Lottery Scholarship

Overview:
- Expansion of the Academic Challenge Scholarship Program to provide opportunities for higher education to previously unserved Arkansans (traditional & non-traditional students). The goal is to provide meaningful financial help to those qualifying.
- Universally available - college scholarships available to all Arkansans regardless of race, gender, family income or course of study.
- Academic Challenge currently serves approximately 8,000 students.
- The expanded program is projected to serve approximately 28,000 students.
- The program works to promote academic rigor and excellence - We want a scholarship program based on merit, one that reflects a commitment to academic achievement and degree attainment.

Award Amounts:
- The Academic Challenge Scholarship will be an annual award, and expected to be at least:
  - $1,250 annually for 2-year students
  - $2,500 annually for 4-year students
  - Actual amount will be determined by lottery proceeds, and will be announced in 2010.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Traditional Students –
  - Accepted for admission at an approved institution of higher education as a full-time student in a program of study that leads to a baccalaureate degree, associate degree, qualified certificate or a nursing school diploma
  - Applicant must complete the FAFSA (although there will be no maximum income cap)
  - Must meet one of the following criteria:
    - Graduate from an Arkansas public high school, successfully complete the Smart Core curriculum and achieve a 2.5 high school GPA OR obtain a 19 on the ACT
    - Graduate from an Arkansas public high school (before 2014), achieve a 2.5 high school GPA AND obtain a 19 on the ACT OR score proficient on all state-mandated end-of-course assessments
    - If student graduates from an Arkansas public high school that is identified as a school in which 20% or more of the students received a letter grade of “B” or higher but did not score proficient of higher on the end-of-course assessment, the student must achieve a 2.5 high school GPA AND obtain a 19 on the ACT OR score proficient on all state-mandated end-of-course assessments
    - If a student has a disability identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and graduated from an Arkansas public high school but did not complete the Smart Core because of the applicant’s individualized education program, the student must achieve a 2.5 high school GPA AND obtain a 19 on the ACT OR score proficient on all state-mandated end-of-course assessments
    - Graduate from a private, out-of-state high school or home school and achieve a 19 on the ACT
• Non-Traditional Students – (Year 1: $8,000,000 allocation)
  ▪ Accepted for admission at an approved institution of higher education as a full-time or
    part-time student in a program of study that leads to a baccalaureate degree, associate
    degree, qualified certificate or a nursing school diploma
  ▪ Applicant must complete the FAFSA although there will be no maximum income cap)
  ▪ Must meet one of the following criteria:
    ➢ Graduate from an Arkansas high school and achieved a 2.5 high school GPA or
      obtained a 19 on the ACT
    ➢ Has completed at least 12 semester credit hours and achieved a 2.5
      postsecondary GPA
    ➢ Graduated from a private high school, out-of-state high school or home school
      and achieved a 19 on the ACT

Length/conditions of eligibility:
• Students must be continuous degree-seekers
• Must complete all remedial course work during first thirty (30) hours attempted after
  receiving scholarship
• All recipients must maintain a 2.5 postsecondary GPA
• Traditional Students –
  ▪ Must remain enrolled full time (12 hours first semester and 15 hours thereafter)
  ▪ Must complete 27 hours during the first academic year and 30 hours thereafter

• Recipient who meets continuing eligibility criteria shall receive a scholarship for one (1)
  academic year renewable annually until the recipient first:
  ▪ Earns a baccalaureate degree or
  ▪ Attempts a total of 130 semester hours in eight (8) semesters for a full-time student (if
    degree requires more than 130 hours the recipient may be approved for additional
    funding beyond 130 hours)
  ▪ Attempts a total of 130 semester hours in sixteen (16) semesters for a part-time student
    (if degree requires more than 130 hours the recipient may be approved for additional
    funding beyond 130 hours)