

2017 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Student Excellence Scholarship Guidelines

Purpose

The purpose of the Kohl Excellence Scholarship program is to recognize student leadership, citizenship, school and community involvement, and academic achievement. It is the goal of the Foundation to encourage Wisconsin youth to pursue post secondary education in a public or nonpublic university, college, or vocational/technical college. The Foundation awards \$5,000 scholarships to 100 Wisconsin high school graduates each year. Students in religious and independent schools receive 14 of the total Excellence scholarships awarded each year.

Who Is Eligible?

Applicants must be graduating high school students who intend to enroll in a postsecondary institution, which may be a public or nonpublic university, college, or vocational/technical college. Students who are residents of the State of Wisconsin, U.S.A, are in good standing, and who demonstrate probable success in postsecondary education are eligible.

Selection Criteria

Students will be evaluated on their leadership, citizenship, school and community involvement, and academic achievement. In addition, students will be evaluated on their ability to clearly articulate goals in each of four areas: future educational goals, personal life goals, community/society service goals, and career goals.

Each student must submit three letters of recommendation, one from each of the following categories:

1. teacher
2. counselor or principal
3. community member or family friend

Letters of recommendation will be evaluated on how well they describe the student's improvements, contributions, and successes.

Application Process

Applications must be typed. Students must submit their completed applications to the central education office for the diocese/jurisdiction with whom the student's school is affiliated no later than November 23, 2016.

Each diocese/jurisdiction is permitted to submit a designated number of applicants for consideration by the state selection committee. The number of applicant finalists is determined by the total enrollment for each diocese/jurisdiction. Each diocese/jurisdiction will assemble a selection committee to review the submitted applications, and submit finalists to the Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools (WCRIS) **on or before December 9, 2016.**

WCRIS will advance the applications of finalists to the state selection committee, which will consist of representatives from the cooperative educational service agencies, Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools, Wisconsin Parents Association, Wisconsin Newspaper Association, Herb Kohl Educational Foundation, education-related associations, and civic leaders. The committee will convene on January 31 – February 1, 2017 to score applications. Applicants will be contacted in early March, 2017.

Use of Scholarship Grant

A Kohl Excellence Scholarship may only be used to directly reimburse tuition, room and board, books, technology, and fees for post-secondary education. In August 2017, the Kohl Foundation will make the \$5,000 scholarship grants directly to the postsecondary institutions the scholarship recipients attend. Scholarship recipients will be honored and will receive certificates representing their awards at a special luncheon held in the spring of 2017.

Contact

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