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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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## MEMORANDUM NO. 2017-127

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
High School Principals  
Curriculum Directors  
Scholarship Coordinators  
High School Counselors

**FROM:** Megan Degenfelder, Chief Policy Officer

**DATE:** November 27, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Hathaway Scholarship Program Grade-Weighting Policy

# HATHAWAY SCHOLARSHIP GRADE-WEIGHTING POLICY

During the 2017 Wyoming Legislative Session, changes to the way high school GPAs are calculated for Hathaway Scholarship award purposes were signed into law. In accordance with [Senate Enrolled Act 0056](#), the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) established a grade-weighting policy that accounts for the increased academic rigor of high school courses beginning in the 2018-19 school year.

The WDE has been working throughout the 2017-18 school year with several pilot districts to use the below weighting system:

GRADE	POINT VALUE FOR A 4.0 SCALE	POINT VALUE FOR A 5.0 SCALE
A	4	5
B	3	4
C	2	3
D	1	2
F	0	0

The 5.0 scale only applies to the GPA used for awarding the various levels of the Hathaway Scholarship; districts may continue to maintain their local policies for grade-weighting for other purposes. The 5.0 scale will apply only to Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and +1000 level and above dual/concurrent courses

throughout the pilot year. The weighted GPA will not be used to award students during the 2017-2018 school year.

The WDE will hold a call with the pilot districts for updates and feedback regarding this process at 9 a.m. on January 23, 2018. All districts are welcome to join, email [hathawayscholarship@wyo.gov](mailto:hathawayscholarship@wyo.gov) for meeting information.

Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, **all districts** will be required to use a weighted Hathaway GPA for **all** AP, IB, and +1000 level and above dual/concurrent courses for all students. Districts will also be required to display the weighted Hathaway GPA on all student transcripts for Hathaway Scholarship awarding purposes. Please ensure student information systems will be able to make this transition for the 2018-19 school year.

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*For questions or to participate on the call, contact Jennifer LaHiff or Bradley Barker at [hathawayscholarship@wyo.gov](mailto:hathawayscholarship@wyo.gov).*