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*Governor*

Department  
Of Career Education

William L "Bill" Walker, Jr.  
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## Media Advisory

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## Governor's Commission to award 27 scholarships Friday

LITTLE ROCK – The Governor's Commission on People with Disabilities will present 27 college scholarships at a program and reception to be held from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, June 14, at the Pulaski Technical College Grand Ballroom, North Little Rock. Representatives from the media are invited to attend.

The Commission's scholarships are awarded annually to qualifying students with disabilities from across Arkansas who are pursuing post-secondary education. The \$1,000 stipends are funded through the Commission's 30 percent share of fines levied against people who illegally use parking spaces reserved for drivers with a disability.

A violation occurs when a car without official designation parks in an accessible space. It is also a violation for a person who is not disabled to park a vehicle with that designation in a space provided for that purpose.

"The number of fines has decreased in recent years," said Leonard Boyle, the Commission's executive director. "It's not that the violations have decreased, but the frequency with which violations are reported and ticketed has."

The master of ceremonies will be Pulaski County sheriff, Doc Holladay, and the keynote speaker will be Arkansas State Representative, Josh Miller of Heber Springs.

Those receiving scholarships, with their hometown and college choice:

- Justin Alexander, Greenbrier, *Arkansas State University*
- Michael Tyler Atkinson, Conway, *Arkansas Tech University*
- Kyra Bell, Maumelle, *Henderson State University*
- Abigail Branch, Bentonville, *University of Central Arkansas*

- more -

- Holly Brewer, Jonesboro, *Arkansas State University*
- Mallory Burke, North Little Rock, *University of Arkansas at Little Rock*
- Holly Crain, Bentonville, *University of Arkansas at Fayetteville*
- Ashten Dean, Cabot, *Ouachita Baptist University*
- Hannah Fender, Maumelle, *Ouachita Baptist University*
- Dewayne Goldman II, Pine Bluff, *Iowa State University*
- Megan Harrison, Lowell, *University of Central Arkansas*
- Hannah Hess, North Little Rock, *Arkansas Tech University*
- Karie Hudson, Sherwood, *University of Central Arkansas*
- Heather Inman, Hampton, *Southern Arkansas University*
- Kyler Kelton, Delight, *Harding University*
- Kristen Kuykendall, Shirley, *University of Central Arkansas*
- Angela Lamb, Greenwood, *Hendrix College*
- Jonathan Marks, Siloam Springs, *John Brown University*
- Cody Matteri, Springdale, *Ottawa University*
- Jackson Matteri, Springdale, *College of the Ozarks*
- Taylor Scott, Hot Springs, *Henderson State University*
- Felicia Sisco, Fayetteville, *John Brown University*
- Laney Staggs, Mena, *University of Arkansas at Fort Smith*
- Brandon Tabor, Russellville, *Arkansas Tech University*
- Brooke Ward, Rogers, *University of Arkansas at Fayetteville*
- Ryan Wight, Alma, *Arkansas Tech University*
- Katheryn Woods, Alexander, *Southern Arkansas University*

“These students are among the very best and brightest that Arkansas has to offer and have not allowed their disability to stand in the way of their success,” said William L. “Bill” Walker, Jr., director of the Arkansas Department of Career Education, the agency that manages the commission.

“I am inspired by the students who receive the commission’s scholarships,” said Randy Laverty, commissioner of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, a division of the Department of Career Education.

“They do not let their challenges keep them from pursuing an education and therefore their dreams. We can all take a lesson from their example.”

The Executive Director of the Governor’s Commission on People with Disabilities is Leonard Boyle, Sr. and Maureen Strobel is the chairperson. Commissioners are Mary Bennett, Shirley Byers, Nancy Carlson, Sharon Downs, Rodney Farley, Lester Fulmer, Christopher “CJ” George, Cleon Green James E. Hunt, Jermaine Moore, Bryan Purifoy, Sherice Smith, Grady Tracy and Jay R. Whipple. The DHS liaison is Lynne Bowen, ex-officio member is Randy Laverty, and the Governor’s liaison is Sarah Agee.

***The Arkansas Department of Career Education (ACE) has the mission of providing leadership and contributing resources to serve the diverse and changing career educational needs of Arkansas youth, adults, and persons living with disabilities. Information about the department’s services is available at <http://ace.arkansas.gov>.***