

**MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**

**DATE ADOPTED: January 26, 2017**  
**DATE REVISED: May 17, 2018**  
**DATE REVISED: August 29, 2022**

**FILE SECTOR: RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**  
**POLICY TITLE: WISCONSIN ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE HIGHER EDUCATION  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Rural Virtual Academy (RVA) will participate in the Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship (AES) Program as determined by state law. School administration, under the guidance of RVA Governance Board, shall name the graduating student or students who have the highest grade point average(s) in all subjects completed during high school. The selection procedures followed will be based on state law and guidelines set forth by the Wisconsin Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB). The number of scholars named will be officially designated by the HEAB based on enrollment.

Annually, at the end of the last full semester preceding February 15, school administration, under the guidance of RVA Governance Board, shall select the graduating student(s) with the highest grade point average(s) using all semesters, less the final semester prior to graduation, of approved semester grades and based on the decimal system as referenced in the "Grading System" policy RVA-IKE. For purposes of selecting the scholar and/or alternate, grade point average shall include the same number of places past the decimal that the RVA uses on the official high school transcript. Weighted grades, as provided for in district policy, will be used to determine grade point average for the Wisconsin AES. All courses completed at the RVA, and/or transfer courses which are acceptable toward graduation, will be included in the grade point average.

In order to qualify for this scholarship, an RVA student must have:

- Attended the RVA for four full semesters immediately preceding the graduation year.
- Completed courses which have adequately prepared the student to meet admission standards for an institute of higher education in Wisconsin.
- Earned a minimum of 21 cumulative grade point average (GPA) credits by the end of the semester preceding graduation.

In the case of ties (two or more students with the same grade point average), the following shall be applied in the order indicated:

1. If the tied students have all taken the ACT test, prior to the first day of class their graduation year, the student will be selected who has the highest composite standard score on their highest ACT test, as recorded on their permanent record. In the event that a tied student did not take the ACT, they will not be awarded the scholarship. If none of the tied students took the ACT, step two will be used. Only ACT tests already taken and recorded on the permanent record at the time of determination will be used.

2. If, after step one has been tried and there is still a tie, the student's total grade points shall be determined counting only the courses accepted previously for grade point average. The student with the most grade points shall be selected.
3. If, after both steps have been tried, there still exists a tie, the winner shall be determined by adding the sub scores of the ACT.
4. If, after all steps have been tried, there still exists a tie, the winner shall be determined by the flip of a coin conducted by school administration, at a designated time and place which will be announced to all parties involved.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** RVA-IKE, RVA-JI

**LEGAL REFERENCE:** HEA 9 Wis. Admin. Code, 39.41 Wis. Statute