

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Policy Manual

SUBJECT: Mickelson Scholars Program

NUMBER: 3:16

The Mickelson Scholars Program offers a significant academic scholarship to approximately 1% of the state's most academically gifted high school graduates each year. To receive the scholarship students must attend one of the six universities in the Board of Regents system or one of the four state technical institutes. The purpose of the scholarship program is to encourage South Dakota's brightest students to remain in the state and to contribute to the economic development of the state. The scholarship is funded entirely by the state Future Fund, and the initiation and continuation of the program is directly dependent upon this source of support.

1. Eligibility

In order to be eligible for a Mickelson Scholars award, a student must:

- A. Be a resident of South Dakota at the time of graduation from high school;
- B. Meet the admissions requirements and attend one of the six Board of Regents universities or four state technical institutes;
- C. Have obtained a high school cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent) through the junior year of high school; and
- D. Be considered academically to be in the top 1% of the state's high school graduating class. The determination of qualifications for the top 1% of high school graduates in the state shall be announced each year by the Board.

2. Selection Process

The selection process shall be determined by the Board based on recommendations made by the Executive Director in July of the year prior to awards being made. For students graduating in 1994-1999, the top one percent (approximately) of the state's high school seniors shall be determined by student scores on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test or Enhanced ACT test on tests administered nationally by December 31, 1994.

3. Scholarship Amount and Payment

To receive a Mickelson Scholarship a student must attend a Board of Regents university or a state technical institute.

- A. Scholarship payments shall be made on a semester by semester basis with the scholarship amount equal to the student's costs for tuition, required fees and special discipline fees, and room and board, subject to the estimated cost of attendance limitation described below. In no case will expenses for board exceed reasonable amounts for three meals a day.
 - 1. In cases where students live off-campus, not with parents, the award amount for room shall be equal to the double occupancy residence hall rate, and the amount for board shall be equal to the most comprehensive basic (non-optional) meal plan available on campus. In cases where students live with parents, students will receive \$500 per semester for room and board and commuting expenses.
 - 2. The award amount available under this scholarship program shall be subject to a maximum limitation, so that the total funding from the Mickelson Scholars Program and all federal need-based gift aid shall not exceed the student's estimated cost of attendance.
- B. Mickelson Scholarships shall be paid to the recipients through their campus after the final fee adjustment date and when the other need-based grants and scholarships are known.

4. Continuation

- A. Contingent upon continued funding of the program, students are eligible to participate in the Mickelson Scholars Program for eight (8) academic terms (fall, spring, and summer beginning with the Fall semester following high school graduation) or until the attainment of a baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first.
 - 1. Students must maintain a cumulative 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale (cumulative GPA is calculated every semester) and must complete consecutive spring and fall terms in order to remain eligible for continuation of the scholarship program from term to term.
 - 2. Once a student's cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, the student permanently loses eligibility for continuation in the scholarship program.
- B. If the Executive Director determines that a student's failure to enroll or to maintain continued enrollment has resulted from legitimate factors outside of the student's control, such as an illness, or for sound academic reasons, such as participation in a cooperative educational program or the Peace Corps, then the Executive Director

may extend the student's eligibility to participate in the program for up to two additional years, provided that the student does not enroll in a non-eligible institution (except under an exchange agreement) and provided that funds remain available to support the program.

1. Extended eligibility does not entitle a student to receive a Mickelson Scholars award for more than eight academic terms.
2. Students may also maintain eligibility for continuation in the Mickelson Scholars Program by notifying the Executive Director of their intent to transfer to another one of the ten eligible institutions.
3. Students wishing to participate in a student exchange must submit a proposal describing the academic and fiscal aspects of the exchange. If approved by the Executive Director, the Mickelson Scholarship program could provide a scholarship award for the exchange equal to the previous year's award for that student.

5. Administrative Process

The Executive Director shall specify any application forms and other forms, processes and deadlines required to administer the Mickelson Scholars Program. The scholarship application process shall be consistent with a scholarship designed to retain South Dakota's brightest students in the state's university system. The Executive Director shall also specify all campus and Regents Office forms and processes required to administer the Mickelson Scholars Program.

6. Withdrawal From School

If a scholarship recipient withdraws from a university, the university must remit any prorated refund amount for tuition, fees, room and board to the Mickelson Scholars Program. Universities shall attempt to collect and reimburse the Mickelson Scholars Program a prorated amount for room and board for students living off-campus.

7. Appeals

The South Dakota Board of Regents shall be the final authority to appeal any decisions made in the administration of the Mickelson Scholars Program.

SOURCE: BOR January, 1993; BOR August, 1993; BOR, June, 1994