

DISCUSSION/ACTION
February 19, 2016

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD

BOARD REPORT #16-12

2016-17 WISCONSIN GRANT - WTCS PROGRAM FORMULA

**PROPOSED 2016-2017 FORMULA
WISCONSIN GRANT
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM**

**February 19, 2016
BOARD REPORT #16-12**

Recommendation of the Wisconsin Technical College System President Morna Foy:

$(\$9,270 - \text{EFC}) \times 11.70\% = \text{Award}$

$(\text{Student Budget} - \text{Expected Family Contribution}) \times \text{Student Award Percentage} = \text{Award}$

Maximum Award: \$1,084 Minimum Award: \$500

(See attached letter.)

Other Information

2016-2017 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2015-2016 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2014-2015 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2013-2014 Appropriation: \$20,797,900

2012-2013 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

2011-2012 Appropriation: \$18,797,900

Current Formula:

$(\$9,270 - \text{EFC}) \times 11.70\% = \text{Award}$

$(\text{Student Budget} - \text{Expected Family Contribution}) \times \text{Student Award Percentage} = \text{Award}$

Maximum Award: \$1,084 Minimum Award: \$500

Current Year Spending: All of the 2015-2016 funds will be spent. Awards were suspended June 25, 2015.



Morna K. Foy, President

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February 15, 2016

John Reinemann
Executive Secretary
Higher Educational Aids Board
131 West Wilson Street, Suite 902
P.O. Box 7885
Madison WI 53707-7885

Re: 2016-17 WTCS Wisconsin Grant Recommendation

Dear Executive Secretary Reinemann:

I am submitting to you the Wisconsin Technical College System’s (WTCS) recommendation for the 2016-17 WTCS Wisconsin Grant formula. The formula was developed with the input of technical college financial aid administrators and technical assistance from HEAB staff.

2016-17 WTCS Wisconsin Grant Formula
Single Formula – Independent/Dependent Students

Student Budget	\$9,270
Award Percentage	11.70%
Maximum Award	\$1,084
Minimum Award	\$500
EFC Range	\$0-\$4,996

Should additional funds become available, I would request the opportunity to modify this recommendation.

For 2016-17, we recommend the same student budget used for the WTCS Wisconsin Grant formula. We recommend the maximum (\$1,084) and minimum (\$500) awards for the neediest students. This is necessary to address the high unmet financial need of technical college students, which continues to be higher than for students in other Wisconsin higher education sectors. Without additional FY2016 WTCS Wisconsin Grant funds, we anticipate that HEAB will place W/Z Codes on our students in June 2016. At the present level of Wisconsin Grant funds, we still anticipate that up to 50 percent of eligible WTCS students would not receive WTCS Wisconsin Grant funds in FY2017, with the same or higher number of student financial aid applicants.

I would also like to make you aware of the WTCS Wisconsin Grant goals that were developed with the technical college financial aid directors. These goals reflect a level of support for the

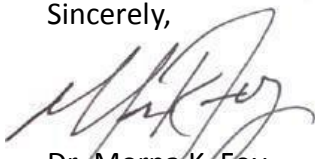
WTCS Wisconsin Grant program that would allow us to reasonably meet the needs of technical college students, and include:

- Serve the same or a greater number of technical college students;
- Continue to serve technical college students with a high financial need;
- Increase the maximum award amount to at least \$1,850 in order to meet at least 20 percent of a student's calculated financial need;
- Have the ability to make awards in the second semester for January starters, in recognition of the non-traditional enrollment patterns of many technical college students;
- Tie the WTCS Wisconsin Grant allocation to WTCS tuition levels over the past three years, in the same way that statute links the University of Wisconsin's Wisconsin Grant allocation to tuition;
- Fully expend the WTCS's Wisconsin Grant allocation each year;
- Maintain student eligibility requirements at six credits and Wisconsin residency, the same as for University of Wisconsin students;
- Keep one WTCS Wisconsin Grant formula that applies to both dependent and independent students; and,
- Continue to use the federal methodology to calculate student financial need.

While many of these goals are not achievable under the current WTCS Wisconsin Grant appropriation level, they set the direction in which we must work to offer adequate financial aid support to our technical college students. I appreciate the HEAB's efforts to increase the appropriation for the WTCS Wisconsin Grant, and I look forward to continuing to work with you in the future to secure a better level of support for our students.

Thank you for your assistance in providing vital information for developing our recommendation. We are pleased to offer this recommendation for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Morna K. Foy
President