A.200</u></p> <p><u>(2) File a FAFSA...</u></p> <p><u>(3) Be accepted to enroll at an institution participating...</u></p>
<p>Defining when enrollment commences</p>	<p>Define "enrollment commences" when student earns credit or the first day the student receives the scholarship.</p>	<p>This clarification is necessary to define and monitor the requirement that students begin enrollment within one year of high school graduation.</p>	<p><u>(4) Enroll no later than the fall term (as defined by the institution) one academic year following high school graduation.</u></p> <p>(4)(c) Students will be considered to have enrolled upon earning credit(s) for the term <u>or receiving the first scholarship disbursement, whichever comes first.</u></p>

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ISSUE	COMMENTS	HECB ANALYSIS	RECOMMENDATION
Eligibility for Receipt 250-84-060			
No more than one academic year's worth of award.	Allow recipients to use their funding on a year-round basis. Maintain the overall 12 quarters/8 semesters maximum scholarship usage (the four-year cutoff). This would be revenue neutral.	This flexibility would help students with their time to degree and those enrolled in year-round awarding can be accommodated within the 12 quarters/8 semesters limitation. Therefore eliminate the reference to "no more than three quarter/two semesters" within an academic year.	(6)(c) Each year the total college bound award is limited to <u>twelve one academic year (three-quarters, two eight semesters or equivalent) of payment, pro-rated for part-time enrollment within the five-year period.</u> DELETE: (7)(b) entire section
Five-year time limit for scholarship usage	The examples give students a disincentive to enroll directly after high school. Since early graduates are assumed to enroll with their cohort - the timeline should match their cohort.	The proposed example is incorrect. All students have five years within which to use the four-year scholarship, so long as enrollment begins within one year after high school graduation. Delete the incorrect examples.	(2) ... enroll no later than the fall term of the following academic year s defined by the institution one year after high school graduation. For example, students graduating in 2012 have until 2013 to begin using this scholarship. (6)(b) ... However, students who begin enrollment in fall 2012 have until spring of 2016 to receive the scholarship.
Defining the start of the five-year time limit	The statute states the scholarship must be used "within five years of receipt of scholarship" not five years after graduation.	The legislative record indicates that the five-year time limit was assumed to begin immediately after high school graduation.	No change.
Scholarship limited to undergraduate students	The statute specifies a four-year award without a limitation to undergraduate work only.	The Legislative record indicates that the College Bound Program is based on and follows State Need Grant regulations except where deviations are specifically indicated by the College Bound statute. State Need Grant is limited to undergraduate students.	No change.

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ISSUE	COMMENTS	HECB ANALYSIS	RECOMMENDATION
Eligibility for Receipt 250-84-060			
Annual income check while student is in college	The statute stipulates that income is verified at the time of high school graduation.	The Legislative record indicates that the College Bound Program is based on and follows State Need Grant regulations. A student who becomes ineligible after commencing college enrollment may continue to receive the award once eligibility has been reestablished. The five-year time limit is not affected by changes in a student's eligibility status.	No change.
	Board should use Free and Reduced Price Lunch income as the standard for the annual income check. The 65% MFI standard is too high.	The statute requires the income as the time of sign up to be equal to Free and Reduced Price Lunch standards. The income check during college enrollment is specified by statute as 65% MFI.	No change.
FAFSA requirement	FAFSA is not mentioned in the statute.	The requirement in statute to meet 65% of MFI is evaluated and documented using the FAFSA, therefore the requirement.	No change.
Scholarship Award 250-84-070			
The connection of College Bound regulations to SNG policies	Statute does not reference SNG.	The Legislative record indicates that the College Bound Program is based on and follows State Need Grant regulations except where deviations are specifically indicated by the College Bound statute.	No change.

Chapter 250-84 WAC

COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP RULES

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-010 Purpose. The college bound scholarship as authorized by chapter 28B.118 RCW is designed to inspire and encourage Washington middle school students from low-income families to dream big. The early commitment of state funding for tuition may alleviate the financial barriers preventing students from considering college as a future possibility.

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NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-020 Definitions. "Board" means higher education coordinating board.

"C average" means a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

"FAFSA" means Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

"High school graduation" means students must graduate from a

public high school, private high school approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW, ~~or receive home based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW~~ having met requirements to earn a high school diploma as defined in WAC 180-51-061 or 180-51-066, whichever is applicable.

"Legal guardian" means the person appointed by the court to take legal action on behalf of and be responsible for a minor.

"Median family income" means the median income for Washington state, adjusted by family size and reported annually in the federal register and used that year for the administration of the state need grant program.

"OSPI" means office of superintendent of public instruction.

"Tuition and fees" means tuition, building, operating, service and activity fees as are used for purposes of determining the state need grant award.

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NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-030 Eligible applicant. (1) Washington students in 2007-08 and thereafter may apply who are:

(a) Enrolled in the seventh and eighth grade in a public or private school as approved by chapter 28A.195 RCW or home school as defined by chapter 28A.200 RCW; and

(b) Meet the income eligibility as defined in subsection (2)

of this section.

Eligible students enrolled in eighth grade in 2007-08 were granted a one-time extension to sign the pledge during the 2008-2009 school year as ninth graders.

(2) Seventh or eighth grade students are eligible to apply if one of these requirements are met:

(a) Family income falls within the monthly or annual standards set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for eligibility for participation in the free or reduced price lunch program (FRPL); or

(b) Student participates in the free or reduced price lunch program; or

(c) Family receives TANF benefits; or

(d) Student is a foster youth.

To determine eligibility in unusual circumstances, or for assistance in defining household size, foster youth status, and other criteria, the board will refer students and families to the district [or school](#) staff who oversee FRPL, and will refer to the USDA FRPL guidelines.

If a student qualifies in the application year, the information is not required to be updated throughout the middle and high school years. However, income will be verified using the FAFSA upon [college](#) enrollment. See WAC 250-84-060, eligibility for receipt of scholarship.

(3) Eligible applications are considered complete when the signed pledge has been received by the board.

(a) A student must sign a pledge during seventh or eighth grade that commits them to:

(i) Graduate from high school with at least a C average.

(ii) No felony convictions.

(b) The section of the application that indicates eligibility must be completed.

(c) The pledge must be signed by a parent or legal guardian to attest the information is true and accurate.

(d) The signature page for the electronic application, or the signed paper application, must be received by the board.

(e) The deadline for the application is June 30th of the student's eighth grade year.

(i) Electronic applications must be received by June 30th and paper applications must be postmarked by June 30th.

(ii) Missing information for applications received on or before June 30th will be accepted ~~before~~until the student enters the ninth grade year.

Exceptions to the deadline will be made on a case-by-case basis by the board based on extenuating circumstances.

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NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-040 Program promotion to eligible students. The role of the board, OSPI and school districts related to notification to students, families, and school personnel about the college bound scholarship is defined under chapter 28B.118 RCW.

(1) The board shall develop and distribute to all schools with students enrolled in seventh or eighth grade, an application pledge form that can be completed and returned electronically or by mail by the student or the school to the board.

The board will provide K-12 partners, professional associations, and college access programs with program information annually.

(2) The role of OSPI is to notify elementary, middle, and junior high schools about the college bound scholarship program using methods in place for communicating with schools and school districts.

OSPI will encourage schools and districts to target communications to eligible students to the greatest extent possible. Methods may include, but are not limited to, personalized letters, integrating the application into student conferences, or holding sign-up events.

(3) The role of each school district is to notify students, parents, teachers, counselors, and principals about the Washington college bound scholarship program through existing channels.

Notification methods may include, but are not limited to, regular school district and building communications, on-line scholarship bulletins and announcements, notices posted on school walls and bulletin boards, information available in each counselor's office, and school or district scholarship information sessions.

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NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-050 Tracking of scholars. The statute requires the board and OSPI to develop tracking procedures to ensure continued eligibility and to determine compliance for awarding of college bound scholarships (RCW 28B.118.020 and 28B.118.040).

(1) The board shall:

(a) ~~de~~Develop and implement a student application, selection, and notification process for scholarships.

(b) Collect authorization to release information from the student and parent(s)/legal guardian(s).

(c) Develop a web-based application tool and paper application annually.

(d) Notify applicants of missing information in a timely manner.

(e) Notify applicants of their status of complete application in a timely manner.

(f) Treat applications confidentially and hold in a secure environment.

(g) Provide complete applicants with information regarding the disbursement of the scholarship and contact information for the board.

(h) Require applicants to update their address and other contact information with the board.

(2) OSPI will work with the board to develop student tracking procedures.

The board and OSPI will share data regarding the progress of college bound scholarship students such as current school, grade level, grade point average, and expected graduation date on at least an annual basis through high school graduation, following agency protocols for data exchange and security.

(3) The board will track complete applicants and monitor progress toward graduation to determine compliance for awarding of scholarships.

(4) The board will share data and authorized student information from the application for program sign-up efforts and to provide support services to scholars who have already applied.

(a) The board will share information with schools and approved college access providers who will provide services to college bound scholarship students to support their academic success, if the proper release of information has been provided by the student and parent(s)/legal guardian(s).

(b) Aggregate data will be provided periodically and as requested to schools, districts, and partners to improve sign-up

efforts.

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NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-060 Eligibility for receipt of college bound scholarships. To be eligible to receive the annual scholarship disbursement, college bound scholarship students who have met the requirements outlined in WAC 250-84-030, must:

(1) _____(1) Graduate from a Washington high school with at least a C average or receive home based instruction under chapter 28A.200

~~(1)(2) _____~~ File a FAFSA (see priority consideration under WAC 250-84-070(1)).

~~(2) Enroll no later than the fall term of the following academic year as defined by the institution one year after high school graduation.~~

~~_____ For example, students graduating by August 2012, have until fall 2013 to begin using the scholarship.~~

(a3) Be accepted to Enroll at an institution participating in the state need grant program within the state of Washington (requirements outlined in WAC 250-20-013).

(24) Enroll no later than the fall term (as defined by the institution) one academic year following high school graduation.

For example, students graduating by August 2012, have until fall 2013 to begin using the scholarship.

(ba) Students who graduate early will be assumed to enroll with follow the timeframe of their senior year cohort. However, if they enroll early, the four-year scholarship will need to be used within five years of their initial enrollment date.

(eb) Scholarships will not be disbursed prior to fall 2012.

(ec) Students will be considered to have enrolled upon earning credit(s) for the term or receiving the first scholarship disbursement, whichever comes first.

(35) Have an annual family income at or below sixty-five percent of the state's median family income as determined by the income reported on the FAFSA and verified by the institution the student is attending. See subsection (46)(d) of this section.

(46) Receive the college bound scholarship for no more than four academic years within a five-year period.

(a) The four-year scholarship may be used during any terms during within the five-year period, even if enrollment is not continuous.

(b) The scholarship must be used within five academic years of August of the high school graduation year.

For example, students who graduate from high school in 2011-12 must begin college enrollment by fall 2013, and have through spring of 2017 to receive the scholarship. ~~However, students who begin enrollment in fall 2012 have until spring of 2016 to receive the scholarship.~~

(c) ~~Each year t~~The total college bound award is limited to

~~twelveone academic year (three~~ quarters, ~~twoeight~~ semesters or equivalent) ~~of payment.~~, pro-rated for part-time enrollment within the five-year period.

(d) If students do not meet the income requirement in subsection (35) of this section in any year within the five-year period, they may still receive the scholarship for any year(s) they do meet the income requirement. Receipt of the four-year scholarship does not have to be continuous.

(57) Comply with the other eligibility criteria to receive the college bound scholarship as outlined for the state need grant program in WAC 250-20-011 including, but not limited to, requirements related to residency, undergraduate student status, academic program eligibility including the theology prohibition, enrollment level, satisfactory academic progress, and repayments.

The requirements for state need grant that do NOT apply to college bound scholarships are:

(a) The equivalent of five-year limitation for state need grant under WAC 250-20-011(6) since the college bound scholarship is a four-year award.

~~(b) Allowable use of summer leading to four terms of payment under WAC 250-20-041(5) as the college bound scholarship award is limited to one academic year. (See subsection (4)(c) of this section.)~~

[]

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-070 Scholarship award. (1) The college bound scholarship is intended to combine with the state need grant program to ensure eligible students have the opportunity to receive sufficient state financial aid to meet the cost of full tuition, plus five hundred dollars for books each year. The award is intended to replace unmet need, loans, and at the student's discretion, work-study.

(2) The value of each college bound scholarship shall be determined by the board annually based on the amount of tuition and fees at public colleges and universities (as used for state need grant purposes) plus five hundred dollars, less the amount of state need grant the student qualifies for based on the student's MFI, and less any other state aid awarded.

(a) In order to receive the maximum state need grant for which the student qualifies, the student must meet the financial aid priority consideration deadline for the institution the student plans to attend.

(b) College bound scholarship awards will be prorated for part-time attendance as outlined in WAC 250-20-041 (4)(b).

Sector college bound scholarship award amounts (such as public research, regional and two-year, and private career and private four-year) shall follow base award amounts determined for the state

need grant program.

[]

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-080 Appeals. Appeals regarding application eligibility under WAC 250-84-030 should be directed to the board. Appeals regarding scholarship eligibility and awards under WAC 250-84-060 and 250-84-070 shall follow the process outlined under WAC 250-20-071 for state need grant purposes.

[]

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-090 Grant disbursement to institutions. (1) Cash requests and reimbursements will follow procedures similar to state need grant.

(2) A student-by-student reconciliation will be completed each term and filed with the board at the end of each academic year.

(3) Recalculations as a result of awards in excess of tuition charges shall follow the tolerance outlined in state need grant rules

or guidance.

[]

NEW SECTION

WAC 250-84-100 Program administration and audits. (1) The staff of the board under the direction of the executive director will manage the administrative functions relative to college bound scholarship.

(2) The board will review institutional administrative compliance as outlined in WAC 250-20-061.

Any student who has obtained a college bound scholarship through means of willfully false statement or failure to reveal any material fact affecting eligibility will be subject to applicable civil or criminal penalties and repayment.

[]

RESOLUTION NO. 10-20

WHEREAS, The 2007 Legislature authorized the Higher Education Coordinating Board in RCW 28B.118 to design the College Bound Scholarship to provide an early commitment of the State Need Grant to help inspire the college aspirations of 7th and 8th grade students from low-income families; and

WHEREAS, College Bound students will begin enrolling in college in 2012; and

WHEREAS, The HECB is authorized to adopt rules under RCW 28B.118.060 to implement the College Bound Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Rules are needed to implement the College Bound Scholarship program to govern the promotion, eligibility, application process, tracking and monitoring, and scholarship disbursement; and

WHEREAS, The HECB has collaborated with statewide partners to develop the draft rules necessary to implement the program and formalize the policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, The HECB has concluded the public hearing process and comment period process, reviewed public comment, and recommended modifications to the draft rules;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Higher Education Coordinating Board authorizes its staff to conclude the formal rule-making process and implement the College Bound Scholarship rules.

Adopted:

July 15, 2010

Attest:

Jesus Hernandez, Chair

Roberta Greene, Secretary

