

2017 Kohl 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. Homeschooled Wisconsin students receive a proportionate number of the total scholarships awarded each year.

Who Is Eligible

Applicants must be homeschooled 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, USA, are in good standing, and who demonstrate probable success in postsecondary education are eligible.

Selection Criteria

This is a competitive scholarship. 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. Applications must be typed. Handwritten applications will be disqualified.

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

1. teacher
2. family friend
3. community member

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

Application Process

Students must submit their completed applications to the Wisconsin Parents Association (WPA) no later than November 23, 2016. Selection of finalists will be made by a committee named by the WPA Board of Directors. On or before December 9, 2016, WPA will advance the finalists to the state level.

The state selection committee will consist of representatives from the Wisconsin Parents Association, Cooperative Educational Service Agencies, Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools (WCRIS), Wisconsin Newspaper Association, Herb Kohl Educational Foundation, education-related associations, and the community. 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, equipment, technology, and fees for postsecondary education. In August 2017, the Herb Kohl Foundation will make the \$5,000 scholarship grants directly to the postsecondary institutions that the scholarship recipients attend. Scholarship recipients will be honored and will receive certificates representing their awards at a special luncheon held in the spring.

Contact

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