

2014 Herb Kohl Excellence Scholarship Program Guidelines

Purpose

The purpose of the Herb Kohl Excellence Scholarship program is to recognize student leadership, citizenship, school and community involvement, and academic achievement. It is the goal of the Foundation to encourage Wisconsin youth to pursue post-secondary education in a public or nonpublic university, college, or vocational/technical college. The Foundation awards \$1,000 scholarships to 100 Wisconsin high school graduates each year.

Who Is Eligible

Applicants must be graduating high school students who intend to enroll in a postsecondary institution, which may be a public or nonpublic university, college, or vocational/technical college. Students who are residents of the State of Wisconsin, are in good standing, and who demonstrate probable success in postsecondary education are eligible to apply. This is a competitive scholarship.

Selection Criteria

Students will be evaluated on their leadership, citizenship, school and community involvement, and academic achievement. In addition, students will be evaluated on their ability to clearly articulate goals in each of four areas: future educational goals, personal life goals, community/society service goals, and career goals.

Each student must submit three letters of recommendation, one from each of the following categories:

1. teacher;
2. counselor or principal;
3. community member or family friend who is not affiliated with your school district.

Letters of recommendation will be evaluated on how well they describe the student's improvements, contributions, and successes.

Application Process

Students must submit their completed applications to their principal no later than Thursday, November 7, 2013. All applications must be typed.

Each school district is entitled to nominate one, two, or three graduating students *per high school*, based on the following enrollment formula:

<u>HS Enrollment</u>	<u>Nominees</u>
Under 400	1
400-999	2
1,000 or more	3

Each school district administrator or superintendent will assemble a local selection committee to review student applications. Administrators, teachers, business and civic leaders, and Wisconsin Newspaper Association representatives will comprise the local district selection committee. The district may use an existing local scholarship committee provided it follows the Kohl Scholarship criteria.

The selected student applications are then forwarded by the district administrator or superintendent to the regional selection committee, which is coordinated in each of the state's 12 cooperative educational service agencies (CESAs), or Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) no later than **November 27, 2013**. Do not send applications to the DPI.

No later than **December 13, 2013**, CESAs will advance their regional nominees to the State Selection Committee, which will consist of representatives from the CESAs, Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools (WCRIS), Wisconsin Parents Association, Wisconsin Newspaper Association, Herb Kohl Educational Foundation, education-related associations, and civic leaders. The committee will convene on **February 4 and February 5, 2014**, to score applications. Applicants will be contacted in early March.

Use of Scholarship Grant

A Kohl Excellence Scholarship may be used to directly reimburse the student's post-secondary institution for tuition, room and board, books, technology, equipment and fees. In August 2014, the Kohl Foundation will send the \$1,000 scholarship grants directly to the postsecondary institutions. Scholarship recipients will be honored and will receive certificates representing their awards at a special luncheon held in the spring.

Contact

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2014 Herb Kohl Excellence Scholarship Program Scoring Guide

I. Activities, Talents, and Service (*maximum = 40 points*)

- A. Leadership and Participation in Music and Speech Activities
- B. Leadership and Participation in Athletic Activities
- C. Leadership and Participation in Other School and Community Activities
- D. Work Experience, Hobbies, Outside Interests and Special Talents

(a) Quantitative Analysis	0	1	2	3
3 points	The student participated in a variety of activities over the course of several years <u>and</u> demonstrates excellence through awards, recognition, and leadership positions.			
2 points	The student demonstrates <u>two</u> of three criteria: a variety of activities; more than one year of participation; and awards, recognition, and leadership.			
1 point	The student demonstrates <u>one</u> of three criteria: a variety of activities; more than one year of participation; and awards, recognition, and leadership.			

(b) Qualitative Analysis	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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The applicant's description of the value of these experiences is scored on a seven-point scale. A response would be considered exceptional (7) if it identifies a number of distinct benefits; acknowledges the value to both the individual and others; incorporates a present and longer-term view; and is well-written, creative, and thorough. An average response (4) would have some but not all of these attributes. A poor response (1) would demonstrate little understanding of the value of these activities beyond being fun or interesting.

II. Essay Question (*maximum = 37 points*)

Instructions to the applicants were to write a 300-500 word essay describing their goals in the following areas: (1) future education, (2) personal life, (3) community/society service, and (4) career.

An outstanding response would have the following characteristics in all four goal areas:

- reveal a capacity for introspection, reflection, and vision;
- acknowledge a need for continuous learning and growth;

2014 Herb Kohl Excellence Scholarship Program Scoring Form

Student's Name:

CESA:

District/School:

I. Activities, Talents, and Service (*maximum = 40 points*)

	<u>Quantitative Analysis</u>				<u>Qualitative Analysis</u>							<u>Total</u>	
A. Music and Speech Activities	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	_____
B. Athletic Activities	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	_____
C. Other School/Community Activities	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	_____
D. Work Experience, Hobbies, Outside Interests, and Special Talents	0	1	2	3	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	_____
	Category total												_____

II. Essay Question (*maximum = 37 points*)

Category total _____

III. Letters of Recommendation (Public and Private only) (*maximum = 18 points*)

Teacher	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	_____
Counselor or Principal	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	_____
Community Member or Family Friend (who is not affiliated with their school district)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	_____
	Category total							_____

Letters of Recommendation (Wisconsin Parent Association only) (*maximum = 18 points*)

Teacher	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	_____
Community Member	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	_____
Family Friend	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	_____
	Category total							_____

IV. Overall Quality of Application (*maximum = 5 points*)

Category total _____

Applicant's Total Score (*maximum = 100 points*) _____

Scorer's Name _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Student: Completed typed application must be submitted to your principal no later than Thursday, November 7, 2013.

Local Selection Committee: The CESA or MPS selection committee must receive the application(s) selected at the local level no later than Wednesday, November 27, 2013.

**KOHL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM
HERB KOHL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Co-Sponsored by:

Cooperative Educational Service Agencies
Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools
Wisconsin Newspaper Association
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

NEITHER HERB KOHL NOR ANYONE IN THE KOHL FAMILY PLAYS ANY ROLE OR TAKES ANY PART IN THE EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF THE FINAL CANDIDATES OR RECIPIENTS OF THE KOHL SCHOLARSHIP/FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Student's Name <i>First, Middle Initial, Last</i>	Telephone Area/No.
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Age	E-mail Address
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Student's Mailing Address <i>P.O. Box or Street</i>	City	State	ZIP
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School Name	No. of Students in Grades 9-12	CESA No.
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School Mailing Address *P.O. Box or Street, City, ZIP*

Principal's Name	Principal's Email Address	Telephone Area/No.
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Public School District	Address <i>Street, City, ZIP</i>
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Administrator's Name	Telephone Area/No.
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**WHEN PREPARING APPLICATION, USE FULL NAMES NOT ACRONYMS
(e.g., use Future Business Leaders of America, not FBLA)**

SIGNATURES

I CERTIFY that the applicant is a student in good standing and demonstrates probable success in postsecondary education.

Signature of High School Principal	Date Signed <i>Mo./Day/Yr.</i>
➤	
Signature of Student	Date Signed <i>Mo./Day/Yr.</i>
➤	

A COPY OF THE STUDENT'S TRANSCRIPT MUST BE ATTACHED AS THE FINAL DOCUMENT OF THE COMPLETED NOMINATION PACKAGE (FOLLOWING THE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION).

MUSIC AND SPEECH RELATED ACTIVITIES

Indicate the number of years in which you have participated in music- and speech-related activities while in grades 9-12. Limit your response to the space provided.

Number of Years of Participation

Activity	Number of Years of Participation
Orchestra.....	_____
Band.....	_____
Chamber.....	_____
Instrument(s) played: <i>List</i> _____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Voice: Choir.....	_____
Solo.....	_____
Theater: Musical Production.....	_____
Drama.....	_____
Dance: <i>Specify</i> _____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Speech.....	_____
Forensics.....	_____
Debate.....	_____
Other Activities: <i>Specify</i> _____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Individual Achievement: List contest awards (for example, regional, conference, or state recognition; team captain) you have received while in grades 9-12. Type your response within the space provided in no less than 11-point font.

Describe the value of participating in these activities to you and others. Type your response within the space provided in no less than 11-point font.

ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Indicate the number of years in which you have participated in the following activities (include interscholastic and intramural activities) while in grades 9-12.

Activity	Number of Years of Participation
Baseball	_____
Basketball.....	_____
Cheerleading.....	_____
Cross Country	_____
Fencing	_____
Football	_____
Golf.....	_____
Gymnastics.....	_____
Hockey	_____
Soccer	_____
Softball	_____
Swimming.....	_____
Tennis.....	_____
Track and Field.....	_____
Volleyball.....	_____
Wrestling	_____
Other: <i>Specify</i> _____	_____
_____	_____

Individual Sport Achievement/Special Recognition: List individual achievements or recognition (for example, conference, regional, sectional, state, team captain) you have received while in grades 9-12. Type your response within the space provided in no less than 11-point font.

Describe the value of participating in these athletic activities to **you** and **others**. Type your response within the space provided in no less than 11-point font.



WORK EXPERIENCE, HOBBIES, OUTSIDE INTERESTS, AND SPECIAL TALENTS

Work Experience (paid or unpaid) while in grades 9-12. Limit your response to the space provided.

Where Have You Worked	Duties	Length of Time
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Hobbies/Outside Interests/Special Talents/Awards or Recognition while in grades 9-12. Limit your response to the space provided.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What have you learned from your work experience, hobbies, interests, and talents? Type your response within the space provided in no less than 11-point font.

STUDENT ESSAY

- Write a 300-500 word essay describing your goals in the following:
 1. Future education
 2. Personal life
 3. Community/society service (indicate if school requires community service for graduation.)
 4. Career
- Type your name and school at the top of your essay.
- Your essay must be typed in no less than 12-point font and be double spaced with 1" margins on all sides.
- *More than 500 words will not be considered part of the application.*

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

- Submit **three** letters of recommendation, one from each of the following categories. These recommendations represent 18 percent of the score at the state level.
 1. Teacher
 2. Counselor or principal
 3. Community member (for example, an employer, physician, member of religious community) or family friend (*family members are excluded*) who is not affiliated with your school district
- All three recommendation letters must be attached to your application. *If more than three letters are submitted, they will not be considered part of the application.*
- **Photocopy the following information and give to each individual who will be writing a letter on your behalf.**

Dear Principal, Teacher, Counselor, Community Member, or Family Friend:

- To enhance a student's nomination for a Kohl Excellence Scholarship, it is essential to have specific examples of noteworthy improvements, contributions, or successes in an area or areas such as leadership, citizenship, school activity, service to the community, and scholarship. Letters of recommendation represent 18 percent of the applicant's score at the state level.
- At the beginning of your letter of recommendation, indicate in what capacity you have known the nominee and for what period of time.
- You may also address attributes such as honesty, cooperation, integrity, acceptance of responsibility, positive attitude, initiative, compassion, and entrepreneurship.
- Limit your letter to one page in no less than 12 point font. *Additional pages will not be considered part of the application.*
- Date and sign the letter of recommendation.

Your letter of recommendation needs to be given to the nominee for inclusion with the total application package.
