

<b>POLICY</b>	2021	7541
	<b>Students</b>	

**Subject: Student Scholarships**

The Williamson Central School gratefully acknowledges the support and interest in public education shown by the creation of a scholarship. A scholarship is a monetary gift to a student to help that student continue his/her studies. Scholarships that are given annually are endowments and the financial transactions for these are handled by the District. An endowment scholarship consists of depositing sufficient funds in an interest bearing account to allow the payment of scholarship money to qualified students from the interest earned. Endowed scholarships are usually awarded at graduation.

Scholarships that are given by a community organization, community member or corporate entity do not have to be endowments whose financial transactions are handled by the District. These scholarships need to have criteria established and a process for the selection of the recipient outlined. These scholarships are not usually awarded at graduation, but given at a separate ceremony, unless they were grandfathered (traditionally presented at graduation prior to the establishment of this policy).

In all cases, if a scholarship is to be awarded to a graduating senior, the District needs to have knowledge of this by the end of May.

In order to fulfill the intent of the District managed scholarships, and to assure its compatibility with the goals of the District, the Board of Education requires the following:

- (a) Clear criteria for the selection of recipient(s), the amount of the initial investment for endowment scholarships and the selection process need to be established by the donor and the District.
- (b) All scholarships shall be awarded strictly on the merits of the students receiving them.
- (c) If the District is choosing the recipient a scholarship selection committee of professional staff, administrators, and Board representative will use the established criteria in selecting scholarship recipients. Any person who has a family member who could qualify for a scholarship will not serve on the selection committee that year. If the community organization, community member or corporate entity is choosing the recipient the guidelines must be followed.

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**Subject: Student Scholarships (Continued)**

- (d) Any scholarship of \$500 or more is paid in two equal installments (July and January) directly to the students’ extracurricular, post graduate institution or program. Prior to initial payment being sent, proof of attendance at an extracurricular or post graduate program must be submitted to the District Office, in order for the payment to be processed. Scholarship recipients will also need to submit proof of attendance in January before the second installment to be processed.
- (e) The scholarship recipient must complete the two required semester and requirements of (d) above within three years after graduation or receiving the scholarship.

The Superintendent is directed to develop regulations outlining this process.

Adopted: Board of Education  
1987

Approved: Board of Education  
June 27, 2007

Approved: Board of Education  
March 26, 2008

Approved: Board of Education  
May 28, 2008

Approved: Board of Education  
August 12, 2009

Approved: Board of Education  
September 12, 2012

Approved: Board of Education  
June 15, 2016

Approved: Board of Education  
February 10, 2021