

# LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REVISION Students

Rule 5126

### Awards For Achievement

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a committee at each school to consider awards for student accomplishments. This committee may consist of school administrators, teachers, parents/guardians, community members, and student representatives.

The committee shall submit recommendations for student awards to the Superintendent or designee for approval.

~~Individual awards in excess of \$200 must be expressly approved by the Board of Education~~

### Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

To be eligible to receive the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma upon high school ~~graduation~~, a student shall *complete all requirements for a high school diploma and shall demonstrate mastery of the curriculum in mathematics, English language arts, science, U.S. history, and two other subject matter areas selected by the student by meeting at least one of the following criteria for each subject:*

1. ~~Complete all requirements for a high school diploma~~
2. ~~Demonstrate mastery of at least six subject areas by earning a scaled score of 370 or above on six separate high school California Standards Tests (CST), including:~~
  - a. ~~One mathematics exam, excluding the Algebra I, General Mathematics, or Integrated Mathematics 1 test~~
  - b. ~~One English language arts exam~~
  - c. ~~One science exam, excluding the grade 10 Life Science exam~~
  - d. ~~The grade 11 history-social science exam (United States history)~~
  - e. ~~Two additional CSTs of the student's choice, which may, but are not required to, include additional exams in mathematics, English language arts, science, or history-social science~~

1. *Mathematics and English language arts*
  - a. *A grade of at least B+ or the numerical equivalent in a single course each semester completed in grade 9, 10, or 11*
  - b. *An achievement level of "Standard Met" or above for the high school Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment*
  
2. *Science*
  - a. *A grade of at least B+ or the numerical equivalent in a single course each semester completed in grade 9, 10, or 11*
  - b. *An achievement level of "Standard Met" or above for the high school California Science Test taken in grade 10 or 11*
  
3. *U.S. history*
  - a. *A grade of at least B or the numerical equivalent in the required U.S. history course each semester*
  - b. *A qualifying score that demonstrates mastery of the subject as determined by the district for an exam produced by a private provider or the district*
  
4. *Two additional subject areas of the student's choosing*
  - a. *Any additional qualifying grade or score listed above, earned for the subject of English language arts, mathematics, science, or U.S. history not already used to meet eligibility*
  - b. *A grade of at least B or the numerical equivalent upon completion of high school courses in other subjects*
  - c. *A qualifying score that demonstrates mastery of other subjects, as determined by the district, for an exam produced by a private provider or the district*

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who are eligible for the merit and shall affix an insignia to the diploma and transcript of each student awarded the merit diploma.

California Department of Education (CDE) requires each district to annually submit one districtwide insignia request on a form provided by CDE. CDE's web site encourages districts to submit the request far enough in advance of the graduation ceremony date to allow sufficient time for processing by CDE and for district staff to place the insignias on the diplomas. CDE begins mailing requested insignias the first week of April.

The Superintendent or designee shall submit an insignia request form to the California Department of Education in sufficient time to allow processing of the request prior to the high school graduation ceremony.

State Seal of Biliteracy Award

To be eligible to receive the *State Seal of Biliteracy upon graduation*, a student shall demonstrate a high level of proficiency in English and at least one other language, which may include American Sign Language, by meeting all of the following state-established criteria:  
~~district's biliteracy award upon graduation, a student shall:~~

- ~~1. Complete all requirements for a high school diploma, including all English language arts requirements, with an overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or above~~
- ~~2. Demonstrate proficiency in one or more languages other than English, by fulfilling at least one of the following requirements:~~
  - ~~a. Receive a passing score of 3 or higher on the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam for foreign language~~
  - ~~b. Successfully complete a four-year course of study in the same foreign language, attaining an overall GPA of 3.0 or above in those courses~~
  - ~~c. Pass a district-established foreign language exam, when available, at a proficient level or higher~~
  - ~~d. Pass a foreign government's approved language exam and receive a certificate of competency for that language from the authorizing government agency~~
- 1. Completion of all English language arts requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average of at least 2.0 in those classes*
- 2. Passage of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress for English language arts or any successor test administered in grade 11 at or above the "Standard Met" achievement level*
- 3. Proficiency in one or more languages other than English, demonstrated through one of the following methods:*
  - a. Passage of a world language Advanced Placement (AP) exam with a score of 3 or higher or an International Baccalaureate (IB) exam with a score of 4 or higher*
  - b. Successful completion of a four-year high school course of study in*

*a world language, attaining an overall grade point average of at least 3.0 in that course of study, and oral proficiency in the language comparable to that required on an AP or IB exam*

- c. If no AP exam or off-the-shelf language test exists, passage of a district language exam that can be certified to meet the rigor of a four-year high school course of study in a given language and, at a minimum, assesses speaking, reading, and writing in a language other than English at the proficient level or higher*
- d. If a language is not characterized by listening, speaking, or reading, or for which there is no written system, passage of an assessment on the modalities that characterize communication in that language at the proficient level or higher*
- e. Passage of the SAT II world language exam with a score of 600 or higher*

*To be eligible to receive the State Seal of Biliteracy, a student whose primary language is other than English shall also attain the level which demonstrates English language proficiency on the state's English Language Proficiency Assessments for California.*

~~The Superintendent or designee shall annually distribute information about the eligibility requirements for the award and the application process to students in grade 12.~~

*The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify high school students who have earned the State Seal of Biliteracy and shall affix an insignia to the diploma of each student awarded the biliteracy award.*

#### *Notifications*

*The Superintendent or designee shall annually distribute information about eligibility requirements for the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma, State Seal of Biliteracy, and/or any District awards programs to students at the applicable grade levels.*

#### *Values*

*When possible, non-monetary prizes, awards or incentives are recommended. For example, homework passes, test passes, tickets to school activities, etc. The district will consider any prize, award or incentive amount equal to or less than \$10.00 (ten) dollars (including tax and*

*shipping) to be de Minimis. The District views incentives up to this amount to be insignificant to a recipient for tax purposes and to the District.*

*Budgetary annual aggregate limits should be followed:*

*School Sites: \$10 per student\**

*for example, if ABC Elementary school has an enrollment of 300 students, the maximum annual budget for ABC Elementary School is \$3,000.*

*\*\$10 per student is for annual budgeting purposes. Actual amount spent on a student is at the discretion of the site administrator.*

*The aggregate limit on a single prize, award or incentive is \$40.00 including tax and shipping. The District accepts that individual awards, may at times exceed the \$10 per student budgeted amount, but staff is encouraged to adhere to the \$10 per student budgeted amount in order to provide an equitable awards program to all students.*

Rule

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