

Minnesota Achieve Scholarship

The Achieve Scholarship program is designed to address two critical barriers to college attendance: lack of academic preparation and financial access. Eligible students who graduate from a Minnesota high school after January 1, 2009 and enroll full time (15 credits) in an eligible Minnesota college or university in the academic year immediately following their high school graduation can receive a one-time scholarship for use in their first academic year ranging from \$1,200 to approximately \$4,000 depending on financial need.

Students must have completed one of the four required course options below, and have graduated with an un-weighted grade point average of 2.5 or higher. In addition, students must be eligible for a need-based Pell or State Grant (demonstrating their financial eligibility through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

To be eligible, the student must have completed one of the following four rigorous programs of study while in high school or a home-school setting:

OPTION 1 - This program of study requires passing grades in the following:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math (including algebra I and a higher level course such as algebra II, geometry or data analysis and statistics)
- 3 years of science, including 1 year each of at least 2 of the following courses: biology, chemistry and physics
- 3 years of social studies
- 1 year of a language other than English*

OPTION 2 - Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses and test scores:

Requires a minimum of 2 Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in high school and a minimum passing score on the exams for those classes. Students must score 3 or higher on AP exams and 4 or higher on IB exams.

OPTION 3 - This program of study requires passing grades in the following:

- 4 years of language arts
- 3 years of math, including 1 year each of geometry and 2 years of algebra, 1 of which is intermediate or advanced algebra
- 3 years of science including 1 year each of a biological and physical science
- 3 years of social studies
- 2 years of a single foreign language*

OPTION 4 - Minnesota Dual Credit Program

With a passing grade of 'B' or better: High school students taking BOTH a math course (algebra II level or higher) AND a science course (biology, chemistry, or physics) under the Postsecondary Enrollment Options program (PSEO) or the Concurrent Enrollment Program, worth a total of at least 6 college credits, shall meet the rigorous program of study requirements.

ADDITIONAL AWARD FOR ONLINE COURSE COMPLETION IN HIGH SCHOOL

Eligible students who have completed at least one online course while in high school may receive an additional award of \$150.

* Students can request a foreign language requirement waiver if their first language is not English and they have attained English language proficiency.

How to Apply

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) found at www.fafsa.ed.gov and apply for the Achieve Scholarship online at www.getreadyforcollege.org/achieve during the spring of senior year. Then submit a complete official high school transcript after graduation to the Office of Higher Education. Applications must be submitted within 30 days after the start of the college term.