



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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March 31, 2011

TO: Secondary School Principals
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Rochelle Hendricks
Acting Deputy Commissioner

SUBJECT: **Application Process for the 2011 Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship**

I am pleased to announce that the 2011 Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program application is now available online for completion by guidance counselors for this year's graduating seniors. Students selected as Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholars will receive scholarships annually for four years to be used at any accredited college or university in the United States. The amount of the annual scholarship is expected to be \$1,500, but is contingent upon passage of the federal budget. Note that scholarships will be distributed based upon the percentage of high school seniors in each county.

The purpose of the scholarship is to recognize exceptional students who show promise of continued academic excellence. School officials may nominate up to three (3) graduating seniors who have pursued the most rigorous course of study offered in their school and possess academic indicators (SAT scores and unweighted grade point average) that are among the highest in their class.

Please carefully review the revised application guidelines and forward the attached application materials to your guidance office to ensure adequate time for completion of the online process. Online applications may only be completed and certified by the student's guidance counselor, must adhere to program guidelines, and be submitted by the **4 p.m. May 13, 2011 deadline**. **Please note that you will now have to scan and upload the student transcript and SAT score report to the online application.** Instructions to access the online application are included.

Scholarship recipients will be notified of their selection via email by July 2011. Should you have questions about the application process, please email Nancy Besant, program coordinator, at nancy.besant@doe.state.nj.us. Thank you for your cooperation.

RH/MJK/NB/S:/BYRD/2011-12/APPLICATION MEMO.DOC

Attachments

c: Nancy Besant
Pam Castellanos
Emily MacKinnon
Executive County Superintendents

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