

Kalamazoo County ✦ Excellence in Education Student Scholarship

Student Selection Guidelines

To recognize and reward Kalamazoo County students who achieve academic excellence and the educators who have had a significant influence on their lives.

The guidelines to be used for the student selection process are as follows:

1. To qualify, students must achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.7 for the first seven (7) semesters, or ten trimesters, of their high school career. Participating schools have the responsibility to identify their top students, using their local formula.
2. Each school district and non-public school will be allocated students based on a quota of 2 percent of their high school seniors as determined by the fall state aid count (head count) day.
3. Non-public schools with less than the number of seniors needed to allow for one student will jointly determine one student to recommend.

In the event of a tie for the last district slot allotted, the following guidelines will be used:

- Extend to the 3rd decimal (example: 3.999)
- Apply the SAT/ACT score if tie cannot be resolved with 3 decimal extension

If the GPA to the 3rd decimal place and comparison of SAT/ACT scores does not break the tie, the option of self-funding by the individual school district can be requested. The Excellence in Education Steering Committee will give consideration on a case-by-case basis.

4. All nomination forms are to be returned to the Excellence in Education Steering Committee, c/o Keevin O'Neill, Student Scholarship Chair, Vicksburg Community Schools, 301 S. Kalamazoo Street, Vicksburg, MI 49097 **on or before March 8, 2026**.
5. Students will be informed in early February.
6. A scholarship award of \$1,500 will be given to each student. The scholarship money will be sent directly to each student's college of choice.
7. If a student is unable to attend college or post-high-school training during the first year after receiving the award, the funds will be placed in escrow for a maximum of five years following graduation from high school.
8. Students who do not return their scholarship acceptance form within the required timeframe will forfeit their scholarship.
9. Students and selected educators will be recognized at an awards program to be held on April 15, 2026. It is the Steering Committee's expectation that all students attend.

**Questions can be directed to:
Keevin O'Neill, Scholarship Chair
Vicksburg Community Schools
301 S. Kalamazoo St., MI 49097
Office: 269.321.1003 ✦ Fax: 269.321.1078**