STATE OF WISCONSIN

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling
Representative John Nygren

Date: August 6, 2015

Re: Academic Excellence Scholarship Program

Attached is a report on the Academic Excellence Scholarship Program from the Higher Education Aids Board, pursuant to s. 39.41 (7), Stats.

This report is being provided for your information only. No action by the Committee is required. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Attachments

AD:JN:jm

State of Wisconsin
Higher Educational Aids Board

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Scott Walker
Governor

John Reinemann
Executive Secretary

August 1, 2015

The Honorable Alberta Darling, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
State Capitol, Room 317 East
Madison, WI 53707

The Honorable John Nygren, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
State Capitol, Room 309 East
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

Enclosed is the 2014-2015 Annual Status Report for the Academic Excellence Scholarship Program. Submission of this report is in compliance with Section 39.41(7) of the Statutes which requires a yearly report regarding the Academic Excellence Scholarship Program. In addition to presenting final 2014-2015 data, preliminary data is included for the freshmen who will enroll in 2015-2016 as the twenty-sixth class of scholars since the inception of the program.

If you have any questions about this report or about the Academic Excellence Scholarship Program, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at john.reinemann@wi.gov or phone at 267-2206.

Sincerely,

John Reinemann

John Reinemann
Executive Secretary

CC: Senator Luther Olsen
Senator Sheila Harsdorf
Senator Leah Vukmir
Senator Tom Tiffany
Senator Howard Marklein
Senator Lena Taylor
Senator Jon Erpenbach
Representative Dale Kooyenga
Representative Amy Loudenbeck
Representative Dean Knudson
Representative Michael Schraa
Representative Mary Czaja
Representative Chris Taylor
Representative Gordon Hintz
Emily Pope, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Nathan Schwanz, Department of Administration
Michael Heifetz, Department of Administration
Sara Hynek, Department of Administration

2014-2015
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
Annual Status Report
August 1, 2015

Eighty five percent of the freshmen awarded the Academic Excellence Scholarship (AES) in 2014 accepted the scholarship and used it to attend a Wisconsin post secondary institution. The percentage of freshman who used their scholarship is three percentage points lower than last year. While changes in legislation allowed more alternates to receive the scholarship, the required 3.8 grade point for unweighted schools meant other alternates were not eligible and fewer scholarships were awarded. It may be assumed that the procedures for awarding the AES to alternates have maximized the number of scholarships used, and that an average of 86.5% of scholarships will be accepted by students in upcoming years.

In 2014-2015, 747 freshmen enrolled in a Wisconsin post secondary institution. Total AES funds going to these students were $797,512 with an average per freshman award of $1068.

Six tables are attached, showing final figures for 2014-2015, along with preliminary data for 2015-2016.

- Tables I, II, and III present enrollment by sector (University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Technical Colleges, and Wisconsin Independent Colleges and Universities.) These figures represent the students who received AES program funds.

- Table IV presents a grand total for the three sectors.

- Table V presents general information such as the number of scholars using their award to attend a Wisconsin college or university.

- Table VI gives preliminary information for 2015-2016 freshmen.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARS UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN INSTITUTIONS 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR						
	Freshman Scholars	Sophomore Scholars	Junior Scholars	Senior Scholars	Total Scholars	Scholarship Amount
Madison	353	341	309	351	1354	1,446,827
Milwaukee	24	19	16	11	70	73,689
Green Bay	8	13	10	5	36	38,813
Parkside	1	4	5	5	15	13,500
UW Colleges	11	10	0	0	21	21,375
Eau Claire	29	30	51	31	141	155,252
La Crosse	47	49	54	45	195	212,628
Oshkosh	24	14	20	15	73	79,875
Platteville	23	17	19	26	85	87,188
River Falls	8	7	8	9	32	35,437
Stevens Point	15	15	24	23	77	80,439
Stout	15	10	6	12	43	46,126
Superior	2	8	3	3	16	17,437
Whitewater	14	10	7	16	47	48,940
UW Total	574	547	532	552	2205	2,357,526

Table II ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARS WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGES 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR						
	Freshman Scholars	Sophomore Scholars	Junior Scholars	Senior Scholars	Total Scholars	Scholarship Amount
Chippewa Valley	3	0	0	0	3	3,375
Fox Valley	0	1	0	0	1	1,125
Gateway	1	0	0	0	1	562
Indianhead	1	1	0	0	2	2,250
Lakeshore	2	1	0	0	3	2,813
Madison College	6	0	1	0	7	6,750
MATC-Milwaukee	3	5	0	0	8	3,937
Moraine Park	1	1	0	0	2	2,250
Nicolet	0	2	0	0	2	1,686
Northcentral	0	0	1	0	1	1,125
Northeast	1	1	0	0	2	1,125
Waukesha	0	1	0	0	1	1,125
Western	1	0	1	0	2	2,250
WTCS Total	19	13	3	0	35	30,373

UW & WTCS Total	593	560	535	552	2240	2,387,899

Note: Tables I and II show actual net spent amounts and the scholars with those net spent amounts.

Table III ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARS INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR						
	Freshman Scholars	Sophomore Scholars	Junior Scholars	Senior Scholars	Total Scholars	Scholarship Amount
Alverno	6	2	3	0	11	11,813
Bellin	0	1	2	0	3	2,250
Beloit	2	2	0	2	6	5,625
Cardinal Stritch	3	2	1	0	6	5,625
Carroll	18	10	7	12	47	50,626
Carthage	6	2	2	3	13	13,500
Columbia Nursing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Concordia	6	9	10	3	28	29,251
Edgewood	5	3	3	4	15	16,875
Lakeland	3	0	1	1	5	3,937
Lawrence	3	9	8	4	24	24,750
Maranatha	2	1	0	2	5	4,500
Marian	1	2	2	4	9	10,125
Marquette	35	37	30	30	132	142,309
MIAD	3	1	1	1	6	6,750
Mount Mary	4	4	3	1	12	13,500
MSOE	14	18	10	6	48	49,500
Northland	2	1	7	2	12	12,376
Northland Int'l	1	0	0	0	1	1,125
Ripon	5	4	7	6	22	24,750
St. Norbert's	20	11	17	11	59	69,188
Silver Lake	0	0	1	0	1	562
Viterbo	7	8	5	10	30	32,625
WI Lutheran	8	5	2	3	18	19,686
Independent Total	154	132	122	105	573	551,248

Table IV ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARS ALL SECTORS 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR						
	Freshman Scholars	Sophomore Scholars	Junior Scholars	Senior Scholars	Total Scholars	Scholarship Amount
UW	574	547	532	552	2205	2,357,526
Technical	19	13	3	0	35	30,373
Independent	154	132	122	105	513	551,248
Grand Total	747	692	657	657	2753	2,939,147

Note: Tables III and IV show actual net spent amounts and the scholars with those net spent amounts.

Table V				
General Scholar Data				
	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Total Scholarships Available	3,494	3,487	3,482	3,484
Total Scholars Enrolled In-State	2,910	2,648	2,931	2,753
Total Freshman Scholarships Available	866	874	869	875
Scholars Enrolled as Freshmen in Wisconsin	782	726	768	747
Alternate Scholarship Recipients	194	201	230	207
% of Eligible Freshmen Enrolled In-State	90%	83%	88%	85%

Table VI	
Preliminary Data – 2015-2016 Freshman Scholars as of July 20, 2015	
Total Freshman Scholarships Available	792
Alternate Scholarships (of 875 Available Scholarships)	34
Total Scholars Enrolled in Wisconsin Institutions	426
Percentage of Scholars Enrolled in Wisconsin Institutions	54%
Scholars Enrolled in UW System Institutions	331
Scholars Enrolled in Independent Colleges	87
Scholars Enrolled in WTCS Institutions	8
Scholars Enrolled in Non-Wisconsin Institutions	135
Scholars Who Have Not Yet Specified College Choice	366