

## Proposed Policy for Award of Automatic Scholarships for Home School Students

### Background

For incoming freshmen, high school GPA and, in some cases, ACT or SAT scores are used to determine the applicant's eligibility for automatic scholarships awarded by the Office of Admission. Following are the criteria used for awarding these scholarships to direct-from-high school students. To renew these awards, the student must maintain continuous full-time enrollment at Iowa State University with a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade point average.

	Automatic Resident Freshman Awards			Automatic Nonresident Freshman Awards		
	Loyal Scholar	Forever Scholar	True Scholar	Adventure Award	Journey Award	Quest Award
GPA	3.70	3.50	3.70	3.30	3.00	3.60
ACT/SAT	30/1360	25/1200	<i>Not required</i>	28/1300	26/1230	<i>Not required</i>
Amount	\$20,000 <i>(\$5,000/yr)</i>	\$10,000 <i>(\$2,500/yr)</i>	\$4,000 <i>(\$1,000/yr)</i>	\$32,000 <i>(\$8,000/yr)</i>	\$26,000 <i>(\$6,500/yr)</i>	\$22,000 <i>(\$5,500/yr)</i>

<https://www.admissions.iastate.edu/scholarships/freshman.php>

Home school parents assign the grades for many or, in some cases, all of their child's high school courses. As such, an inherent conflict of interest exists when the grades the parent assigns to their child's coursework can ensure the family's receipt of an automatic award valued at many thousands of dollars.

### Proposal

To address this inherent conflict of interest, this proposal suggests using test score only for the awarding of Office of Admissions automatic scholarships to freshman home school applicants. Specifically, home school applicants who satisfy the minimum test score requirements listed above for the Loyal, Forever, Adventure, and Journey awards would qualify for these awards.

In addition, since the True and Quest awards are based upon GPA only, this proposal recommends establishing minimum test score requirements for these two awards which would be used in place of the GPA requirement for home school applicants. The proposed minimum ACT/SAT score for the True award would be 26/1230, and the proposed minimum ACT/SAT score for the Quest award would be 25/1200. These cut scores represent the same proportion of Iowa State University entering freshmen who currently meet the respective 3.70 and 3.60 GPA requirements.

### Justification

This proposal is being submitted to:

1. Address the concerns regarding parent-assigned grades by removing GPA as one of the factors considered in the awarding of automatic scholarships to home school applicants.
2. Provide equal treatment to all home school applicants, including those who have parent-assigned grades only and those who have a combination of parent-assigned grades and grades which have been assigned by an independent entity (e.g., local school or community college).
3. Maintain a fully objective and transparent process for awarding automatic scholarships to home school applicants.

Original proposal (GPA Policy for Admission and Scholarships for Home School Students):

Approved by ASAC, unanimous, 1/16/2020

Approved by AAC, unanimous, 1/29/2020

Not approved by FS EB, 3/3/2020

Separate policy for admissions and scholarships (automatic scholarships for home school students based on ly on ACT/SAT scores) requested by FS EB, 3/31/2020

Revised proposal:

Approved by ASAC, unanimous, 4/9/2020

Approved by FS EB, 4/14/2020