

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**  
**March 2, 2007**

**HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD**

**BOARD REPORT #07-14**

**2007-08 WHEG - TRIBAL PROGRAM FORMULA**

## WISCONSIN HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT (WHEG)

### Introduction

HEAB administers three WHEG programs; Wisconsin Technical College System, Wisconsin Tribal Colleges, and University of Wisconsin System. The general structure for the WHEG formulas is outlined in the State Statutes. The Higher Educational Aids Board reviews and approves the formulas for the upcoming school year at its February meeting. There are three components in the formula:

**(Student Budget – Expected Family Contribution) x Student Award Percentage = Award**

**Student Budget:** The cost of education for the student. It can include tuition, room, board, and other expenses. It is different for all three WHEG programs. However, within each program, the student budget is the same for all students. The Student Budgets are set by the HEAB board as part of the formula approval process.

**Expected Family Contribution (EFC):** Amount that student or student's family is able to contribute. The EFC is calculated by the Federal Government when the student applies for Financial Aid using the FAFSA<sup>1</sup>. It is an individually calculated amount based on the financial information provided by each student during the application process.

**Student Award Percentage:** Percent of **student budget** used to calculate individual financial aid awards. It is also used to determine the maximum grant that can be awarded to any student. It is different for all three WHEG programs. However, within each program, the Student Award Percentage is the same for all students. The Student Award Percentage is set by the HEAB board as part of the formula approval process.

To calculate individual financial aid awards:

**(Student Budget – Expected Family Contribution) x Student Award Percentage = Award**

To calculate the maximum award in any of the WHEG programs:

**Student Budget x Student Award Percentage = Maximum Award**

### Factors That Affect the WHEG Programs

**Appropriation:** There are separate appropriations for each of the WHEG programs. These are determined during the state's biennial budget process.

**Changing the Student Budget:** If the Student Budget is increased, the grant awarded to each student would increase.

**Changing the Student Award Percentage:** If increased, the amount awarded to each student would increase and the number of student recipients would decrease due to funding limitations. The number of recipients would increase if additional funding was available to support the increase in eligibility.

---

<sup>1</sup> Students apply for financial aid on-line through the Federal Government's Webpage or complete a paper copy. A copy of this application, called the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), can be found at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

**PROPOSED 2007-2008 FORMULAS  
WISCONSIN HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT  
TRIBAL COLLEGES**

**March 2, 2007  
BOARD REPORT #07-14**

**Recommendation of the Tribal College Presidents:**

Formula recommendation from College of Menominee Nation President Verna Fowler, PhD as provided by Katie Klaus, Financial Aid Director (See attached):

$(\$6,560 - \text{EFC}) \times 27.44\% = \text{Award}$   
Student Budget – Expected Family Contribution) x Student Award Percentage = Award  
Maximum Award: \$1,800    Minimum Award: \$250  
This reflects no change from the current year's formula.

**Recommendation of the Executive Secretary**

Agrees with the recommendation of Tribal College President Fowler.  
(There was no recommendation from the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College.)

**Current Formula:**

$(\$6,650 - \text{EFC}) \times 27.44\% = \text{Award}$   
(Student Budget – Expected Family Contribution) x Student Award Percentage = Award  
Maximum Award: \$1,800

**Applicants:** The number of 2005-06 Tribal College applicants may increase slightly.

**2006-2007 Appropriation:** \$404,000

**Tuition Increase:** Tuition at both Tribal Colleges will either remain the same or increase slightly in 2007-2008.

**Current Year Spending:** The Tribal WHEG 2006-2007 formula will spend the appropriated amount for the academic year and will have students left on a wait list.



**College  
of  
Menominee  
Nation**

February 21, 2007

Ms Connie Hutchinson  
Executive Secretary  
Higher Education Aids Board  
P.O. Box 7885  
Madison, WI 53707-7885

Dear Ms. Hutchinson:

Thank you for the opportunity to make a recommendation to the HEAB Board relative to the formula for 2007-2008 Tribal Wisconsin Higher Education Grant (WHEG). I recommend the formula remain the same as the 2006-2007 funding year.

This is based on the current financial situation of the state and the fact that there would not likely be any additional funding for Tribal WHEG. Although the gap between student need and available funds continues to widen the Tribal WHEG has not seen an increase in funding since 2003- 2004 we certainly do not want a decrease.

I look forward to hearing the final decision following the meeting of the Higher Educational Aids Boards on March 2, 2007. If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katie Klaus  
Financial Aid Director  
College Of Menominee Nation

cc: CMN President