

# McLennan Community College

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Reference:	G-X-h	Effective Date	02/25/2025
Subject:	McLennan Rising Star Scholarship		
Source:	Vice President, Finance & Administration		
Approval Authority:	President	Approval Date	02/25/2025
Approved by Leadership Team:	McKown:	Eggleston:	Harmsen: Wichman:
History:	Replaces previous policy dates of 02/20/2024 and 01/23/2024		
Remarks:			

The college shall offer McLennan Rising Star Scholarships to all high school students who rank academically at the end of the junior year in the top 11 to 20% (according to latest ranking), or to the students ranking 6th through 10th, whichever represents the greater number of students. If the class has fewer than 21 students, the third and fourth ranked students in the class shall be awarded the Rising Star Scholarship. Eligible high schools shall be accredited by the Texas Education Agency or the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission and meet one of the following criteria.

- Located in McLennan County
- Located in Falls County with MCC as the primary dual credit partner
- Located outside the MCC service area with MCC as the primary dual credit partner

Students qualifying for the Rising Star Scholarship shall be identified and certified each year by the principal or counselor of their high school in the spring of their junior year.

The McLennan Rising Star Scholarship will be awarded to homeschool students ranked in the top 11-20% according to the scholarship committee's scoring, or to those ranked 6th through 10th—whichever group represents the larger number of students. Eligible applicants must be residents of McLennan County and graduates of homeschool programs. To apply, students must complete the MCC Foundation Scholarship application and indicate their interest in the homeschool scholarship. The scholarship committee will make the final awards. All other scholarship requirements remain unchanged.

The scholarship shall be valid for four consecutive long semesters, (for example fall, spring, fall, spring) after graduation from high school. Semesters unused by the student are lost to the scholarship and the scholarship expires after the fourth long semester after high school graduation. For example, a student chooses to attend another College during the first semester after high school graduation and then decides to return to McLennan for the following semester will have three semesters of the scholarship remaining. Except for cohort type programs that require summer enrollment for on time completion, scholarships shall not be valid during the summer terms.

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Before enrolling, eligible students must apply for admission and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA). Scholarship recipients shall enroll full time (defined as 12 or more hours per semester) and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 to remain eligible for this scholarship. Students who do not meet these requirements will forfeit the remainder of the scholarship, however if the student experiences extenuating circumstances during enrollment causing the GPA to falter, they may write a letter of appeal to the Director of Financial Aid explaining these circumstances and possibly have the scholarship restored.

The amount, or value, of the Rising Star Scholarship shall be one half tuition and fees each semester, excluding travel course fees, late registration fees, class change fees, Inclusive Access fees, or the additional tuition for attempting a course more than twice. The administration of the Rising Star Scholarship program shall be under the supervision of the Vice President, Finance & Administration. All Rising Star Scholarships shall be processed by the Office of Financial Aid. Once a scholarship is offered, the offer will not be reduced – even if class rank changes for a student. If a student moves from the 11-20% rank to the top 10%, the scholarship offer will be increased. The Rising Star Scholarship shall be paid in addition to any academic scholarship the student receives. Students who receive the Presidential or Honors College Scholarship in addition to the Rising Star Scholarship will receive the scholarship that provides the greatest benefit to the student.