



Chico Unified School District

1163 East Seventh Street, Chico, CA 95928-5999
(530) 891-3000

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AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

The Superintendent or designee may appoint an awards committee at each school which may consist of school administrators, staff members, 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 Governing Board. (Education Code 44015)

Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

To be eligible to receive the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma upon graduation from high school, a student shall complete all requirements for a high school diploma and 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: (Education Code 51451, 51452; 5 CCR 876)

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



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The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who have earned the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma and shall affix an insignia to the high school diploma and transcript of each such student. (Education Code 51454)

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 Biliiteracy

To be eligible to receive the State Seal of Biliiteracy 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. (Education Code 51461)

Proficiency in English shall be demonstrated by meeting one of the following state-established criteria: (Education Code 51461)

1. Completion of all English language arts requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average of at least 3.0 in those classes or completion of one or more English language arts courses at a public higher education institution or an independent institution of higher education, as described in Education Code 66010, with a grade equivalent to a grade point average of 3.0 or above
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. Passage of an English Advanced Placement (AP) exam with a score of 3 or higher or an English International Baccalaureate (IB) exam with a score of 4 or higher
4. Achievement of a score of 480 or higher on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

Proficiency in one or more languages other than English, demonstrated through one of the following requirements:

1. Passage of a world language Advanced Placement (AP) exam with a score of 3 or higher, a world language IB exam with a score of 4 or higher, or a world language American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Writing Proficiency Test (WPT) and an Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) with scores of Intermediate Mid or higher
2. Successful completion of a four-year course of study of content in a world language at a high school or higher level, 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 in Item #1 above, successful completion of high school level courses completed in another country in a language other than English with the equivalent of an overall grade point average of 3.0 or above, as verified through a transcript, or completion of one or more world language courses at a public higher education institution or an independent institution of higher education as described in Education Code 66010, with a grade equivalent to a grade point average of at least 3.0 and oral proficiency in the language comparable to that specified in Item #1 above, as verified through a transcript
3. If no AP exam or 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 that, at a minimum, assesses speaking, reading, and writing in a language other than English at the proficient level or higher



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4. 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

To be eligible to receive the State Seal of Biliteracy, a student who is an English learner shall, in addition to demonstrating proficiency in English and one or more languages other than English through one of the accomplishments specified above, attain an Oral Language composite score of level 4 on the English Language Proficiency Assessments for California, or any successor English oral language proficiency assessment. (Education Code 51461)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify high school students who have earned the State Seal of Biliteracy and shall affix the insignia to the high school diploma or transcript of each such student. (Education Code 51463)

State Seal of Civic Engagement

To be eligible to receive the State Seal of Civic Engagement, a student shall meet district requirements for all of the following state-established criteria:

1. Be engaged in academic work in a productive way
2. Demonstrate a competent understanding of U.S. and California Constitutions, functions and governance of local governments, tribal government structures and organizations, the role of the citizen in a constitutional democracy, and democratic principles, concepts, and processes
3. Participate in one or more informed civic engagement project(s) that address real-world problems and require students to identify and inquire into civic needs or problems, consider varied responses, take action, and reflect on efforts
4. Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions through self-reflection
5. Exhibit character traits that reflect civic-mindedness and a commitment to positively impact the classroom, school, community and/or society

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who have earned the State Seal of Civic Engagement and shall affix the insignia to the high school diploma or transcript of each such student. (Education Code 51473)

Notifications

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

Earning the Award

- Over the course of the Junior and Senior years students will have the opportunity to complete the requirements and earn the California State Seal of Civic Engagement.
- The Seal will be affixed to their High School Diploma and may be listed as an honor on applications and



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resumes.

- Although some of the work will be completed in their classes, students will be responsible for completing additional extracurricular and community service activities.

Verification Process

- Students shall initiate the verification process by accessing the Chico Unified School District State Seal of Civic Engagement Verification Form (see Appendix A).
- The student shall partner with at least one certificated site staff member to complete the verification process.
- The verification process may be initiated during the summer prior to a student's 11th grade year.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who have earned the State Seal of Civic Engagement and shall affix the insignia to the high school diploma or transcript of each such student. (Education Code 51473)



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APPENDIX A

**Chico Unified School District
State Seal of Civic Engagement Verification Form**

Candidate Name _____ **Graduation Year** _____

School _____ **Social Science Teacher** _____

What is the State Seal of Civic Engagement?

According to the California Department of Education, the State Seal of Civic Engagement is a seal that can be awarded to a student by a district when the student has demonstrated, "excellence in civics education and participation, and an understanding of the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, and the democratic system of government." (2020) The seal can be affixed to diplomas/transcripts or certificates of completion.

Criteria for the Seal

1. Be engaged in academic work in a productive way
2. Demonstrate a competent understanding of U.S. and California constitutions; functions and governance of local governments; tribal government structures and organizations; the role of the citizen in a constitutional democracy; and democratic principles, concepts, and processes.
3. Participate in one or more informed civic engagement project(s) that address real-world problems and require students to identify and inquire into civic needs or problems, consider varied responses, take action, and reflect on efforts.
4. Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions through self-reflection.
5. Exhibit character traits that reflect civic-mindedness and a commitment to positively impact the classroom, school, community and/or society.

Over the course of your Junior and Senior years you will have the opportunity to complete the requirements and earn the California State Seal of Civic Engagement. This will be attached to your High School Diploma and you may list this honor on applications and resumes. Although some of the work will be completed in your classes, you will be responsible for completing additional extracurricular and community service activities.



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Pre Check

You may already be well on your way to earning the seal

- _____ Enrolled in an 11-12 Grade Social Science Class
- _____ Passed an 11-12 Grade Social Science Class with C or better
- _____ Passed the US Citizenship Exam with a 60% or better
- _____ Participate in Community Service, volunteering, clean ups, tutoring
- _____ Participate in Extracurricular/cocurricular Activities, FFA, Band, Drama, CSF, CTE, newspaper, etc
- _____ Member of ASB, School Site Council, Scouts, Youth Groups, other leadership positions, etc.
- _____ Have attended a public meeting or forum

Criteria	Evaluation	Verification/Signatures
<p>1- Be engaged in academic work in a productive way</p> <p>Proven Practice #2: Discuss current local, national, or international issues and events. Includes discussion of current issues and events with evidence of three of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Issues are local or state. ● Issues are national or international. ● Students view issues as important to their lives. ● Discussions are carefully moderated so students are welcome to speak from a variety of perspectives. ● Students complete an activity that demonstrates deeper learning of current issues or events. 	<p>Enrollment in High School 11-12 grade Social Science Course.</p> <p>Completion of course with grade of C or better</p> <p>Qualifying Courses: Modified US History US History-P AP US History Modified US Government US Government-P AP US Government and Politics</p> <p>Active participation in class discussions and activities.</p>	<p>I verify that _____ earned a grade of C or better in the following course(s):</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Teacher's Name</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Teacher's Signature</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Date</p> <p>_____</p>

Comments:



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<p>2- Demonstrate a competent understanding of U.S. and California constitutions; functions and governance of local governments; tribal government structures and organizations; the role of the citizen in a constitutional democracy; and democratic principles, concepts, and processes.</p> <p>Proven Practice #1: Provide instruction in government, history, law, and democracy, beyond rote facts and dry procedures.</p> <p>The formal instruction described is part of a required class and includes at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • integration across the curriculum; • a process of civic inquiry, • investigating causes and solutions; • or engaging in civil dialogue, communicating conclusions, and taking informed action. 	<p>Enrollment in High School 11-12 grade Social Science Courses.</p> <p>Completion of courses with grade of C or better See qualifying courses above</p> <p>Completion of US Citizenship Exam with score of 60% or higher. Taken in Senior Year</p> <p>Contact Ms. Burton for Access</p>	<p>I verify that _____ earned a grade of 60% or higher on the US Citizenship Exam.</p> <p>_____ Teacher's Name</p> <p>_____ Teacher's Signature</p> <p>_____ Date</p>
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<p>3- Participate in one or more informed real world civic engagement project(s)</p> <p>Proven Practice #3: Perform school or community service linked to the formal curriculum and classroom instruction (e.g., service learning). Includes service learning e.g., community service that has a formal link to the classroom curriculum, including three or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consciously pursues civic outcomes, rather than seeks only to improve academic performance or to promote higher self esteem. • Allows students to engage in meaningful work on serious school or public issues. • Gives students a role in choosing and designing their projects. • Students reflect on the service work. • Allows older students to pursue political or school policy responses to problems in ways that are consistent with laws that require public schools to be nonpartisan. <p>Proven Practice #4: Offer extracurricular activities that provide opportunities for young people to get involved in their school or community.</p> <p>Includes three or more extracurricular activities that incorporate at least two of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose is to improve the school or community. • Students have a significant voice in making decisions about what they do. • The extracurricular activity is open to all students. 	<p>Participation in minimum 15 hours of school or community service that meet the Proven Practice 2 qualifications</p> <p>Participation in extracurricular activities that meet the Proven Practice 3 qualifications</p> <p>Leadership in service/activity should be encouraged in Senior year.</p>	<p>I verify that _____ participated in _____ hours of school or community Service that meet PP3 qualifications.</p> <p>_____ Name</p> <p>_____ Signature</p> <p>_____ Date</p> <p>I verify that _____ participated in extracurricular activities that meet PP4 qualifications.</p> <p>_____ Name</p> <p>_____ Signature</p> <p>_____ Date</p>
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Comments:

<p>4- Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions through self-reflection</p>	<p>Participation in simulations or role-plays of democratic processes and procedures.</p>	<p>I verify that _____ demonstrated civic knowledge skills through self- reflection.</p>
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<p>Proven Practice #6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage student participation in simulations or role-plays of democratic processes and procedures. Includes participation in one long-term simulation or role-play and/or three or more short-term simulations or role-plays. A long-term simulation might involve students researching and studying their roles over an extended period. 	<p>Reflective Journal *</p> <p>Portfolio of Civic Engagement course work *</p> <p>Viva Voce (Oral explanation of what the student has experienced and learned)</p> <p>Social Science Fair*</p>	<hr/> <p>Name</p> <hr/> <p>Signature</p> <hr/> <p>Date</p>
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Comments:

<p>5- Exhibit character traits that reflect civic-mindedness and a commitment to positively impact the classroom, school, community and/or society.</p> <p>Proven Practice #5: Encourage participation in classroom and/or school governance.</p> <p>Participation in classroom and/or school governance includes evidence of three substantive instances of participating in management of students' own classroom or having a voice in school-wide decisions.</p>	<p>Participation in classroom and/or school governance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Site Council ASB Establish Classroom norms of behavior/Social Contract <p>Attend/View a local public meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Board, Chico City Council, CARD, etc. <p>Can be completed at any time of enrollment.</p> <p>Actively Participate in a local public meeting in Senior year.</p> <p>Completion of Public meeting project (if required for class) OR Public Meeting Log *</p>	<p>I verify that _____ completed the three requirements and submitted the Public Meeting project OR Public Meeting Log (if project is not a class requirement).</p> <hr/> <p>Name</p> <hr/> <p>Signature</p> <hr/> <p>Date</p>
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Comments:

***Attach reflections, hour sheets, course-work to this document**



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Policy Reference Disclaimer: *These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.*

State	Description
5 CCR 11517.6-11519.5	<u>English Language Proficiency Assessments for California</u>
5 CCR 1632	<u>Alternative credits toward graduation for foreign language instruction in private school</u>
5 CCR 876	<u>Golden State Seal Merit Diploma</u>
Ed. Code 220	<u>Prohibition of discrimination</u>
Ed. Code 35160	<u>Authority of governing boards</u>
Ed. Code 35310-35319	<u>Scholarship and loan funds</u>
Ed. Code 44015	<u>Awards to employees and students</u>
Ed. Code 51007	<u>Equitable access to programs designed to strengthen technological skills</u>
Ed. Code 51243-51245	<u>Credit for private school foreign language instruction</u>
Ed. Code 51450-51455	<u>Golden State Seal Merit Diploma</u>
Ed. Code 51460-51464	<u>State Seal of Biliteracy</u>
Ed. Code 51470-51475	<u>State Seal of Civic Engagement</u>
Ed. Code 52164.1	<u>Assessment of English language skills of English learners</u>
Gov. Code 54950-54963	<u>The Ralph M. Brown Act</u>

Management Resources	Description
California Department of Education Publication	<u>State Seal of Biliteracy FAQs</u>
California Department of Education Publication	<u>SSCE Implementation Guidance</u>
Website	<u>CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services</u>
Website	<u>Californians Together</u>
Website	<u>CSBA</u>
Website	<u>California Department of Education</u>

Cross References

Code	Description
0410	Nondiscrimination In District Programs And Activities
0415	Equity



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1150	Commendations And Awards
1220	Citizen Advisory Committees
1260	Educational Foundation
3290	Gifts, Grants And Bequests
3400	Management Of District Assets/Accounts
3460	Financial Reports And Accountability
4156.2	Awards And Recognition
5022	Student And Family Privacy Rights
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5113.11	Attendance Supervision
5113.12	District School Attendance Review Board
5121	Grades/Evaluation Of Student Achievement
5125	Student Records
5127	Graduation Ceremonies And Activities
5137	Positive School Climate
6141.4	International Baccalaureate Program
6141.5	Advanced Placement
6142.2	World Language Instruction
6142.4	Service Learning/Community Service Classes
6143	Courses Of Study
6146.1	High School Graduation Requirements
6146.11	Alternative Credits Toward Graduation
6158	Independent Study
6159	Individualized Education Program
6162.51	State Academic Achievement Tests
6172	Gifted And Talented Student Program
6174	Education For English Learners
6181	Alternative Schools/Programs Of Choice
6183	Home And Hospital Instruction
6184	Continuation Education



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Board Representatives