5.3 **REGIONAL UNIVERSITY BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Administrative Rule Title 610 Chapter 25 Subchapter 33 (610:25-33)

5.3.1   Purpose (610:25-33-1)

The purpose of the Regional University Baccalaureate Scholarship Program is:

A.   To enable public regional universities to provide up to four years of scholarship support to academically promising Oklahoma students enrolled in a baccalaureate program.

B.   To enhance academic quality in public regional universities.

5.3.2   Definitions (610:25-33-2)

The following words or terms, when used in this Subchapter, shall have the following meaning, unless the concept clearly indicates otherwise:

"Public Regional Institution" as defined by the State Regents' policy in Section II-2-24 under Regional and Special Purpose universities.

5.3.3   General Provisions (610:25-33-3)

A.   Each regional university will receive an annual allocation to support scholarships to be awarded to students who meet the eligibility criteria in 610:25-33-4, and continuing students who meet the criteria in 610:25-33-5. The university may establish additional eligibility criteria. The scholarship award may be used only at the university making the award; it is not portable.

B.   Funding for the awards shall be made in a special allocation of state appropriated monies to the regional universities. The regional universities shall make tuition waiver scholarships available to each student, as provided in State Regents' policy (IV.A.2.g). The allocation, tuition waiver, and any other state or federal financial aid for which the student qualifies shall comprise a scholarship amount not to exceed the costs of tuition and fees, room and board, and books and supplies required for courses.

5.3.4   Eligibility Requirements (610:25-33-4)

A.   Applicants shall be Oklahoma residents.

B.   Applicants must meet one of the following criteria defined below:

1.   An ACT qualified student, which shall mean a student whose American College Testing composite score is at least 30 and whose grade

point average and class rank are exceptional, as determined by the institution;

2.   A National Merit Semifinalist or Commended Student, which shall mean a student designated as a National Merit Semifinalist or National Merit Commended Student by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation;

C.   Only ACT and SAT test scores from tests administered on national test dates will be considered for admission to the program.

5.3.5   Criteria for Continued Eligibility (610:25-33-5)

A.   Participants awarded a scholarship must maintain a cumulative 3.25 grade-point-average. A program year is defined as beginning in the fall semester and continuing through the summer term. The cumulative grade-point-average will be determined at the end of the program year, i.e., between the summer and fall terms.

B.   Scholarship recipients must maintain full-time enrollment each semester. Full-time enrollment shall mean a minimum of 12 hours per semester and 24 hours in the two regular semesters. Students who, due to extraordinary circumstances during the semester, drop below the minimum of 12 hours of initial enrollment, must earn 24 credit hours for the two regular semesters to retain eligibility for the next program year.

C.   A student who fails to meet the continued eligibility requirements will be removed from the program without academic scholarship assistance the following semester. Any semester during which the student does not receive an award due to failure to meet the continuing eligibility requirements is counted as a semester used in the program and is deducted from the eight semesters allotted for the program. A student may be reinstated to the program:

1.   If the student achieves a 3.25 cumulative grade-point average at the end of the following fall or spring semester or summer term;

2.   If the student in the following fall or spring semester remedies the credit-hour deficiency by earning twelve credit hours in addition to the number of hours by which the student is deficient; or if the student earns the deficient credits in the following summer term.

D.   In summary, a student may be reinstated only one time and has one year to remedy the grade-point average or credit-hour deficiency. Maintaining eligibility and

familiarity with State Regents' and institutional policy is the responsibility of the student.

E. Participants may take a leave of absence from the program by petition to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Leaves of absence may not be used to remedy grade-point average or credit-hour deficiency.

5.3.6 Fiscal Policies (610:35-33-6)

A. Students may be awarded additional state-supported financial aid, such as fee waiver scholarships and Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grants, but not in excess of the student's cost of attendance as determined by the institution consistent with regulations for federal financial aid.

B. Students may accept scholarships and grants from non-state sources.

C. A student may be awarded a scholarship for up to 8 semesters of study in a baccalaureate program at a regional university or until the student is granted a baccalaureate degree, whichever occurs first.

D. The allocation of appropriated funds to the regional university shall be on the student's behalf and shall contain appropriate restrictions and conditions that such monies be expended only for the purposes authorized.

E. Subject to approval by the Chancellor and contingent upon sufficient program funding, if a student fails to meet the requirements for continued eligibility, the university may award the remainder of the student's scholarship to another qualified student.

F. Unused scholarship awards may be reallocated by the Chancellor to other universities. The reallocation of the unused scholarship funds shall be on the basis of the number of qualified students.

Approved by the State Regents April 15, 1994. Amended September 6, 1996, January 29, 1999, February 18, 2000, and May 27, 2010. Promulgated as administrative rule effective May 27, 2004, last amended effective May 27, 2010.