

# OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION



*Improving our future by degrees*

## Academic Scholars

Applicant Information for Fall 2024

The Oklahoma State Regents' Academic Scholars Program was created and funded by the Oklahoma Legislature as an incentive for students of high academic ability to attend both public and private higher education institutions in Oklahoma. The program is intended to enhance the academic environment and to retain academically talented students within Oklahoma.

### ADMINISTRATION

The provisions of 70 O.S. 1991, Section 2401 et seq., name the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education as the administrator of the Academic Scholars Program. The State Regents' office works closely with institutional personnel and program coordinators designated on each campus in the administration of this program. Generally, students may accomplish most requests by contacting the program coordinator on their campus.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

A student may qualify for the Academic Scholars Program by accomplishing one of the following:

1. be an **Oklahoma resident** scoring at or above the **99.5 percentile on the ACT or SAT<sup>1</sup>**,
2. be designated a **Presidential Scholar** by the United States Department of Education,
3. be designated a **National Merit Scholar** by National Merit Scholarship Corporation,
4. be designated a **National Merit Finalist** by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation,
5. be nominated by an institution in the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education as an **Institutional Nominee**.

<sup>1</sup> Only ACT test scores or superscores reported by ACT prior to college entry, excluding concurrently enrolled students and students enrolled for the summer term following high school graduation, will be considered for admission to the program. Scores from ACT On-Campus (residual) tests will not be considered. SAT test scores will be considered in a manner comparable to ACT test scores. Qualifying test scores obtained after college enrollment are invalid for applying to the program. See the minimum required ACT/SAT test scores for Fall 2024 on the attached application form.

### THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- ✘ Oklahoma residents designated as a National Merit Scholar, National Merit Finalist, or Presidential Scholar, or Oklahoma residents automatically qualifying for the program by scoring at or above the 99.5 percentile on the ACT or SAT in Oklahoma, should obtain an application from their high school counselor or online at [www.okhighered.org/academic-scholars/](http://www.okhighered.org/academic-scholars/).
- ✘ Students wanting to be considered as an Institutional Nominee should check with their Oklahoma public college or university to find out the criteria and process for applying.

### NOTICE OF AWARD

Applications and supporting documentation are reviewed by State Regents' staff. Upon approval, the State Regents' office will send an award letter. Prior to each semester, the State Regents' office will forward a roster of Academic Scholars to each Oklahoma institution. Oklahoma high schools are not notified of scholarship recipients.

### AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship will be awarded for up to eight semesters of attendance at an Oklahoma institution for higher education in accordance with the continuing eligibility requirements, unless provision has been made by the Oklahoma State Regents and the institution for additional semesters of award. Any semester during which the student is deficient in grade point average or the number of earned credit hours, and thus ineligible for the scholarship award, will be counted against the semesters available in the program.

The award amount varies according to the type of institution the student attends and qualification status. The annual scholarship amount for automatic qualifiers is \$6,500 for students who attend the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, or The University of Tulsa; \$5,000 for students who attend any other Oklahoma four-year public or private college or university; and \$4,500 for students who attend Oklahoma two-year colleges. The annual award level for Institutional Nominees is \$4,000 for students who attend the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, or The University of Tulsa; \$3,200 for students who attend any other Oklahoma four-year public or private college or university; and \$3,000 for students who attend Oklahoma two-year colleges.

The award amounts may vary from year to year, depending upon the amount of funding available. Payment is made directly to the institution on the student's behalf. Students who enroll at public universities and colleges are eligible for a partial or full tuition waiver, in addition to the scholarship award noted above.

## **PROGRAM POLICIES**

Students are responsible for reading and understanding all program policies regarding general principles for operation of the program, eligibility requirements and term of the scholarship award, criteria for annual renewal, reinstatement; leave of absence, fiscal aspects of the program, and requirements for graduate and professional study available at [www.okhighered.org/academic-scholars/](http://www.okhighered.org/academic-scholars/)

## **KEY PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

- ✦ **Program Entry-** Students must enter the program and enroll the fall semester immediately after high school graduation.
- ✦ **GPA Requirement-** Students awarded a scholarship under this program must maintain a 3.25 retention or cumulative grade point average, which will be verified between the summer and fall term. The grade point average will reflect all coursework attempted. Failure to meet a 3.25 cumulative grade point average will result in removal from the program until the student achieves a 3.25 cumulative or retention grade point average at the end of the following fall or spring semester or summer term.
- ✦ **Full-Time Enrollment-** Students awarded a scholarship under this program must maintain full-time continuous enrollment, except as provided by State Regents' policy, at a regionally or State Regents' accredited public, independent or proprietary higher education institution in the State of Oklahoma. "Full-time" is defined as 12 hours in the fall and spring semesters. To retain program eligibility, students must earn twenty-four (24) semester credit hours for the program year.
- ✦ **Summer Award Requirement-** Students earning twenty-four (24) semester credit hours in the preceding fall and spring semesters are eligible for summer support. Students receiving a part-time award, for 6-11 credit hours of enrollment, must earn thirty (30) semester credit hours for the academic year. Students receiving a full-time award, for at least 12 credit hours of enrollment, must earn thirty-six (36) credit hours for the academic year. Failure to meet the twenty-four, thirty, or thirty-six credit hour requirement will result in removal from the program.
- ✦ **Reinstatement to the Program-** Students remedying their grade point average and/or credit hour deficiency in the following fall or spring semester or summer term, will be eligible for reinstatement. Remedy of any credit hour deficiency for reinstatement purposes requires full-time enrollment in addition to the number of hours by which the student is deficient, except in the summer term, when enrollment in only the number of deficient hours is necessary.
- ✦ **Leave of Absence-** In the event of extenuating circumstances such as sudden illness, death in the family, or participation in a special program such as certain internships or a religious mission, the student may request a leave of absence from the program. A leave of absence does not count against the eight semesters allotted for the program unless the student has already received payment for that term for which the leave has been requested.

# OKLAHOMA STATE REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION



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## Academic Scholars

Application 2024-2025

### Oklahoma Residents Only

[OSRHE Residency Policy](#) (OSRHE Policy and Procedures Manual, Chapter 3 - Academic Affairs. View Section 3.18 of PDF file.) Generally, students with non-immigrant VISAs are not considered Oklahoma residents based on their declared intent to return to their country of origin.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ Unweighted GPA \_\_\_\_\_

Responses to the following questions are voluntary. The information will be used for non-discriminatory purposes and may be used for civil rights reporting purposes.

Race/Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female

#### Check the box for the eligibility criteria that you meet:

1. National award designation:

National Merit Scholar  National Merit Finalist  Presidential Scholar

2. ACT/SAT Score:

ACT SCORES  SAT SCORES\*

English \_\_\_\_\_

Math \_\_\_\_\_

Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Science \_\_\_\_\_

Critical Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Math \_\_\_\_\_

Sum of ACT subject scores \_\_\_\_\_  
(must equal 137 or greater)

Sum of SAT skill area scores \_\_\_\_\_  
(must equal 1530 or greater)

Date of SAT \_\_\_\_\_

\*SAT test scores must be from a single official test report issued.

**OKLAHOMA COLLEGE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND**

Please indicate a college even if you have not yet made a final decision. If your college choice changes, please notify the State Regents' Academic Scholars Program office of the change so payment can be made to the correct institution.

**ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION**

All applicants must submit a high school transcript.

1. Supporting documentation for National Merit Scholar, National Merit Finalist, and Presidential Scholar designations must accompany this application. Copies of high school transcripts and letters to high school officials are acceptable.
2. Students who qualify based on their ACT or SAT scores must include a copy of their ACT/SAT student test report. If the official ACT score report is not available, they may submit a screenshot of the superscore from the ACT website. Additionally, copies of high school transcripts that include ACT or SAT scores are also acceptable.

***SIGNATURES***

*I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Oklahoma that the information provided herein by me in this application is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and is made in good faith. If proven guilty of falsification of records associated with entry into the Academic Scholars Program, I will be subject to suspension from the program and from the attending college or university. In addition, I have read and fully understand the program provisions outlined in the application and the program rules available online at [www.okhighered.org/academic-scholars](http://www.okhighered.org/academic-scholars). It is my personal responsibility to maintain program eligibility and familiarity with the rules. I further agree to assist the State Regents in follow-up studies of this program and keep the State Regents' office advised of my address.*

*I understand that I must meet the definition of an Oklahoma resident according to OSRHE policy. In addition, if my college/university determines that I am a non-resident and I do not meet the requirements of 70 O.S. Section 3242, I will be ineligible for the Academic Scholars Program.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Submit this application and all required documentation to:** Academic Scholars Program, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Post Office Box 108850, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-8850.