

**PART 654—ROBERT C. BYRD  
HONORS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

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AUTHORITY: 20 U.S.C. 1070d-31 to 1070d-41, unless otherwise noted.

SOURCE: 58 FR 42669, Aug. 11, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

**Subpart A—General**

**§ 654.1 What is the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program?**

Under the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program, the Secretary makes grants to the States to provide scholarships for study at institutions of higher education to outstanding high school graduates who show promise of continued excellence, in an effort to recognize and promote student excellence and achievement.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070d-31, 1070d-33)

**§ 654.2 Who is eligible for an award?**

(a) States are eligible for grants under this program.

(b) Students who meet the eligibility criteria in §§ 654.40 and 654.51 are eligible for scholarships under this program.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070d-33, 1070d-36)

**§ 654.3 What kind of activity may be assisted?**

A State may use its funds under this program, including funds collected from scholars under § 654.60(a)(3), only to make scholarship payments to scholars.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070d-35, 1070d-38)

**§ 654.4 What regulations apply?**

The following regulations apply to this program:

(a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) as follows:

(1) 34 CFR 75.60–75.62 (regarding the ineligibility of certain individuals to receive assistance under part 75 (Direct Grant Programs)).

(2) 34 CFR part 76 (State-Administered Programs).

(3) 34 CFR part 77 (Definitions that Apply to Department Regulations).

(4) 34 CFR part 79 (Intergovernmental Review of Department of Education Programs and Activities).

(5) 34 CFR part 80 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments).

(6) 34 CFR part 82 (New Restrictions on Lobbying).

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(7) 34 CFR part 85 (Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Non-procurement) and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)).

(8) 34 CFR part 86 (Drug-Free Schools and Campuses).

(b) The regulations in this part 654.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070d-31 *et seq.*)

**§ 654.5 What definitions apply?**

(a) *Definitions in EDGAR.* The following terms used in this part are defined in 34 CFR 77.1:

- EDGAR
- Fiscal year
- Private
- Public
- Secretary
- State
- State educational agency

(b) *Other definitions.* The following definitions also apply to this part:

*Award year* means the period of time from July 1 of one year through June 30 of the following year.

*Cost of attendance* has the meaning given that term in section 472 of the HEA.

*Full-time student* means a student enrolled at an institution of higher education who is carrying a full-time academic workload, as determined by that institution under standards applicable to all students enrolled in that student's program.

*HEA* means the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

*High school graduate* means an individual who has—

- (i) A high school diploma;
- (ii) A General Education Development (GED) Certificate; or
- (iii) Any other evidence recognized by the State as the equivalent of a high school diploma.

*Institution of higher education* means any public or private nonprofit institution of higher education, proprietary institution of higher education, or postsecondary vocational institution, as defined in section 481 of the HEA.

*Participating State* means a State that has submitted a participation agreement that has been approved by the Secretary.

*Scholar* means an individual who is selected as a Byrd Scholar.

*Scholarship* means an award made to a scholar under this part.

*Secondary school year* means the period of time during which a secondary school is in session, as determined by State law.

*Year of study* means the period of time during which a full-time student at an institution of higher education is expected to complete the equivalent of one year of course work, as defined by the institution.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070d-31 *et seq.*, 20 U.S.C. 1088)

**Subpart B—How Does a State Apply for a Grant?**

**§ 654.10 What must a State do to apply for a grant?**

(a) To apply for a grant under this program, a State must submit a participation agreement to the Secretary for review and approval by the deadline announced annually by the Secretary in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) On the Secretary's approval of its initial participation agreement for fiscal year 1993 or thereafter, a State need not submit a new participation agreement to be considered for funding under this program in subsequent years, except that any changes in the State's criteria and procedures must be incorporated in a revised participation agreement which must be submitted to the Secretary for review and approval.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1840-0612)

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070d-35)

**§ 654.11 What is the content of a participation agreement?**

A State's participation agreement must include the following:

(a) A description of the criteria and procedures that the State, through its State educational agency (SEA), plans to use to administer this program in accordance with the requirements of this part, including the criteria and procedures it plans to use to—

- (1) Publicize the availability of Byrd scholarships to students in the State, with particular emphasis on procedures designed to ensure that students from low- and moderate-income families