

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Division of Academic Affairs

Subject: Guidelines for the Non-Resident Diversity Scholarship Program

Number: 3.100

Date Approved: Vice Chancellor Advisory Committee - January 26, 2012

Last Review/Revision: N/A

as of 3-2-2012

Purpose: The UAMS Non-Resident Diversity Scholarship Program is established with the following objectives:

1. Assist educational programs at UAMS achieve established diversity recruitment goals.
2. Increase the diversity of the applicant pools to UAMS education programs with respect to race, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status and geographic origins.
3. Help defray rising educational costs for UAMS students especially those who are economically disadvantaged.
4. Increase the diversity among the Arkansas health and healthcare professions workforce, especially those serving underrepresented and medically underserved populations.

Each year, the Chancellor will approve up to two (2) applications from each of the colleges and the Graduate School to reduce the tuition of out-of-state students to the in-state (resident) rate, based upon the criteria established for this program. The recipient's residency status will not be affected for admission purposes, only for tuition cost purposes.

Eligibility to Apply:

1. The applicant for the Non-Resident Diversity Scholarship Program ("applicant") must plan to pursue an undergraduate or graduate degree or post-baccalaureate, advanced or graduate certificate at UAMS.
2. The applicant must be accepted by a UAMS college or the Graduate School for the period for which he/she is applying for the tuition waiver.
3. The applicant must be enrolled for a minimum of 0.5 FTE (half-time or full-time), as defined by the program/college to which he/she is accepted.

Application:

1. The applicant must submit to the Dean a completed Non-Resident Diversity Scholarship Program Application (i.e., provide a response to each part of the form and complete the racial, ethnicity, gender and socio-economic portions of the application form; see Application attached to these guidelines).
2. The applicant must include a 500-word essay describing a) his/her academic background and professional aspirations, with particular emphasis on challenges that the applicant has encountered, or continues to encounter; b) the impact that the tuition waiver would have on his/her ability to fulfill those plans and aspirations.
3. The applicant must include two (2) letters of reference from persons familiar with his/her academic work and professional character. (If the applicant provided letters of reference as part of an admission packet, those letters may be used to fulfill this part of this application.

Selection Criteria:

1. Applicants must have an excellent academic record that promises a successful academic career. Since specific tests and other measures of academic performance vary widely, each college/school will establish written specific requirements for academic performance and those standards will accompany these program guidelines.
2. Each college/school will judge the alignment of the applicant's academic and professional goals with the goals of the college/program.
3. Other important factors include community involvement, and leadership in academic and/or non-academic settings.
4. Preference will be given to applicants who a) plan to stay in Arkansas after graduation; or b) have established ties to the state which increase the likelihood that they will stay in the state to work after graduation. These ties or connections to the state should be explained in the application. Applicants who cannot demonstrate these ties or intentions are still eligible to apply.
5. Being a first-generation college student will also be considered.

Administration:

Application Schedule

1. Applicants will apply to the Dean's Office of each college according to a published schedule each year.
2. Typically, colleges/school will set application deadlines relative to their individual admissions process

Number of Awards

1. The Deans will review applications and identify a maximum of two (2) total applicants each year that clearly meet the criteria and guidelines set out for the program. Applicants may be considered from a college's program(s) administered through the Graduate School.
2. Awards may be made in any term during the year.

Award Process

1. The Dean will submit completed applications and supplementary documents to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (VCAA). If there are not two applicants who are eligible based on the criteria and guidelines for the program, the Dean will submit fewer than two applications.
2. The final deadline to submit applications to the VCAA will be two (2) weeks prior to the last day to pay tuition per the college granting admission.
3. In addition to the applicant-provided information, the Dean will provide an explanation of the following, either by a letter or by completing the UAMS Non-Resident Diversity Scholarship Program Application Review Form (see Review Form attached to these guidelines):
 - a. Recruitment of the applicant will help meet defined diversity goals within that college and program.
 - b. By not awarding the tuition waiver, the highly desirable recipient is likely to enroll in a program elsewhere, outside of Arkansas (imminent chance of a lost recruitment opportunity).
 - c. Combined aid/assistance to the recipient will not total more than the estimated cost of attendance.

4. The Vice Chancellor will review the applications with the Chancellor who will award final approval.
5. Amount of the Waiver: The waiver will reduce the amount of tuition from the non-resident tuition rate to the resident tuition rate for the program to which the applicant has been accepted.
6. Term of Award: The award of resident status for tuition paying purposes will be valid as long as the student remains in the original program and is making satisfactory progress toward their degree or certificate.

Review and Evaluation:

At the end of each academic year, the colleges will review each student's performance and provide a summary sheet [to be developed] on the program recipients' standing and progress during the year. The forms will be submitted for review to the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and the Chancellor by August 1.

No less than every three years, the Deans of the Colleges and Graduate School and the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs will evaluate the success of the Non-Resident Diversity Scholarship Program in meeting its goals. Based on their review, they will forward a written recommendation to the Chancellor to continue, modify, or discontinue the program.

12. What, if any, are your ties to the state? (e.g., lived in the state in the past, spouse is a native, etc.)

13. How likely is it that you will remain in Arkansas to work (practice) after graduation?

Very likely Likely Somewhat likely Not very likely Don't know

Comments: _____

14. Please provide your tax status as either a dependent or non-dependent:

I am non-dependent and was NOT claimed as a dependent on someone else's tax return last year. → My total taxable income was: \$ _____

I am a dependent and was claimed on my parent/guardian(s) income tax return last year. → My parent, guardian or spouse's total taxable income was: \$ _____

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

15. List employment history or attach a curriculum vita, resume or college application form.

Employer	Job Title	Dates
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

PARENTS / GUARDIANS

16. Married Divorced Separated Single Deceased

Father

Mother

Name _____ Maiden Name _____

City/State _____ City/State _____

SIGNATURE: By signing below, I affirm that the information given is complete and accurate.

Signature _____ Date _____

