

March 23, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents

FROM: David L. Buhler

SUBJECT: Revision of Policy R604, *New Century Scholarship* and R609, *Regents' Scholarship*

Issue

The proposed modifications update existing policy and better align practices with statute. Most are minor changes involving the order and placement of the rules. Some modifications substantively change the appeals processes, including the following:

- Under these proposed changes, students who substantially complied with the application process but were denied a scholarship for reasons such as a missed deadline or missing document will have an opportunity to file an appeal and show "good cause". If the applicant demonstrates good cause, the appeals committee may allow the student to complete the application.
- Students who miss the deadline to file an appeal of a scholarship denial will have an opportunity to demonstrate "excusable neglect," which is defined as an action that is the consequence of an unavoidable hindrance or accident, not something resulting from the student's own carelessness. If the student demonstrates excusable neglect, the appeals committee may consider the late appeal on its merits, whereas under current rules the late appeal is disallowed.

The proposed changes will remove the requirement that students must complete an entire course in order to receive course credit toward the scholarship. Under the change, scholarship staff will recognize, for instance, the half credit awarded to students who complete a semester of a year-long course. This change will improve alignment with the governing statute.

Background

The Board of Regents administers the New Century Scholarship and the Regents' Scholarship through the Outreach and Access arm of the Commissioner's Office. Each year, scholarship staff look for areas that can be improved in scholarship application instructions and in administrative procedures in order to make the process easier for students. Over the past year, the staff has implemented a number of substantive procedural changes to the scholarship programs. The Attorney General's office also recently reviewed the policies and administrative procedures and has recommended some changes. Accordingly, it has become necessary to update the Regents' scholarship policies and the corresponding administrative rules.

Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends the Regents approve the revisions to Policy R604, *New Century Scholarship* and R609, *Regents' Scholarship*.

David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

DLB/JH
Attachment

R604-1. Purpose: The New Century Scholarship encourages students to accelerate their education by earning an Associate's degree in high school from an institution within the Utah System of Higher Education.

R604-2. References

- 2.1. Utah Code [§53B-8-105](#) (2010).
- 2.2. Policy and Procedures [R609](#), Regents' Scholarship.

R604-3. Definitions

3.1. **"Applicant"**: is a student who is in their last term in high school and on track to complete the high school graduation requirements of a public school established by the Utah State Board of Education and the student's school district or charter school or a private high school in the state that is accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Utah State Board of Regents, or a home-school student.

3.2. **"Associate's Degree"**: An Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Applied Science degree received from, or verified by, a regionally accredited institution within the Utah System of Higher Education. If the institution does not offer the above listed degrees, equivalent academic requirements will suffice under subsection 3.5.2. of this policy.

3.3. **"Awards"**: New Century Scholarship funds.

3.4. **"Board"**: The Utah State Board of Regents.

3.5. **"Completes the requirements for an associates degree"**: Means that an applicant completes either of the following:

3.5.1. all the required courses for an associates degree from an institution within the Utah System of Higher Education that offers Associate's degrees; and applies for the Associate's degree from the institution; or

3.5.2. all the required courses for an equivalency to the associates degree from a higher education institution within the Utah System of Higher Education that offers Baccalaureate degrees but does not offer Associate's degrees.²

3.6 "Excusable Neglect" means a failure to take proper steps at the proper time, not in consequence of carelessness, inattention, or willful disregard in the processing of an appeal, but in consequence of some unexpected or unavoidable hindrance or accident.

3.7 "Good Cause" means the student's failure to meet a scholarship application process requirement was due to circumstances beyond the student's control or circumstances that are compelling and reasonable.

¹ Adopted June 4, 1999, amended July 12, 1999, April 20, 2001, May 31, 2002, September 15, 2006. Amended and approved by the Board of Regents October 16, 2009, April 1, 2010, March 25, 2011, and March 29, 2013.

² Please note the requirement to have the coursework certified by the campus registrar under subsection 5.3 of this policy.

3.68. “High school”: a public high school established by the Utah State Board of Education or private high school within the boundaries of the State of Utah. If a private high school, it shall be accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Board.

3.78. “High school graduation date”: the day on which the recipient’s class graduates from high school. For home-schooled student refer to subsection 4.2.1 of this policy.

3.810. “Home-schooled”: refers to a student who has not graduated from a Utah high school and received a high school grade point average (GPA).

3.911. “Math and science curriculum”: the rigorous math and science curriculum developed and approved by the Board which, if completed, qualifies a high school student for an award. Curriculum requirements can be found at the website of the Utah System of Higher Education.

3.1012. “New Century Scholarship”: a renewable scholarship to be awarded to applicants who complete the eligibility requirements of section 4 of this policy.

3.1113. “Reasonable progress”: enrolling and completing at least fifteen credit hours during Fall and Spring semesters and earning a 3.3 GPA or higher each semester. If applicable, students attending summer must enroll full-time according to their institution and or program policy regarding full-time status.

3.1214. “Recipient”: an applicant who receives an award under the requirements set forth in this policy.

3.1315. “Renewal Documents”: a college transcript demonstrating that the recipient has met the required semester GPA and a detailed schedule providing proof of enrollment in fifteen credit hours for the semester which the recipient is seeking award payment.

~~**3.14.** “Scholarship Review Committee”: the committee to review New Century Scholarship applications and make final decisions regarding awards.~~

3.16 “Scholarship Appeals Committee”: means the committee designated by Commissioner of Higher Education to review appeals of Regents’ Scholarship award decisions and take final agency action regarding awards.

3.17 “Scholarship Staff” means the group assigned to review Regents’ Scholarship applications and make initial decisions awarding the scholarships.

3.18 “Substantial Compliance” means the applicant, in good faith, complied with the substantial or essential scholarship application requirements and has demonstrated likely eligibility but failed to comply exactly with the application specifics.

3.1519. “The Utah System of Higher Education-- USHE”: the Utah System of Higher Education, which includes the University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, Southern Utah University, Snow College, Dixie State University, Utah Valley University, and Salt Lake Community College.

R604-4. Recipient Requirements: This section enumerates the requirements to qualify as a recipient. Subsection 4.1. creates the general academic requirements. Subsections 4.2 and 4.3 clarify the exceptions and requirements specific for home-schooled students and students whose graduation date occurs in 2010 or before. Subsections 4.4. through 4.7. establish other generally applicable requirements.

4.1 **General Academic Requirements:** Unless an exception applies, to qualify as a recipient a student shall:

4.1.1. complete the requirements for an associates degree³ or the math and science curriculum at a regionally accredited institution within the Utah State System of Higher Education

4.1.1.1. with at least a 3.0 grade point average

4.1.1. 2. by applicant's high school graduation date; and

4.1.2. complete the high school graduation requirements of a Utah high school with at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA.

4.2. **Utah Home-schooled Students:** For Utah home-schooled applicants the following exceptions and requirements apply:

4.2.1. **High School Graduation Date for Home-schooled Applicants:**

4.2.1.1. **Completes High School in 2011 and After:** If a home-schooled applicant would have completed high school in 2011 or after, the high school graduation date (under subsection 4.1.1.2.) is June 15 of the year the applicant would have completed high school;

4.2.2. **ACT Composite Score Requirement:** A composite ACT score of 26 or higher is required in place of the high school GPA (under subsection 4.1.2).

4.3. **Mandatory Fall Term Enrollment:** A recipient shall enroll in and successfully complete fifteen credit hours at an eligible institution by Fall semester immediately following the student's high school graduation date or receive an approved deferral or leave of absence from the Board under subsection 8.7 of this policy. Documentation shall include the recipient's name, the semester the recipient will attend, the name of the institution they are attending and the number of credits for which the recipient is enrolled.

4.4. **Citizenship Requirement:** A recipient shall certify under penalty of law they are a citizen of the United States or a noncitizen who is eligible to receive federal student aid.

4.5. **No Criminal Record Requirement:** A recipient shall not have a criminal record, with the exception of a misdemeanor traffic citation.

4.6. **Regents' Scholarship:** A recipient shall not receive both an award and the Regents' Scholarship established in Utah Code §53B-8-108 and administered in R609.

R604-5 Application Procedures: This section establishes the basic application procedures for an award.

5.1. **Application Contact:** Qualifying students shall apply for the award through the Board.

5.2. **General Procedure:** An application for an award shall contain the following:

³ Please refer to section 3.5 for clarification.

5.2.1. **Application Form:** the official online application will become available on the New Century website each November prior to the February 1 deadline.

5.2.2. **College Transcript:** an official college transcript showing college courses, Advanced Placement and transfer work an applicant has completed to meet the requirements for the associates degree and verification of the date the award was earned; and

5.2.3. **High School Transcript:** an official high school transcript with high school graduation dated posted (if applicable).

5.2.4. **ACT Score:** a copy of the student's verified ACT score (if applicable).

5.3. **Registrar Verification:** If an applicant is enrolled at an institution which does not offer an associates degree or an institution that will not award the associates degree until the academic on-campus residency requirement has been met, the registrar must verify that the applicant has completed the equivalent academic requirements under 4.1.1.

5.4. **Application Deadline:** Applicants shall meet the following deadlines:

5.4.1. **Application Submission:** Applicants must submit ~~a the official~~ scholarship application ~~to the Scholarship Review Committee~~ no later than February 1 of the year of their high school graduation date or the year they would have graduated from high school.

5.4.2. **Support Documentation Submission:** All necessary support documentation shall be submitted on or before September 1 following the student's high school graduation date. In some cases exceptions may be made as advanced placement and transfer work verification may be delayed at an institutional level and no fault of the applicant. Scholarship awards may be denied if all documentation is not complete and submitted by the specified deadlines. And if any documentation demonstrates that the applicant did not satisfactorily fulfill all coursework and GPA requirements, or if any information, including the attestation of criminal record and citizenship status, proves to be falsified.

5.4.3. **Priority Deadline:** A priority deadline may be established each year. Applicants who meet the priority deadline may be given first priority of consideration for awards.

5.5. **Incomplete Documentation:** Applications or other submissions that have missing information or missing documents are considered incomplete, will not be considered, and may result in failure to meet a deadline.

R604-6 Awards: This section establishes the total value of an award, the power of the Board to change that value, and the eligible institutions where the award may be used.

6.1. **Value of the Award:** The award is up to the amount provided by the law and determined each Spring by the Board based on legislative funding and number of applicants. The total value may change in accordance with subsection 6.2. ~~The award shall be disbursed semester by semester over the shortest of the following time periods:~~

~~6.1.1. Four semesters of enrollment in fifteen credit hours.~~

~~6.1.2. Sixty credit hours;~~

~~6.1.3. Until the student meets the requirements for a Baccalaureate degree.~~

6.2. The Board May Decrease Award: If the appropriation from the Utah Legislature for the scholarship is insufficient to cover the costs associated with the scholarship, the Board may reduce or limit the award.

6.3. Eligible Institutions: An award may be used at either

6.3.1. Public Institution: a four-year institution within the Utah System of Higher Education that offers Baccalaureate programs; or

6.3.2. Private Nonprofit Institution: a private not-for-profit higher education four-year institution in the state of Utah accredited by the Northwest [Commission on Colleges and Universities Association of Schools and Colleges](#) that offers Baccalaureate programs.

6.4. Enrollment at Multiple Institutions: ~~The award may be used at more than one of the eligible institutions within the same semester for the academic year 2010-11. However, starting in 2011 when the award goes to a flat rate, t~~he award may only be used at the institution from which the student is earning a Baccalaureate degree.

6.5. Student Transfer: The award may be transferred to a different eligible institution upon the request of the recipient.

6.6. Financial Aid and other Scholarships: With the exception of the Regents' Scholarship (as detailed in subsection 4.6 of this policy) tuition waivers, financial aid, or other scholarships will not affect a recipient's total award amount.

R604-7 Disbursement of Award: This section details the disbursement of the award amounts.

7.1. Disbursement Schedule of Award: The award shall be disbursed semester-by-semester over the shortest of the following time periods:

7.1.1. Four semesters of enrollment in fifteen credit hours;

7.1.2. sixty credit hours; or

7.1.3. until the recipient meets the requirements for a baccalaureate degree.

7.2. Enrollment Documentation: The recipient shall submit to the Scholarship ~~Committee~~ [staff Review](#) a detailed copy of a class schedule verifying that the recipient is enrolled in fifteen credit hours or more at an eligible institution. Documentation must include the student's name, the semester the recipient will attend, institution that they are attending and the number of credits the recipient is enrolled.

7.3. Award Payable to Institution: The award will be made payable to the institution. The institution shall pay over to the recipient any excess award funds not required for tuition payments. Award funds should be used for higher education expenses including tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for instruction.

7.4. Dropped Hours after Award: If a recipient drops credit hours after having received the award which results in enrollment below fifteen credit hours the scholarship will be revoked (see 8.1) unless the student needs fewer than fifteen credit hours for completion of a degree.

R604-8. Continuing Eligibility: This section establishes the expectations of recipients to renew their award.

8.1 Reasonable Progress Toward Degree Completion: The Board may cancel a recipient's scholarship if the student fails to:

8.1.1. Maintain 3.3 GPA: to maintain a 3.3 GPA or higher for each semester for which he or she has received awards; or

8.1.2. Reasonable Progress: to make reasonable progress (fifteen credit hours) toward the completion of a Baccalaureate degree and submit the documentation by the deadline as described in subsection 8.2. A recipient must apply and receive an approved deferral or leave of absence under subsection 8.7 if he or she will not enroll in fifteen credit hours continuously for Fall and Spring semesters.

8.2. Duty of Student to Report Reasonable Progress: Each semester, the recipient must submit to the Board a copy of his or her grades to verify that he or she has met the required grade point average and has completed a minimum of fifteen credit hours each semester. Recipients will not be paid for the coming semester until the requested documentation has been received ~~if the recipient fails to maintain a 3.3 GPA or higher for two consecutive semesters or fails to enroll and complete fifteen credit hours, the scholarship may be revoked.~~ These documents must be submitted by established deadlines.~~the following dates:~~

~~8.2.1.—Proof of enrollment for Fall Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by September 30.~~

~~8.2.2.—Proof of enrollment for Spring Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by February 15.~~

~~8.2.3.—Proof of enrollment for Summer Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by June 30.~~

~~8.2.4.—Proof of enrollment if you are attending Brigham Young University during Winter Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by February 15.~~

~~8.2.5.—Proof of enrollment if you are attending Brigham Young University during Spring Term and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by May 30.~~

~~8.2.6.—Proof of enrollment if you are attending Brigham Young University during Summer Term and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by July 30.~~

8.3. Probation: If a recipient earns less than a 3.3 GPA in any single semester, the recipient must earn a 3.3 GPA or better the following semester to maintain eligibility for the scholarship. If the recipient again at any time earns less than a 3.3 GPA the scholarship will be revoked.

8.4. Final Semester: A recipient will not be required to enroll in fifteen credit hours if the recipient can complete the degree program with fewer credits.

8.5. **No Awards after Five Years:** The Board will not make an award to a recipient for an academic term that begins more than five years after the recipient's high school graduation date.

8.6. **No Guarantee of Degree Completion:** An award does not guarantee that the recipient will complete his or her Baccalaureate program within the recipient's scholarship eligibility period.

8.7. **Deferral or Leave of Absence:**

8.7.1. A recipient shall apply to the Board for a deferral of award or a leave of absence if they do not continuously enroll in fifteen credit hours.

8.7.2. A deferral or leave of absence will not extend the time limits of the scholarship under subsection 8.5.

8.7.3. Deferrals or leaves of absence may be granted, at the discretion of the Board, for military service, humanitarian/religious service, documented medical reasons, and other exigent reasons.

R604-9 Appeals

~~9.1. **Scholarship Determinations:** Submission of a scholarship application does not guarantee a scholarship award. Individual scholarship applications will be reviewed, and award decisions are made, at the discretion of a the scholarship staff/Scholarship Review Committee. Awards are based on available funding, applicant pool, and applicants' completion of scholarship criteria. Each applicant will receive a letter notification informing the applicant of the decision on his/her application.~~

~~9.2. **Appeals:** Applicants and recipients have the right to appeal an adverse decision.~~

~~9.2.1. Appeals shall be postmarked within 30 days of date of notification by submitting a completed Appeal Application found on the program website.~~

~~9.2.2. An appeal filed before the applicant/recipient receives official notification from the Regents' Scholarship Review Committee regarding their application, will not be considered.~~

~~9.2.3. The appeal shall provide evidence that an adverse decision was made in error, such as that in fact, the applicant/recipient met all scholarship requirements and submitted all requested documentation by the deadline.~~

~~9.2.4. Appeals are not accepted for late document submission.~~

~~9.2.5. A submission of an appeal does not guarantee a reversal of the original decision.~~

~~9.2.6. It is the applicant/recipient's responsibility to file the appeal, including all supplementary documentation. All documents shall be mailed to the New Century Scholarship address.~~

~~9.2.7. Appeals will be reviewed and decided by an appeals committee appointed by the Commissioner of Higher Education.~~

9.1. **Scholarship Determinations:** Submission of a scholarship application does not guarantee a scholarship award. The Scholarship Staff shall review individual scholarship applications and make the awards determination. Awards are based on available funding, applicant pool, and applicants' completion of scholarship criteria by the specified deadline.

9.2. Appeals: An applicant has the right to appeal the Scholarship Staff's decision by filing an appeal with the Scholarship Appeals Committee subject to the following conditions:

- 9.2.1. The appeal must be in writing and submitted through the U.S. Mail. Appeals must be hand delivered to the office or postmarked within 30 days of the date on which the scholarship notification was issued.
- 9.2.2 In the appeal, the applicant must provide his or her full name, mailing address, the high school he or she last attended, a statement of the reason for the appeal, and all information or evidence that supports the appeal. The failure of an applicant to provide the information in this subsection shall not preclude the acceptance of an appeal.
- 9.2.3. An appeal filed before the applicant receives official notification from the Scholarship Staff regarding their application shall not be considered.
- 9.2.4 If an applicant failed to file his or her appeal on time, the Scholarship Appeals Committee shall notify the applicant and give him or her an opportunity to show that the appeal was timely or that it was delayed for excusable neglect. If it is found that the appeal was not timely and the delay was without excusable neglect, the Scholarship Appeals Committee shall not have jurisdiction to consider the merits.
- 9.2.5 The Scholarship Appeals Committee may consider a late appeal on its merits if it determines the appeal was delayed because of excusable neglect.
- 9.2.6 The Scholarship Appeals Committee shall review the appeal to determine if the award decision was made in error, or if the applicant demonstrated substantial compliance with the scholarship application requirements but failed to meet one or more requirements for good cause.
- 9.2.7 If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the initial decision was made in error, it shall either reverse the initial decision or remand it back to the Scholarship Staff for further review in accordance with the Appeals Committee's instructions.
- 9.2.8 If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she demonstrated substantial compliance with the application process requirements and good cause for failing to meet one or more of the requirements, the Appeals Committee shall grant the applicant a reasonable period of time to complete the remaining requirements and to resubmit the completed application to the Scholarship Staff for a redetermination.
- 9.2.9 The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision shall be in writing and contain its findings of facts, reasoning and conclusions of law and notice of the right to judicial review.
- 9.2.10. The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision represents the final agency action. An applicant who disagrees with the Scholarship Appeal Committee's Decision may seek judicial review in accordance with Utah Code Ann. 63G-4-402.

R604-1. Purpose: The New Century Scholarship encourages students to accelerate their education by earning an Associate's degree in high school from an institution within the Utah System of Higher Education.

R604-2. References

- 2.1. Utah Code §53B-8-105 (2010).
- 2.2. Policy and Procedures R609, Regents' Scholarship.

R604-3. Definitions

- 3.1. **"Applicant"**: is a student who is in their last term in high school and on track to complete the high school graduation requirements of a public school established by the Utah State Board of Education and the student's school district or charter school or a private high school in the state that is accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Utah State Board of Regents, or a home-school student.
- 3.2. **"Associate's Degree"**: An Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, or Associate of Applied Science degree received from, or verified by, a regionally accredited institution within the Utah System of Higher Education. If the institution does not offer the above listed degrees, equivalent academic requirements will suffice under subsection 3.5.2. of this policy.
- 3.3. **"Awards"**: New Century Scholarship funds.
- 3.4. **"Board"**: The Utah State Board of Regents.
- 3.5. **"Completes the requirements for an associate degree"**: Means that an applicant completes either of the following:
 - 3.5.1. all the required courses for an associate degree from an institution within the Utah System of Higher Education that offers Associate's degrees; and applies for the Associate's degree from the institution; or
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- 3.6. **"Excusable Neglect"** means a failure to take proper steps at the proper time, not in consequence of carelessness, inattention, or willful disregard in the processing of an appeal, but in consequence of some unexpected or unavoidable hindrance or accident.
- 3.7. **"Good Cause"** means the student's failure to meet a scholarship application process requirement was due to circumstances beyond the student's control or circumstances that are compelling and reasonable.

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² Please note the requirement to have the coursework certified by the campus registrar under subsection 5.3 of this policy.

- 3.8. **“High school”**: a public high school established by the Utah State Board of Education or private high school within the boundaries of the State of Utah. If a private high school, it shall be accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Board.
- 3.9. **“High school graduation date”**: the day on which the recipient’s class graduates from high school. For home-schooled student refer to subsection 4.2.1 of this policy.
- 3.10. **“Home-schooled”**: refers to a student who has not graduated from a Utah high school and received a high school grade point average (GPA).
- 3.11. **“Math and science curriculum”**: the rigorous math and science curriculum developed and approved by the Board which, if completed, qualifies a high school student for an award. Curriculum requirements can be found at the website of the Utah System of Higher Education.
- 3.12. **“New Century Scholarship”**: a renewable scholarship to be awarded to applicants who complete the eligibility requirements of section 4 of this policy.
- 3.13. **“Reasonable progress”**: enrolling and completing at least fifteen credit hours during Fall and Spring semesters and earning a 3.3 GPA or higher each semester. If applicable, students attending summer must enroll full-time according to their institution and or program policy regarding full-time status.
- 3.14. **“Recipient”**: an applicant who receives an award under the requirements set forth in this policy.
- 3.15. **“Renewal Documents”**: a college transcript demonstrating that the recipient has met the required semester GPA and a detailed schedule providing proof of enrollment in fifteen credit hours for the semester which the recipient is seeking award payment.
- 3.16. **“Scholarship Appeals Committee”**: means the committee designated by Commissioner of Higher Education to review appeals of Regents’ Scholarship award decisions and take final agency action regarding awards.
- 3.17. **“Scholarship Staff”** means the group assigned to review Regents’ Scholarship applications and make initial decisions awarding the scholarships.
- 3.18. **“Substantial Compliance”** means the applicant, in good faith, complied with the substantial or essential scholarship application requirements and has demonstrated likely eligibility but failed to comply exactly with the application specifics.
- 3.19. **“The Utah System of Higher Education-- USHE”**: the Utah System of Higher Education, which includes the University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, Southern Utah University, Snow College, Dixie State University, Utah Valley University, and Salt Lake Community College.

R604-4. Recipient Requirements: This section enumerates the requirements to qualify as a recipient. Subsection 4.1. creates the general academic requirements. Subsections 4.2 and 4.3 clarify the exceptions and requirements specific for home-schooled students and students whose graduation date occurs in 2010 or before. Subsections 4.4. through 4.7. establish other generally applicable requirements.

- 4.1 **General Academic Requirements:** Unless an exception applies, to qualify as a recipient a student shall:

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4.1.1.1. with at least a 3.0 grade point average

4.1.1.2. by applicant's high school graduation date; and

4.1.2. complete the high school graduation requirements of a Utah high school with at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA.

4.2. **Utah Home-schooled Students:** For Utah home-schooled applicants the following exceptions and requirements apply:

4.2.1. **High School Graduation Date for Home-schooled Applicants:**

4.2.1.1. **Completes High School in 2011 and After:** If a home-schooled applicant would have completed high school in 2011 or after, the high school graduation date (under subsection 4.1.1.2.) is June 15 of the year the applicant would have completed high school;

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R604-5 Application Procedures: This section establishes the basic application procedures for an award.

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5.4. **Application Deadline:** Applicants shall meet the following deadlines:

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6.3.1. **Public Institution:** a four-year institution within the Utah System of Higher Education that offers Baccalaureate programs; or

6.3.2. Private Nonprofit Institution: a private not-for-profit higher education four-year institution in the state of Utah accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities that offers Baccalaureate programs.

6.4. Enrollment at Multiple Institutions: The award may only be used at the institution from which the student is earning a Baccalaureate degree.

6.5. Student Transfer: The award may be transferred to a different eligible institution upon the request of the recipient.

6.6. Financial Aid and other Scholarships: With the exception of the Regents' Scholarship (as detailed in subsection 4.6 of this policy) tuition waivers, financial aid, or other scholarships will not affect a recipient's total award amount.

R604-7 Disbursement of Award: This section details the disbursement of the award amounts.

7.1. Disbursement Schedule of Award: The award shall be disbursed semester-by-semester over the shortest of the following time periods:

7.1.1. Four semesters of enrollment in fifteen credit hours;

7.1.2. sixty credit hours; or

7.1.3. until the recipient meets the requirements for a baccalaureate degree.

7.2. Enrollment Documentation: The recipient shall submit to the Scholarship staff a detailed copy of a class schedule verifying that the recipient is enrolled in fifteen credit hours or more at an eligible institution. Documentation must include the student's name, the semester the recipient will attend, institution that they are attending and the number of credits the recipient is enrolled.

7.3. Award Payable to Institution: The award will be made payable to the institution. The institution shall pay over to the recipient any excess award funds not required for tuition payments. Award funds should be used for higher education expenses including tuition, fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for instruction.

7.4. Dropped Hours after Award: If a recipient drops credit hours after having received the award which results in enrollment below fifteen credit hours the scholarship will be revoked (see 8.1) unless the student needs fewer than fifteen credit hours for completion of a degree.

R604-8. Continuing Eligibility: This section establishes the expectations of recipients to renew their award.

8.1 Reasonable Progress Toward Degree Completion: The Board may cancel a recipient's scholarship if the student fails to:

8.1.1. Maintain 3.3 GPA: to maintain a 3.3 GPA or higher for each semester for which he or she has received awards; or

8.1.2. Reasonable Progress: to make reasonable progress (fifteen credit hours) toward the completion of a Baccalaureate degree and submit the documentation by the deadline as described

in subsection 8.2. A recipient must apply and receive an approved deferral or leave of absence under subsection 8.7 if he or she will not enroll in fifteen credit hours continuously for Fall and Spring semesters.

8.2. Duty of Student to Report Reasonable Progress: Each semester, the recipient must submit to the Board a copy of his or her grades to verify that he or she has met the required grade point average and has completed a minimum of fifteen credit hours each semester. Recipients will not be paid for the coming semester until the requested documentation has been received. These documents must be submitted by established deadlines.

8.3. Probation: If a recipient earns less than a 3.3 GPA in any single semester, the recipient must earn a 3.3 GPA or better the following semester to maintain eligibility for the scholarship. If the recipient again at any time earns less than a 3.3 GPA the scholarship will be revoked.

8.4. Final Semester: A recipient will not be required to enroll in fifteen credit hours if the recipient can complete the degree program with fewer credits.

8.5. No Awards after Five Years: The Board will not make an award to a recipient for an academic term that begins more than five years after the recipient's high school graduation date.

8.6. No Guarantee of Degree Completion: An award does not guarantee that the recipient will complete his or her Baccalaureate program within the recipient's scholarship eligibility period.

8.7. Deferral or Leave of Absence:

8.7.1. A recipient shall apply to the Board for a deferral of award or a leave of absence if they do not continuously enroll in fifteen credit hours.

8.7.2. A deferral or leave of absence will not extend the time limits of the scholarship under subsection 8.5.

8.7.3. Deferrals or leaves of absence may be granted, at the discretion of the Board, for military service, humanitarian/religious service, documented medical reasons, and other exigent reasons.

R604-9 Appeals

9.1. Scholarship Determinations: Submission of a scholarship application does not guarantee a scholarship award. The Scholarship Staff shall review individual scholarship applications and make the awards determination. Awards are based on available funding, applicant pool, and applicants' completion of scholarship criteria by the specified deadline.

9.2. Appeals: An applicant has the right to appeal the Scholarship Staff's decision by filing an appeal with the Scholarship Appeals Committee subject to the following conditions:

9.2.1. The appeal must be in writing and submitted through the U.S. Mail. Appeals must be hand delivered to the office or postmarked within 30 days of the date on which the scholarship notification was issued.

9.2.2 In the appeal, the applicant must provide his or her full name, mailing address, the high school he or she last attended, a statement of the reason for the appeal, and all information

or evidence that supports the appeal. The failure of an applicant to provide the information in this subsection shall not preclude the acceptance of an appeal.

- 9.2.3. An appeal filed before the applicant receives official notification from the Scholarship Staff regarding their application shall not be considered.
- 9.2.4. If an applicant failed to file his or her appeal on time, the Scholarship Appeals Committee shall notify the applicant and give him or her an opportunity to show that the appeal was timely or that it was delayed for excusable neglect. If it is found that the appeal was not timely and the delay was without excusable neglect, the Scholarship Appeals Committee shall not have jurisdiction to consider the merits.
- 9.2.5. The Scholarship Appeals Committee may consider a late appeal on its merits if it determines the appeal was delayed because of excusable neglect.
- 9.2.6. The Scholarship Appeals Committee shall review the appeal to determine if the award decision was made in error, or if the applicant demonstrated substantial compliance with the scholarship application requirements but failed to meet one or more requirements for good cause.
- 9.2.7. If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the initial decision was made in error, it shall either reverse the initial decision or remand it back to the Scholarship Staff for further review in accordance with the Appeals Committee's instructions.
- 9.2.8. If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she demonstrated substantial compliance with the application process requirements and good cause for failing to meet one or more of the requirements, the Appeals Committee shall grant the applicant a reasonable period of time to complete the remaining requirements and to resubmit the completed application to the Scholarship Staff for a redetermination.
- 9.2.9. The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision shall be in writing and contain its findings of facts, reasoning and conclusions of law and notice of the right to judicial review.
- 9.2.10. The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision represents the final agency action. An applicant who disagrees with the Scholarship Appeal Committee's Decision may seek judicial review in accordance with Utah Code Ann. 63G-4-402.

R609-1 Purpose: The Regents' Scholarship encourages Utah high school students to prepare for college academically and financially by taking a core course of study in grades 9-12 and saving for college. This statewide scholarship is aligned with the Utah Scholars Core Course of Study which is based on national recommendations as outlined by the State Scholars Initiative. The courses required by the scholarship are proven to help students become college and career ready. In addition, this scholarship encourages high school students to complete meaningful course work through their senior year.

R-609-2 References

- 2.1 Utah Code Ann. §53B-8-108 et seq., Regents' Scholarship Program
- 2.2 Utah Admin. Code §R277-700-7, High School Requirements (Effective for Graduating Students Beginning with the 2010-2011 School Year).
- 2.3 Regents' Policy and Procedures R604, New Century Scholarship.

R609-3 Definitions

3.1 **"Applicant"** means a student who is in their last term in high school and on track to complete the high school graduation requirements of a public school established by the Utah State Board of Education and the student's school district or charter school or a private high school in the state that is accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Utah State Board of Regents.

3.2 **"Base Award"**: a one-time scholarship to be awarded to applicants who complete the eligibility requirements of section [R609-4.1](#) of this policy.

3.3 **"Board"**: [means](#) the Utah State Board of Regents.

[3.4 "College Course Work" means any instance in which college credit is earned, including but limited to, concurrent enrollment, distance education, dual enrollment, or early college.](#)

[3.35 "Core Course of Study": means the courses](#) ~~the 16.5 credit Utah Scholars' curriculum~~ taken during grades 9-12, [for the Core Course of study](#) which includes:

[3.35.1](#) 4.0 units of English;

[3.35.2](#) 4.0 units of mathematics taken in a progressive manner (at minimum ~~Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and a senior year class beyond Algebra II~~; [Secondary Mathematics I, Secondary Mathematics II, Secondary Mathematics III and one class beyond](#)); [if the student is attending a school that has not implemented the Utah Core "K-12" Standards, a student would complete at minimum Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and a class beyond Algebra II](#)

[3.35.3](#) 3.5 units of social studies;

¹ Adopted June 4, 1999, amended July 12, 1999, April 20, 2001, May 31, 2002, September 15, 2006. Amended and approved by the Board of Regents October 16, 2009, April 1, 2010, March 25, 2011, and March 29, 2013.

- 3.35.4 3.0 units of lab-based natural science (one each of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics); and
- 3.35.5 2.0 units of the same foreign language, other than English, taken in a progressive manner.

3.6 "Eligible Institutions" means institutions of the USHE or any private, nonprofit institution of higher education in Utah accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

3.7 "Excusable Neglect" means a failure to take proper steps at the proper time, not in consequence of carelessness, inattention, or willful disregard of the scholarship application process, but in consequence of some unexpected or unavoidable hindrance or accident.

3.8 "Exemplary Academic Achievement Award": ("Exemplary Award") means a renewable scholarship to be awarded to students who complete the eligibility requirements of section 4.2 of this policy.

~~3.5 "Regents' Diploma Endorsement": a certificate or transcript notation that may be awarded to students who qualify for the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award of the Regents' Scholarship.~~

3.9 "Good Cause" means the student's failure to meet a scholarship application process requirement was due to circumstances beyond the student's control or circumstances that are compelling and reasonable.

3.10 "High school" means a public school established by the Utah State Board of Education or private high school within the boundaries of the State of Utah. If a private high school, it shall be accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Board.

3.11 "Home – Schooled" refers to a student who has not graduated from a Utah high school and received credits and/ or letter grades for the Core Course of study in grades 9-12.

3.12 "Recipient" means an applicant who receives an award under the requirements set forth in this policy.

3.13 "Reasonable progress" means enrolling and completing at least fifteen credit hours during Fall and Spring semesters and earning a 3.3 grade point average (GPA) or higher each semester while enrolled at an eligible institution and receiving the award.

~~3.14 "Renewal Documents" a college transcript demonstrating that the recipient has met the required semester GPA and a detailed schedule providing proof of enrollment in fifteen credit hours for the semester which the recipient is seeking award payment~~ include institutionally produced documents demonstrating that the recipient has met the required semester GPA and a detailed schedule providing proof of enrollment in fifteen credit hours for the semester for which the recipient is seeking award payment.

3.615 "Scholarship ~~Review Appeals~~ Committee": means the committee ~~appointed designated~~ by Commissioner of Higher Education to review appeals of Regents' Scholarship ~~applications award~~ decisions and ~~make take~~ final decisions agency action regarding awards.

3.16 "Scholarship Staff" means the group assigned to review Regents' Scholarship applications and make initial decisions awarding the scholarships.

3.17 "Substantial Compliance" means the applicant, in good faith, complied with the substantial or essential scholarship application requirements and has demonstrated likely eligibility but failed to comply exactly with the application specifics.

~~3.3~~3.17 "UESP": means the Utah Educational Savings Plan.

~~3.4~~3.18 "USHE" : means the Utah system of higher education, which includes the University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, Southern Utah University, Snow College, Dixie State University, Utah Valley University, and Salt Lake Community College.

~~3.5 "Eligible Institutions": the USHE, or at any private, nonprofit institution of higher education in Utah accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.~~

3.19 Weighted Grade: A grade shall be weighted if a student completed an advanced placement, international baccalaureate or college course. The grade weight given is half the value of the high school credits earned for the course. For AP and IB courses all grades are averaged and then the weight is applied. When college credit is earned the grade weight is applied to the grade shown on the college transcript.

~~4~~ **Conditions of the Regents' Scholarship Program and Program Terms**

R609-4. Base Award Requirements: To qualify for the Regents' Scholarship Base award, the applicant shall satisfy the following criteria:

~~4.1 Base Award: To qualify for the Regent's Scholarship Base Award, the applicant must satisfy the following criteria:~~

~~4.1.1 Complete the Core Course of Study as defined in section 3.5 of this policy subject to the following criteria. The applicant must submit an official high school transcript, and college transcript, if applicable, demonstrating in grades 9-12 completion of the Core Course of Study (information regarding courses satisfying the core requirements can be found online).~~

4.1.1. Not all courses that meet state and individual district high school graduation requirements meet the scholarship requirements.

4.1.2. Course Availability: In addition to taking courses at the school they are attending, A student may complete coursework through other accredited Utah high schools or Utah eligible institutions.

4.1.4 A student may meet a course requirement through a competency-based assessment provided it is documented on a transcript and has a letter grade(A-C) assigned.

4.1.5. The courses completed shall be unique except when repeated for a higher grade as noted in (insert section). Students may not take a standard course and then enroll in the honors version of the same course and count both toward meeting the scholarship credit requirements and, when applicable, the requirement of progression.

4.1.6. Repeated course work shall not count toward accumulation of required credits.

~~4.1.2 GPA and Weighted Courses: The applicant **must shall** demonstrate completion of the Core Course of Study with a non-weighted cumulative high school GPA of at least 3.0, ~~with no individual core course grade lower than a "C."~~ The grade earned in any course designated on the student's high school transcript as Advanced Placement (AP) or concurrent enrollment shall be weighted according to the Scholarship Review Committee's standard procedures.~~

4.3 Minimum Grade requirement: the applicant shall ~~have no individual core course grade lower than a "C" on a transcript~~ earn a course grade on a transcript of "C" or above in each individual course listed in section 3.4.. Certain courses may receive a weighted grade ~~as outlined under subsection 9.5~~ as part of the scholarship award determination.

4.4 Replacing Low Grades by Retaking a Course: An applicant may retake a course to replace a low grade received. When retaking courses to replace a grade the following subsections apply:

4.5 The Entire Course: The applicant shall either (1) retake the entire original course, or (2) complete an approved course equal to or greater in credit value in the same subject-area. The math and foreign language requirement of progression shall be shown. This is true even if the applicant only received a lower grade in a single semester, term, trimester, or quarter.

4.6 The Higher of Two Grades: The higher of two grades in the same or an approved course will count towards meeting the scholarship requirements.

4.7 Approved Courses and Progression Determined by the Regents' Scholarship Review Committee: The Regents' Scholarship Review Committee reserves the right to determine if the repeated course qualifies as an approved course in the same subject-area and if progression is required and demonstrated.

4.8 "P" and "I" Grades not Accepted: Pass/fail or incomplete grades do not meet the minimum scholarship grade requirement.

~~4.1.3 4.9 College Course Work: The Regents' Scholarship Review Committee reserves the right to apply a 3:1 ratio in relation to college course work. If a student enrolls in and completes a college course worth 3 or more college credits, this may be counted as 1 full unit towards the scholarship requirements, however, the student then is evaluated on the college grade earned. College course work will only be evaluated if the applicant submits an Official College transcript. If an applicant enrolls in and completes a college course worth three or more college credits, this shall be counted as one high school credit toward the scholarship requirements. The student is evaluated on the college grade earned, with the weight added to the college grade as defined in section 3.19.~~

~~4.1.4~~ **4.10 Required ACT Score:** The applicant ~~must~~ shall submit at least one verified ACT score.

~~4.1.5~~ **4.11 Utah High School Graduation:** The applicant ~~must~~ shall have graduated from a Utah high school.

~~4.1.5.1 Applicants applying from accredited Utah private high schools must satisfy all applicable requirements for a private high school diploma.~~

~~4.1.5.2 Home-schooled students are not eligible for the scholarship.~~

4.12 Citizenship: A recipient shall be a citizen of the United States or a noncitizen who is eligible to receive federal student aid.

~~4.1.6~~ **4.13 No Criminal Record:** ~~The applicant must attest to the lack of a criminal record~~ A recipient shall not have a criminal record, with the exception of a misdemeanor traffic citation.

~~4.1.7 Proof of U.S. Citizenship: The applicant must attest to being a U.S. citizen or a noncitizen who is eligible to receive federal financial aid.~~

4.2 Exemplary Academic Achievement Award: To qualify for the Regents' Scholarship Exemplary Academic Achievement Award, the applicant must satisfy all requirements for the Base Award, and additionally:

4.2.1 Required GPA: The applicant must have a cumulative high school GPA of at least 3.5, with no individual core course grade lower than a "B."

4.2.2 Required ACT Score: The applicant must submit a verified composite ACT score of at least 26.

4.2.3 Maintain Reasonable Progress toward Degree Completion: In order to receive and renew the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award, the student must maintain reasonable progress toward degree completion by achieving a 3.0 GPA each semester and enrolling full time (12 credit hours) each semester. If the student fails to maintain a 3.0 GPA or fails to enroll full time, the scholarship may be revoked.

4.2.3.1 Each semester, the recipient must submit to the Scholarship Review Committee a transcript verifying his/her grades to demonstrate that he/she is meeting the required GPA and is making reasonable progress toward the completion of a degree. These documents must be submitted by the following dates:

4.2.3.1.1 Proof of enrollment for Fall Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by September 30.

4.2.3.1.2 Proof of enrollment for Spring Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by February 15.

4.2.3.1.3 Proof of enrollment for Summer Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by June 30.

4.2.3.1.4 Proof of enrollment if you are attending Brigham Young University during Winter Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by February 15.

4.2.3.1.5 Proof of enrollment if you are attending Brigham Young University during Spring Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by May 30.

4.2.3.1.6 Proof of enrollment if you are attending Brigham Young University during Summer Semester and proof of completion of the previous semester must be submitted by July 30.

4.2.3.2 If a student earns less than a 3.0 GPA in any single semester, the student must earn a 3.0 GPA or better the following semester to maintain eligibility for the scholarship.

4.2.3.3 A student will not be required to enroll full time if the student can complete his/her degree program with fewer credits.

4.3 Eligible Institutions: Both the Base Award and the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award may be used at any public college or university within the USHE, or at any private, nonprofit institution of higher education in Utah accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

4.4 Enrollment at More than One Institution: The award may be used at more than one eligible institution within the same semester.

~~4.5 Student Transfer: A scholarship may be transferred to a different eligible institution upon request of the student.~~

~~4.6 Relationship to Regents' Awards: For a student who graduates prior to or during the 2009-10 school year, and qualifies for the Base Award and the New Century Scholarship may be awarded the Base Award and a UESP Supplemental Award in addition to a New Century Scholarship. A student who qualifies for the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award and the New Century Scholarship will only be eligible to receive one of these two year scholarships. For a student who graduates from high school in or after 2009-2010 may not receive the New Century Scholarship and a Regents' Scholarship Base Award or the UESP Supplemental Award.~~

~~4.7 "P" Grades not Accepted: A student may not include a pass/fail grade from a course to fulfill any scholarship qualification or renewal requirements, including course or GPA requirements.~~

4.14 Mandatory Fall Semester Enrollment: A recipient shall enroll in fifteen credit hours at an eligible institution by Fall semester immediately following the student's high school graduation date or receive an approved deferral from the Board under subsection 7.2. Documentation shall include the recipient's name, the semester the recipient will attend, the name of the institution they are attending and the number of credits for which the recipient is enrolled.

4.15 New Century Scholarship: A recipient shall not receive both a Regents' Scholarship and the New Century Scholarship established in Utah Code Section 53B-8-105 and administered in R604, 609-5. Exemplary Academic Achievement Award Requirements: To qualify for the Regents' Scholarship Exemplary Academic Achievement award, the applicant shall satisfy all requirements for the Base award (see section 3.4), and additionally meet all of the following requirements:

4.16 GPA: The applicant shall have a non-weighted cumulative high school GPA of at least 3.5.

4.17 Minimum Grade: The applicant shall earn a course grade on a transcript of "B" or above in each individual course listed in section 3.4. Certain courses may receive a weighted grade as part of the scholarship award determination.

4.18 ACT Score: The applicant shall submit a verified composite ACT score of at least 26.

609-5. Continuation and Renewal of the Exemplary Award.

5.1 Duty of Student to Report Reasonable Progress Toward Degree Completion: In order to renew the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award, the recipient shall submit renewal documents each semester, providing evidence of reasonable progress toward degree completion by the deadlines established in current program materials.

5.2 If the recipient fails to maintain a 3.3 GPA in a single semester the recipient is placed on probation and shall earn a 3.3 GPA or better the following semester to maintain eligibility. If the recipient again at any time earns less than a 3.3 GPA or fails to enroll and complete fifteen credit hours, except as outlined in section 7.2 of this policy, the scholarship may be revoked.

5.3 Recipient will not be required to enroll in fifteen credit hours if the student can complete his/her degree program with fewer credits. Documentation shall include the recipient's name, the semester the recipient will attend, the name of the institution they are attending and the number of credits for which the recipient is enrolled.

5.4 Student Transfer: Students may transfer their scholarship to a different eligible institution upon request to the Scholarship office.

609-6 Application Procedures

~~5.1~~ 6.1 Application Deadline: Applicants shall submit an official scholarship application ~~to the Scholarship Review Committee~~ no later than February 1 of the year that they graduate from high school. A priority deadline may be established each year. ~~Students~~ Applicants who meet the priority deadline may be given first priority or consideration for the scholarship. Subject to funding, students may be considered based on date of completed and submitted application.

~~5.2~~ 6.2 Required Documentation: Scholarship awards ~~may~~ shall be denied if all documentation is not completed and submitted, by the specified deadlines. If any documentation demonstrates that the applicant did not satisfactorily fulfill all course and GPA requirements, or if any information, including the attestation of criminal record or citizenship status, proves to be falsified, ~~the award may be denied.~~ Required documents that ~~must~~ shall be submitted with a scholarship application include:

~~5.2.1~~ 6.2.1 the official online application;

~~5.2.2~~ 6.2.2 an official high school paper or electronic transcript, official college transcript(s) when applicable, and any other miscellaneous transcripts demonstrating all completed courses and GPA. Final transcript(s) ~~showing the last semester of coursework~~ will be requested if the student is found conditionally approved, meaning that the student appears to be on track to receive the scholarship;

~~5.2.3~~ 6.2.3 If a student completed coursework at an educational institution outside of the district from which the student graduated, the student must submit an official transcript from the school at which he or she completed the coursework if the courses completed and grades earned are not reflected in the official high school transcript; and

~~5.2.3~~ 6.2.4 verified ACT score(s).

~~5.2.4~~ ~~a class schedule demonstrating the courses the student is enrolled in for the remaining school year. Simply submitting a high school transcript does not satisfy this requirement. The class schedule must contain the following information: the student's name, the school the student attends, courses the student will take for the remaining year including the number of credits each course is worth.~~

~~5.3 Incomplete Documentation: Applications or other submissions that have missing information or missing documents are considered incomplete, and will not be considered.~~

~~6 Amount of Awards and Distribution of Award Funds~~ R609-7. Amount of Awards and Distribution of Award Funds

~~6.1~~ 7.1 Funding Constraints of Awards: The Board may limit or reduce the Base Award and/or the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award, as well as supplemental awards granted, depending on the annual legislative appropriations and the number of qualified applicants.

~~6.2~~ 7.2 Amount of Awards

7.2.1 Base Award: The Base award of up to \$1,000 may be adjusted annually by the Board in an amount up to the average percentage tuition increase approved by the Board for USHE institutions.

7.2.2 Exemplary Academic Achievement Award: The Exemplary Academic Achievement award is up to the amount provided by law and as determined each Spring by the Board based on legislative funding and the number of applicants. The Exemplary Academic Achievement award may be renewed for the shortest of the following:

7.2.2.1 Four semesters of enrollment in fifteen credit hours;

7.2.2.2 Sixty-five credit hours; or

7.2.2.3 Until the student meets the requirements for a Baccalaureate degree.

7.2.3 UESP Supplemental Award to Encourage College Savings: Subject to available funding, an applicant who qualifies for the Base award is eligible to receive up to an additional \$400 in state funds to be added to the total scholarship award.

~~6.4.1~~**7.2.3.1.** For each year the applicant is 14, 15, 16, or 17 years of age and had an active UESP account, the Board may contribute, subject to available funding, \$100 (i.e., up to \$400 total for all four years) to the recipient's award if at least \$100 was deposited into the account for which the applicant is named the beneficiary.

~~6.4.2~~**7.2.3.2** If no contributions are made to an applicant's account during a given year, the matching amount will likewise be \$0.

~~6.4.3~~**7.2.3.3** If contributions total more than \$100 in a given year, the matching amount will cap at \$100 for that year.

~~6.3.4~~**7.2.3.4** Matching funds apply only to contributions, not to transfers, earnings, or interest.

6.3.3 Distribution of Award Funds

~~**6.3.1.—Enrollment Documentation:** The award recipient shall submit to the Scholarship Review Committee a copy of the college class schedule verifying that the recipient is enrolled in fifteen credit hours or more at an eligible institution. Documentation shall include: the recipient's name, the semester the recipient will attend, the name of the institution they are attending and the number of credits in which the recipient is enrolled.~~

7.3.1 Award Payable to Institution: The award will be made payable to the institution. The institution may pay over to the recipient any excess award funds not required for tuition payments. Award funds shall be used for any qualifying higher education expense including: tuition, fees, books, supplies, equipment required for course instruction, or housing.

6.3.2. Credit Hours Dropped After Award Payment: If a recipient drops credit hours after having received the award which results in enrollment below fifteen credit hours, the scholarship ~~will~~ may be revoked.

~~6.2. UESP Supplemental Award to Encourage College Savings: Subject to available funding, an applicant who qualifies for the Base award is eligible to receive up to an additional \$400 in state funds to be added to the total scholarship award.~~

~~6.4.1.—For each year the applicant is 14, 15, 16, or 17 years of age and had an active UESP account, the Board may contribute, subject to available funding, \$100 (i.e., up to \$400 total for all four years) to the recipient's award if at least \$100 was deposited into the account for which the applicant is named the beneficiary.~~

~~6.2.2. If no contributions are made to an applicant's account during a given year, the matching amount will likewise be \$0.~~

~~6.2.3. If contributions total more than \$100 in a given year, the matching amount will cap at \$100 for that year.~~

~~Matching funds apply only to contributions, not to transfers, earnings, or interest.~~

R609-~~78~~ Time Constraints and Continuing Eligibility

~~78.1. Time Limitation: A Regents' Scholarship recipient shall use the award in its entirety within five years after his/her high school graduation date.~~

~~78.2. Deferral or Leave of Absence: A recipient shall apply for a deferral or leave of absence if they do not continuously enroll in fifteen credit hours.~~

~~78.2.1. Deferrals or leaves of absence may be granted, at the discretion of the Scholarship Review Committee, for military service, humanitarian/religious service, documented medical reasons, and other exigent reasons.~~

~~78.2.2. An approved deferral or leave of absence will not extend the time limits of the scholarship. The scholarship may only be used for academic terms which begin within five years after the recipient's high school graduation date.~~

~~78.3. No Guarantee of Degree Completion: Neither a Base award nor an Exemplary Academic Achievement award guarantees that the recipient will complete his or her Associate or Baccalaureate program within the recipient's scholarship eligibility period.~~

R609-~~89~~ Scholarship Determinations and Appeals

~~8.1.—Scholarship Determinations: Submission of a scholarship application does not guarantee a scholarship award. Individual scholarship applications will be reviewed, and award decisions are made at the discretion of a Scholarship Review Committee. Awards are based on available funding, applicant pool, and applicant's completion of scholarship criteria. Each applicant will receive a letter informing the applicant of the decision on his/her application.~~

~~8.2.—Appeals: Applicants and Recipients have the right to appeal an adverse decision.~~

~~8.2.1.—Appeals shall be (postmarked) within 30 days of date of notification by submitting a completed Appeal Application found on the program's website.~~

- ~~8.2.2. An appeal filed before the applicant/recipient receives official notification from the Scholarship Review Committee regarding their application, will not be considered.~~
- ~~8.2.3. The appeal shall provide evidence that an adverse decision was made in error, such as that in fact, the applicant/recipient met all scholarship requirements and submitted all requested documentation by the deadline.~~
- ~~8.2.4. Appeals are not accepted for late document submission.~~
- ~~8.2.5. A submission of an appeal does not guarantee a reversal of the original decision.~~
- ~~8.2.6. It is the applicant/recipient's responsibility to file the appeal, including all supplementary documentation. All documents shall be mailed to the Regents' Scholarship address.~~
- ~~8.2.7. Appeals will be reviewed and decided by an appeals committee appointed by the Commissioner of Higher Education.~~

9.1. Scholarship Determinations: Submission of a scholarship application does not guarantee a scholarship award. The Scholarship Staff shall review individual scholarship applications and make the awards determination. Awards are based on available funding, applicant pool, and applicants' completion of scholarship criteria by the specified deadline.

9.2. Appeals: An applicant has the right to appeal the Scholarship Staff's adverse decision by filing an appeal with the Scholarship Appeals Committee subject to the following conditions:

- 9.2.1. The appeal must be in writing and submitted in person or through the U.S. Mail. Appeals must be hand delivered to the office or postmarked within 30 days of the date on which the scholarship notification was issued.
- 9.2.2 In the appeal, the applicant must provide his or her full name, mailing address, the high school he or she last attended, a statement of the reason for the appeal, and all information or evidence that supports the appeal. The failure of an applicant to provide the information in this subsection shall not preclude the acceptance of an appeal.
- 9.2.3. An appeal filed before the applicant receives official notification from the Scholarship Staff of its decision shall not be considered.
- 9.2.4 If an applicant failed to file his or her appeal on time, the Scholarship Appeals Committee shall notify the applicant of the late filing and give him or her an opportunity to explain the reasons for failing to file the appeal by the deadline. The Scholarship Appeals Committee shall not have jurisdiction to consider the merits of an appeal that is filed beyond the deadline unless it determines the applicant established excusable neglect.
- 9.2.5 The Scholarship Appeals Committee shall review the appeal to determine if the award decision was made in error, or if the applicant demonstrated substantial compliance with the scholarship application requirements but failed to meet one or more requirements for good cause.
- 9.2.6 If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the initial decision was made in error, it shall either

reverse the initial decision or remand it back to the Scholarship Staff for further review in accordance with the Appeals Committee's instructions.

9.2.7 If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she demonstrated substantial compliance with the application process requirements and good cause for failing to meet one or more of the requirements, the Appeals Committee shall grant the applicant a reasonable period of time to complete the remaining requirements and to resubmit the completed application to the Scholarship Staff for a redetermination. In such a case, the applicant shall have the right to appeal an adverse decision according to this rule.

9.2.8 The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision shall be in writing and contain its findings of facts, reasoning and conclusions of law and notice of the right to judicial review.

9.2.9. The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision represents the final agency action. An applicant who disagrees with the Scholarship Appeal Committee's Decision may seek judicial review in accordance with Utah Code Ann. 63G-4-402.

~~R765-609-9. Rules for Completing Course Work.~~

~~a course may meet state and individual district high school graduation requirements, the course may not meet the scholarship requirements. If a required course is not taught at the school the student attends they can elect to enroll in the Utah Electronic High School, distance education concurrent enrollment, or a course offered at another accredited Utah high school or college. Course work found at additional online sources shall be from an accredited institution approved by the Board.~~

~~9.2. Applicants are required to complete the entire curriculum for a course. For example, if a course is designed to be taken as a full year or for one full credit, the student shall complete the entire course in order to have it count toward the completion of a requirement for the scholarship.~~

~~9.3. Course work that is "tested out" of is not accepted for the Regents' Scholarship.~~

~~9.4. In each content area, the courses completed shall be unique.~~

~~9.4.1. Students cannot take a standard course and then enroll in the honors version of the same class and count both toward meeting the credit requirement and, in cases, the requirement of progression.~~

~~9.4.2. Repeated course work does not count toward the credit fulfillment.~~

~~Grade: The grade earned in any course designated on the student's high school transcript as Advanced Placement (AP) International Baccalaureate (IB), or a college course concurrent enrollment shall be weighted (only if a college transcript is provided) according to the Scholarship Review Committee's standard procedures.~~

~~9.6. College Course Work: The Scholarship Review Committee reserves the right to apply a 3:1 ratio in relation to college course work. If an applicant enrolls in and completes a college course worth three or more college credits, this may be counted as one full credit toward the scholarship requirements. However, the student then is evaluated on the college grade earned, with the weight added to the college grade earned.~~

R609-1 Purpose: The Regents' Scholarship encourages Utah high school students to prepare for college academically and financially by taking a core course of study in grades 9-12 and saving for college. This statewide scholarship is aligned with the Utah Scholars Core Course of Study which is based on national recommendations as outlined by the State Scholars Initiative. The courses required by the scholarship are proven to help students become college and career ready. In addition, this scholarship encourages high school students to complete meaningful course work through their senior year.

R-609-2 References

- 2.1 Utah Code Ann. §53B-8-108 et seq., Regents' Scholarship Program
- 2.2 Utah Admin. Code §R277-700-7, High School Requirements (Effective for Graduating Students Beginning with the 2010-2011 School Year).
- 2.3 Regents' Policy and Procedures R604, New Century Scholarship.

R609-3 Definitions

3.1 "Applicant" means a student who is in their last term in high school and on track to complete the high school graduation requirements of a public school established by the Utah State Board of Education and the student's school district or charter school or a private high school in the state that is accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Utah State Board of Regents.

3.2 "Base Award": a one-time scholarship to be awarded to applicants who complete the eligibility requirements of section R609-4 of this policy.

3.3 "Board" means the Utah State Board of Regents.

3.4 "College Course Work" means any instance in which college credit is earned, including but limited to, concurrent enrollment, distance education, dual enrollment, or early college.

3.5 "Core Course of Study": means the courses taken during grades 9-12 for the Core Course of study which include:

3.5.1 4.0 units of English;

3.5.2 4.0 units of mathematics taken in a progressive manner (at minimum Secondary Mathematics I, Secondary Mathematics II, Secondary Mathematics III and one class beyond); if the student is attending a school that has not implemented the Utah Core "K-12" Standards, a student would complete at minimum Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and a class beyond Algebra II

3.5.3 3.5 units of social studies;

3.5.4 3.0 units of lab-based natural science (one each of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics); and

¹ Adopted June 4, 1999, amended July 12, 1999, April 20, 2001, May 31, 2002, September 15, 2006. Amended and approved by the Board of Regents October 16, 2009, April 1, 2010, March 25, 2011, March 29, 2013, and April 1, 2016.

3.5.5 2.0 units of the same foreign language, other than English, taken in a progressive manner.

3.6 **"Eligible Institutions"** means institutions of the USHE or any private, nonprofit institution of higher education in Utah accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

3.7 **"Excusable Neglect"** means a failure to take proper steps at the proper time, not in consequence of carelessness, inattention, or willful disregard of the scholarship application process, but in consequence of some unexpected or unavoidable hindrance or accident.

3.8 **"Exemplary Academic Achievement Award"** ("Exemplary Award") means a renewable scholarship to be awarded to students who complete the eligibility requirements of section 4.2 of this policy.

3.9 **"Good Cause"** means the student's failure to meet a scholarship application process requirement was due to circumstances beyond the student's control or circumstances that are compelling and reasonable.

3.10 **"High school"** means a public school established by the Utah State Board of Education or private high school within the boundaries of the State of Utah. If a private high school, it shall be accredited by a regional accrediting body approved by the Board.

3.11 **"Home – Schooled"** refers to a student who has not graduated from a Utah high school and received credits and/ or letter grades for the Core Course of study in grades 9-12.

3.12 **"Recipient"** means an applicant who receives an award under the requirements set forth in this policy.

3.13 **"Reasonable progress"** means enrolling and completing at least fifteen credit hours during Fall and Spring semesters and earning a 3.3 grade point average (GPA) or higher each semester while enrolled at an eligible institution and receiving the award.

3.14 **"Renewal Documents"** include institutionally produced documents demonstrating that the recipient has met the required semester GPA and a detailed schedule providing proof of enrollment in fifteen credit hours for the semester for which the recipient is seeking award payment.

3.15 **"Scholarship Appeals Committee"**-means the committee designated by Commissioner of Higher Education to review appeals of Regents' Scholarship award decisions and take final agency action regarding awards.

3.16 **"Scholarship Staff"** means the group assigned to review Regents' Scholarship applications and make initial decisions awarding the scholarships.

3.17 **"Substantial Compliance"** means the applicant, in good faith, complied with the substantial or essential scholarship application requirements and has demonstrated likely eligibility but failed to comply exactly with the application specifics.

3.17 **"UESP"** means the Utah Educational Savings Plan.

3.18 **"USHE"** means the Utah system of higher education, which includes the University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, Southern Utah University, Snow College, Dixie State University, Utah Valley University, and Salt Lake Community College.

3.19 Weighted Grade: A grade shall be weighted if a student completed an advanced placement, international baccalaureate or college course. The grade weight given is half the value of the high school credits earned for the course. For AP and IB courses all grades are averaged and then the weight is applied. When college credit is earned the grade weight is applied to the grade shown on the college transcript.

R609-4. Base Award Requirements: To qualify for the Regents' Scholarship Base award, the applicant shall satisfy the following criteria:

4.1 Complete the Core Course of Study as defined in section 3.5 of this policy subject to the following criteria:

- 4.1.1.** Not all courses that meet state and individual district high school graduation requirements meet the scholarship requirements.
- 4.1.2.** **Course Availability:** In addition to taking courses at the school they are attending, A student may complete coursework through other accredited Utah high schools or Utah eligible institutions.
- 4.1.4** A student may meet a course requirement through a competency-based assessment provided it is documented on a transcript and has a letter grade(A-C) assigned.
- 4.1.5.** The courses completed shall be unique except when repeated for a higher grade as noted in (insert section). Students may not take a standard course and then enroll in the honors version of the same course and count both toward meeting the scholarship credit requirements and, when applicable, the requirement of progression.
- 4.1.6.** Repeated course work shall not count toward accumulation of required credits.

4.2 GPA The applicant shall demonstrate completion of the Core Course of Study with a non-weighted cumulative high school GPA of at least 3.0.

4.3 Minimum Grade requirement: the applicant shall earn a course grade on a transcript of "C" or above in each individual course listed in section 3.4. Certain courses may receive a weighted grade as part of the scholarship award determination.

4.4 Replacing Low Grades by Retaking a Course: An applicant may retake a course to replace a low grade received. When retaking courses to replace a grade the following subsections apply:

4.5 The Entire Course: The applicant shall either (1) retake the entire original course, or (2) complete an approved course equal to or greater in credit value in the same subject-area. The math and foreign language requirement of progression shall be shown. This is true even if the applicant only received a lower grade in a single semester, term, trimester, or quarter.

4.6 The Higher of Two Grades: The higher of two grades in the same or an approved course will count towards meeting the scholarship requirements.

4.7 Approved Courses and Progression Determined by the Regents' Scholarship Review Committee: The Regents' Scholarship Review Committee reserves the right to determine if the repeated course qualifies as an approved course in the same subject-area and if progression is required and demonstrated.

4.8 "P" and "I" Grades not Accepted: Pass/fail or incomplete grades do not meet the minimum scholarship grade requirement.

4.9 College Course Work: College course work will only be evaluated if the applicant submits an Official College transcript. If an applicant enrolls in and completes a college course worth three or more college credits, this shall be counted as one high school credit toward the scholarship requirements. The student is evaluated on the college grade earned, with the weight added to the college grade as defined in section 3.19.

4.10 ACT Score: The applicant shall submit at least one verified ACT score.

4.11 Utah High School Graduation: The applicant shall have graduated from a Utah high school.

4.12 Citizenship: A recipient shall be a citizen of the United States or a noncitizen who is eligible to receive federal student aid.

4.13 No Criminal Record: A recipient shall not have a criminal record, with the exception of a misdemeanor traffic citation.

4.14 Mandatory Fall Semester Enrollment: A recipient shall enroll in fifteen credit hours at an eligible institution by Fall semester immediately following the student's high school graduation date or receive an approved deferral from the Board under subsection 7.2. Documentation shall include the recipient's name, the semester the recipient will attend, the name of the institution they are attending and the number of credits for which the recipient is enrolled.

4.15 New Century Scholarship: A recipient shall not receive both a Regents' Scholarship and the New Century Scholarship established in Utah Code Section 53B-8-105 and administered in R604.

609-5. Exemplary Academic Achievement Award Requirements: To qualify for the Regents' Scholarship Exemplary Academic Achievement award, the applicant shall satisfy all requirements for the Base award (see section 3.4), and additionally meet all of the following requirements:

4.16 GPA: The applicant shall have a non-weighted cumulative high school GPA of at least 3.5.

4.17 Minimum Grade: The applicant shall earn a course grade on a transcript of "B" or above in each individual course listed in section 3.4. Certain courses may receive a weighted grade as part of the scholarship award determination.

4.18 ACT Score: The applicant shall submit a verified composite ACT score of at least 26.

609-5. Continuation and Renewal of the Exemplary Award.

5.1 Duty of Student to Report Reasonable Progress Toward Degree Completion: In order to renew the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award, the recipient shall submit renewal documents each semester, providing evidence of reasonable progress toward degree completion by the deadlines established in current program materials.

5.2 If the recipient fails to maintain a 3.3 GPA in a single semester the recipient is placed on probation and shall earn a 3.3 GPA or better the following semester to maintain eligibility. If the recipient again at any time earns less than a 3.3 GPA or fails to enroll and complete fifteen credit hours, except as outlined in section 7.2 of this policy, the scholarship may be revoked.

5.3 Recipient will not be required to enroll in fifteen credit hours if the student can complete his/her degree program with fewer credits. Documentation shall include the recipient's name, the semester the recipient will attend, the name of the institution they are attending and the number of credits for which the recipient is enrolled.

5.4 Student Transfer: Students may transfer their scholarship to a different eligible institution upon request to the Scholarship office.

609-6 Application Procedures

6.1 Application Deadline: Applicants shall submit an official scholarship application no later than February 1 of the year that they graduate from high school. A priority deadline may be established each year. Applicants who meet the priority deadline may be given first priority or consideration for the scholarship. Subject to funding, students may be considered based on date of completed and submitted application.

6.2 Required Documentation: Scholarship awards shall be denied if all documentation is not completed and-submitted, by the specified deadlines. If any documentation demonstrates that the applicant did not satisfactorily fulfill all course and GPA requirements, or if any information, including the attestation of criminal record or citizenship status, proves to be falsified- the award may be denied. Required documents that shall be submitted with a scholarship application include:

6.2.1 the official online application;

6.2.2 an official high school paper or electronic transcript, official college transcript(s) when applicable, and any other miscellaneous transcripts demonstrating all completed courses and GPA. Final transcript(s) will be requested if the student is found conditionally approved, meaning that the student appears to be on track to receive the scholarship;

6.2.3 If a student completed coursework at an educational institution outside of the district from which the student graduated, the student must submit an official transcript from the school at which he or she completed the coursework if the courses completed and grades earned are not reflected in the official high school transcript; and

6.2.4 verified ACT score(s).

R609-7. Amount of Awards and Distribution of Award Funds

7.1 Funding Constraints of Awards: The Board may limit or reduce the Base Award and/or the Exemplary Academic Achievement Award, as well as supplemental awards granted, depending on the annual legislative appropriations and the number of qualified applicants.

7.2 Amount of Awards

7.2.1 Base Award: The Base award of up to \$1,000 may be adjusted annually by the Board in an amount up to the average percentage tuition increase approved by the Board for USHE institutions.

7.2.2 Exemplary Academic Achievement Award: The Exemplary Academic Achievement award is up to the amount provided by law and as determined each Spring by the Board based on

legislative funding and the number of applicants. The Exemplary Academic Achievement award may be renewed for the shortest of the following:

7.2.2.1 Four semesters of enrollment in fifteen credit hours;

7.2.2.2 Sixty-five credit hours; or

7.2.2.3 Until the student meets the requirements for a Baccalaureate degree.

7.2.3 UESP Supplemental Award to Encourage College Savings: Subject to available funding, an applicant who qualifies for the Base award is eligible to receive up to an additional \$400 in state funds to be added to the total scholarship award.

7.2.3.1 For each year the applicant is 14, 15, 16, or 17 years of age and had an active UESP account, the Board may contribute, subject to available funding, \$100 (i.e., up to \$400 total for all four years) to the recipient's award if at least \$100 was deposited into the account for which the applicant is named the beneficiary.

7.2.3.2 If no contributions are made to an applicant's account during a given year, the matching amount will likewise be \$0.

7.2.3.3 If contributions total more than \$100 in a given year, the matching amount will cap at \$100 for that year.

7.2.3.4 Matching funds apply only to contributions, not to transfers, earnings, or interest.

7.3 Distribution of Award Funds

7.3.1 Award Payable to Institution: The award will be made payable to the institution. The institution may pay over to the recipient any excess award funds not required for tuition payments. Award funds shall be used for any qualifying higher education expense including: tuition, fees, books, supplies, equipment required for course instruction, or housing.

7.3.2 Credit Hours Dropped After Award Payment: If a recipient drops credit hours after having received the award which results in enrollment below fifteen credit hours, the scholarship may be revoked.

R609-8 Time Constraints and Continuing Eligibility

8.1. Time Limitation: A Regents' Scholarship recipient shall use the award in its entirety within five years after his/her high school graduation date.

8.2. Deferral or Leave of Absence: A recipient shall apply for a deferral or leave of absence if they do not continuously enroll in fifteen credit hours.

8.2.1. Deferrals or leaves of absence may be granted, at the discretion of the Scholarship Review Committee, for military service, humanitarian/religious service, documented medical reasons, and other exigent reasons.

- 8.2.2. An approved deferral or leave of absence will not extend the time limits of the scholarship. The scholarship may only be used for academic terms which begin within five years after the recipient's high school graduation date.

8.3. **No Guarantee of Degree Completion:** Neither a Base award nor an Exemplary Academic Achievement award guarantees that the recipient will complete his or her Associate or Baccalaureate program within the recipient's scholarship eligibility period.

R609-9 Scholarship Determinations and Appeals

9.1. **Scholarship Determinations:** Submission of a scholarship application does not guarantee a scholarship award. The Scholarship Staff shall review individual scholarship applications and make the awards determination. Awards are based on available funding, applicant pool, and applicants' completion of scholarship criteria by the specified deadline.

9.2. **Appeals:** An applicant has the right to appeal the Scholarship Staff's adverse decision by filing an appeal with the Scholarship Appeals Committee subject to the following conditions:

- 9.2.1. The appeal must be in writing and submitted in person or through the U.S. Mail. Appeals must be hand delivered to the office or postmarked within 30 days of the date on which the scholarship notification was issued.
- 9.2.2. In the appeal, the applicant must provide his or her full name, mailing address, the high school he or she last attended, a statement of the reason for the appeal, and all information or evidence that supports the appeal. The failure of an applicant to provide the information in this subsection shall not preclude the acceptance of an appeal.
- 9.2.3. An appeal filed before the applicant receives official notification from the Scholarship Staff of its decision shall not be considered.
- 9.2.4. If an applicant failed to file his or her appeal on time, the Scholarship Appeals Committee shall notify the applicant of the late filing and give him or her an opportunity to explain the reasons for failing to file the appeal by the deadline. The Scholarship Appeals Committee shall not have jurisdiction to consider the merits of an appeal that is filed beyond the deadline unless it determines the applicant established excusable neglect.
- 9.2.5. The Scholarship Appeals Committee shall review the appeal to determine if the award decision was made in error, or if the applicant demonstrated substantial compliance with the scholarship application requirements but failed to meet one or more requirements for good cause.
- 9.2.6. If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the initial decision was made in error, it shall either reverse the initial decision or remand it back to the Scholarship Staff for further review in accordance with the Appeals Committee's instructions.
- 9.2.7. If the Scholarship Appeals Committee determines the applicant has shown by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she demonstrated substantial compliance with the application process requirements and good cause for failing to meet one or more of the requirements, the Appeals Committee shall grant the applicant a reasonable period of time to complete the remaining requirements and to resubmit the completed application to the

Scholarship Staff for a redetermination. In such a case, the applicant shall have the right to appeal an adverse decision according to this rule.

- 9.2.8 The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision shall be in writing and contain its findings of facts, reasoning and conclusions of law and notice of the right to judicial review.
- 9.2.9. The Scholarship Appeals Committee's decision represents the final agency action. An applicant who disagrees with the Scholarship Appeal Committee's Decision may seek judicial review in accordance with Utah Code Ann. 63G-4-402.