Mary Jo Young Scholarship

Thirty-five Harlan County High School students have been selected to receive the Mary Jo Young Scholarship for the 2011-2012-school year.

The scholarship is sponsored by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority to provide financial assistance through tuition and textbook expenses for students in grades 9-12 who likely would not take dual credit courses without payment of their costs by the scholarship.

"We are delighted that 35 of our students will be receiving the Mary Jo Young Scholarship," said Brent Roark, assistant superintendent for Harlan County Schools. "The scholarship completely removes the financial burden of paying for dual credit classes from our students and their families."

Priority for the scholarships is given to low-income students, minorities and first-generation college attendees. The applicants must be a Kentucky resident, demonstrate competency in prerequisite content and be enrolled in credit bearing courses.

"The dual credit classes have proven to be the catalyst for many of our students to pursue the dream of college attendance," said Roark. " For many students the receipt of this scholarship and subsequent enrollment in dual credit classes sets in motion a series of events which lead directly to college attendance and the possibilities of a more financially rewarding career.

The scholarship, named for a former member of the board of directors for the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, provides up to $405 per class toward tuition for up to two classes each semester and up to $125 per class for textbook reimbursement. Scholarships can only be used in the fall and spring semesters.

The dual credit program at Harlan County High School is offered through partnership with Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College.

KHEAA is the agency that administers state grant, scholarship and savings programs and provides free college and financial aid planning publications to Kentuckians.