



OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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TO: Principals of Public and Nonpublic High Schools

FROM: Dr. Anael Alston *AR*
Assistant Commissioner

DATE: September 30, 2024

SUBJECT: 2025 Series Scholarships for Academic Excellence

This memorandum announces the 2025 Scholarships for Academic Excellence. Pending the appropriation of State funds during the 2025 session of the New York State Legislature, 8,000 Scholarships for Academic Excellence will be awarded to the top students graduating from New York State high schools in June 2025. We anticipate having 2,000 scholarships available valued at \$1,500 and 6,000 scholarships available valued at \$500. The number of scholarships available for each high school is dependent upon a process prescribed in paragraph (b) of subdivision 1 of Section 605-a of the Education Law.

A Bulletin of Information, which provides details on the scholarship process, is available **ONLY** at the following web link: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/kiap/scholarships/sae.htm>. PLEASE NOTE: This is the only location where this information is publicly accessible. Please read all materials carefully before completing the survey. You must use the same method of selection for all school nominees. Also, the selection method used must be in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Bulletin of Information (page 4). **NOTE: The high school should use selection criteria described for "Method A: Regents test scores" whenever possible;** if "Method A: Regents test scores" is not possible, the school should then select between Method B or C. Details can be found in the Bulletin of Information (page 4).

SCHOOLS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO NOTIFY STUDENTS OF THE CRITERIA USED IN THE SELECTION PROCESS. If you choose not to nominate students, please complete question #20 on the survey.

The **deadline** for submitting nominees for the Scholarships for Academic Excellence is **February 28, 2025**. This submission must be completed by the appropriate school building leader.

If the funds are appropriated by the Legislature, all students correctly nominated by your school will be scholarship winners. **Award notices will be sent to high school principals for distribution directly to students as soon as possible after funds are made available. Award notices are NOT sent from this office to individual recipients.**

If you have any questions, please contact our office directly at (518) 474-3719 or by email to scholar@nysed.gov.