



# Scholarship Award Policy

*Department of Mining Engineering  
College of Engineering and Mineral Resources  
West Virginia University*

Approved: August 27, 2010. Amended: April 6, 2011



The awarding of scholarships from the Department of Mining Engineering to students is for the following four main purposes: (1) to recruit promising high school students (“Incentive Scholarship”), (2) to attract promising students from among the WVU 1<sup>st</sup> Year engineering students, (3) to attract transfer students, and (4) to encourage students to maintain high academic performance.

A student who wishes to receive or renew a scholarship must submit an application for consideration. Applicants must submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form. The student must maintain student membership in SME (Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc.) with good standing. The student must also participate in the required activities as outlined in the SME Student Chapter Professional and Social Responsibility Policy.

This scholarship policy has been established based on the amount of available scholarship funds and enrollments. In any given year, the number and/or the amounts of awarded scholarships could be adjusted, based on the currently available scholarship funds and the number of applicants. Therefore, awards are competitive, and need is a consideration.

## Types of Scholarship Awards

- **Incentive Scholarship (awarded to high-school students prior to WVU studies)**

Consideration for an Incentive Scholarship is given to incoming WVU 1<sup>st</sup>-year engineering students who have expressed an interest in majoring in Mining Engineering (MinE) by completing a Mining Engineering Scholarship Application prior to entering West Virginia University. These applicants are placed in a “pool.” At the end of their 1<sup>st</sup> Year in WVU Engineering, when they can officially declare Mining Engineering as their intended major, if they have maintained at least a 2.75 GPA, are student members of SME, and have followed the guidelines as stated in the SME Student Chapter Professional and Social Responsibility Policy, they will be awarded a \$2000 scholarship. A student who declares one of the dual majors (MinE/CE or MinE/GEOL) will be awarded \$1000.

- **GPA-based Scholarship (for declared Mining Engineering majors, including dual majors)**

Consideration for a GPA-based Scholarship will be given to students who are declared MinE, or dual MinE/CE or MinE/GEOL students in good standing. Students must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 and must maintain, at least, 14 credits per semester. Failure to maintain a 2.75 overall GPA or 14 credits during a semester will jeopardize the continued awarding of the scholarship for the following semester.

Consideration for a GPA-based Scholarship will be given to students who are transferring from other CEMR programs into the Department of Mining Engineering. Again, students must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 and must maintain, at least, 14 credits per semester. Failure to maintain a 2.75 overall GPA or 14 credits during a semester will jeopardize the continued awarding of the scholarship for the following semester.

Amended on April 6, 2011

Consideration for a GPA-based Scholarship will be provided to students who are transferring from non-CEMR locations into the Department of Mining Engineering (i.e., community colleges, other universities, non-CEMR WVU locations, etc.). Students in this category must satisfy the requirements of CEMR to declare a major and have a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 for courses applicable for the MinE major. Individual applicants in this category may have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Failure to maintain a 2.75 overall GPA or 14 credits during a semester will jeopardize the continued awarding of the scholarship for the following semester.

### **Scholarship Award Levels**

- **Incentive Scholarship**

The \$2,000 (\$1,000 for dual majors) Incentive Scholarship will be awarded to the student at the beginning of the 2nd year at WVU.

- **GPA-Based Scholarship**

The student's academic performance is evaluated **annually** (usually at the end of the Spring Semester) and the decision to award the GPA-based scholarship is based on the evaluation.

A MinE student will be eligible for the GPA-based scholarship for up to **three** years, while a student declaring the dual major of Mining Engineering/Civil Engineering or Mining Engineering/Geology will be eligible for the GPA-based scholarship for up to **four** years.

Annual amounts for GPA-based scholarships for students declaring Mining Engineering (Priority Category A) as a major are as follows:

- **\$2,000** per year will be awarded to a student whose overall GPA is between 2.75 and 3.24.
- **\$2,500** per year will be awarded to student whose overall GPA is between 3.25 and 3.74.
- **\$3,000** per year will be awarded to student whose overall GPA is 3.75 or above.

Annual amounts for GPA-based scholarships for students declaring Mining Engineering/Civil Engineering or Mining Engineering/Geology (Priority Category B) are as follows:

- **\$1,500** per year will be awarded to a student whose overall GPA is between 2.75 and 3.24.
- **\$1,875** per year will be awarded to student whose overall GPA is between 3.25 and 3.74.
- **\$2,250** per year will be awarded to student whose overall GPA is 3.75 or above.

Annual amounts for GPA-based scholarships for students declaring Civil Engineering/Mining Engineering or Geology/Mining Engineering (Priority Category C) are as follows:

- **\$750** per year will be awarded to a student whose overall GPA is between 2.75 and 3.24.
- **\$938** per year will be awarded to student whose overall GPA is between 3.25 and 3.74.
- **\$1125** per year will be awarded to student whose overall GPA is 3.75 or above.

### **Award Priority Categories**

- Priority Category A: Students declaring Mining Engineering as a major. The students in this category will have the highest priority for GPA-based scholarship consideration.
- Priority Category B: Students declaring either Mining Engineering/Civil Engineering or Mining Engineering/Geology as a major. To be in this category, **the applicant must declare Mining Engineering as “First Major”** on the WVU “General Student Form.” The students in this category will have a lower priority for GPA-based scholarship consideration than Priority Category A applicants.
- Priority Category C: Students declaring either Mining Engineering/Civil Engineering or Mining Engineering/Geology as a major. To be in this category, **the applicant did not declare Mining Engineering as “First Major”** on the WVU “General Student Form.” The students in this category will have a lower priority for GPA-based scholarship consideration than Priority Category A or B applicants.

### **Implementation, Monitoring and Revision**

- The decision to award a scholarship is made by the Department Chair based on this policy and the availability of the funds.
- The Department Scholarship Committee will review the scholarship funds and award history annually. This scholarship award policy is subject to revision at the committee’s discretion.