

1. GENERAL

- 1.01 Section 54.064 of the Texas Education Code states that a student, who holds a competitive scholarship of at least \$1,000 for the academic year or summer for which the student is enrolled and who is either a nonresident or the citizen of a country other than the United States of America, is entitled to pay the fees and charges required of Texas residents without regard to the length of time he has resided in Texas, provided that he competes with other students, including Texas residents, for the scholarship and the scholarship is awarded by a scholarship committee officially recognized by the administration of the institution of higher education and approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under criteria developed by the Board.
- 1.02 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rules, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, Section 21.26(b)(4)(B) states: “To be eligible as the basis of a waiver, the scholarship(s) must meet the following criteria: (i) be granted by a scholarship committee authorized in writing by the institution’s administration to grant scholarships that hold the waiver option; (ii) be granted in keeping with criteria published in the institution’s catalog, available to the public in advance of any application deadline; (iii) be granted under circumstances that cause both the funds and the selection process to be under the control of the institution; (iv) be open to both resident and nonresident students.”
- 1.03 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rules, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, Section 21.26(b)(4)(C) states: “A waiver based on a competitive scholarship lasts for the period of the scholarship (up to a 12-month period). The scholarship award must specify the term or terms in which the scholarship will be in effect. If the scholarship is terminated, so is the waiver. If the scholarship is to be issued in multiple disbursements and less than \$1,000 is issued when a scholarship is terminated, the student does not owe a refund for the tuition that has been waived, since the waiver was originally made in a good faith expectation of a scholarship of at least \$1,000, but the waiver is canceled for the terms for which the scholarship is canceled.”

2. COMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD RULES

- 2.01 A scholarship committee shall be considered to be authorized in writing by the Sam Houston State University administration upon approval by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. This authorization shall be in effect so long as scholarships under the control of a committee are included in the list of officially recognized University scholarships.
- 2.02 The list of approved scholarships and their requirements shall be maintained in a manner that provides potential applicants with ready access to both the scholarships and their respective requirements prior to published scholarship deadlines. This list is currently located at the following website: [http://www.shsu.edu/~sfa\\_www/scholarship.html](http://www.shsu.edu/~sfa_www/scholarship.html).
- 2.03 The undergraduate and graduate catalogs must provide students with information concerning the location of the official list of approved scholarships.
- 2.04 Donors may provide scholarship funds to the University and/or its programs after posted scholarship deadlines. Such funds may be awarded as competitive academic scholarships provided the awards are made by an authorized scholarship committee in keeping with the criteria of a pre-existing scholarship under its control that qualifies as a competitive scholarship. Whenever practical, recipients of this type of award should be drawn from a pre-existing pool of applicants for one or more qualifying competitive academic scholarships.

3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.01 Competitive Academic Scholarship. A scholarship that is publicized in a manner consistent with Section 2 and is open to both residents and nonresidents, that is designated as competitive by SHSU, and whose sum either singularly or in combination with other competitive scholarships totals enough to be a basis for the waiver of nonresident tuition charges.
- 3.02 The University Academic Scholarship Committee shall be a standing committee appointed by the Provost.

4. GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPETITIVE ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

To be eligible for any competitive academic scholarship, a student must at minimum meet the general criteria for admission to the University. In addition:

4.01 Duly empowered scholarship committees may recommend standards for any competitive academic scholarships under its control. The scholarship requirements shall be in force from the time they are approved by the Provost for inclusion in the official list of University scholarships as set out in Section 2.

4.02 In all cases, committees awarding competitive academic scholarships must ensure that the criteria set out in Section 1.02 are met.

5. OTHER AWARD PROCEDURES

5.01 Non-academic activities/departments wishing to award competitive academic scholarships shall:

- a. Obtain written permission to award competitive academic scholarships from the Provost.
- b. Ensure that the requirements of Section 1.02 and Section 2 are met.
- c. Convene a special academic scholarship selection committee consisting of at least three members, one of whom shall be a full-time faculty member at Sam Houston State University. This committee will ensure that candidates for academic scholarships selected under the provisions of paragraph 5.01 of this policy meet the criteria for selection established by this policy.
- d. Forward the names and appropriate selection criteria results of all academic scholarship committee awardees to the chair of the University Academic Scholarship Committee.

5.02 Any student awarded a competitive academic scholarship at Sam Houston State University will be required by the awarding unit to sign a scholarship participation agreement prior to the disbursement of any scholarship monies

