AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

District/School Awards
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
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 Biliteracy
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 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 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. (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

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 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)
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.
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
--- | --- | ---
1- Be engaged in academic work in a productive way | Enrollment in High School 11-12 grade Social Science Course. Completion of course with grade of C or better Qualifying Courses: Modified US History US History-P AP US History Modified US Government US Government-P AP US Government and Politics Active participation in class discussions and activities. | I verify that ______________________ earned a grade of C or better in the following course(s):

Teacher’s Name

Teacher’s Signature

Date

Comments:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
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.

Proven Practice #1:
Provide instruction in government, history, law, and democracy, beyond rote facts and dry procedures.

The formal instruction described is part of a required class and includes at least one of the following:
- integration across the curriculum;
- a process of civic inquiry,
- investigating causes and solutions;
- or engaging in civil dialogue, communicating conclusions, and taking informed action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment in High School 11-12 grade Social Science Courses.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion of courses with grade of C or better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See qualifying courses above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of US Citizenship Exam with score of 60% or higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taken in Senior Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact Ms. Burton for Access</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I verify that ______________________ earned a grade of 60% or higher on the US Citizenship Exam.

_______________________________
Teacher’s Name

_______________________________
Teacher’s Signature

_______________________________
Date

Comments:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

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### 3- Participate in one or more informed real world civic engagement project(s)

**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:
- 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.

**Proven Practice #4:**
Offer extracurricular activities that provide opportunities for young people to get involved in their school or community.
Includes three or more extracurricular activities that incorporate at least two of the following:
- 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.

### Participation in minimum 15 hours of school or community service that meet the Proven Practice 2 qualifications

| Participation in minimum 15 hours of school or community service that meet the Proven Practice 3 qualifications |
| Leader in service/activity should be encouraged in Senior year. |

### I verify that ______________________ participated in _____ hours of school or community Service that meet PP3 qualifications.

- Name
- Signature
- Date

### I verify that ______________________ participated in extracurricular activities that meet PP4 qualifications.

- Name
- Signature
- Date

### Comments:

- _____________________________________________________________________________
- _____________________________________________________________________________
- _____________________________________________________________________________

### 4- Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions through self-reflection

| Participation in simulations or role-plays of democratic processes and procedures. |
| I verify that ______________________ demonstrated civic knowledge skills through self-reflection. |

- Name
- Signature
- Date

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proven Practice #6:</th>
<th>Reflective Journal *</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>● Encourage student participation in simulations or role-plays of democratic processes and procedures.</td>
<td>Portfolio of Civic Engagement course work *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>● 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.</td>
<td>Viva Voce (Oral explanation of what the student has experienced and learned)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Science Fair*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 5- Exhibit character traits that reflect civic-mindedness and a commitment to positively impact the classroom, school, community and/or society. | Participation in classroom and/or school governance. | I verify that ______________________ completed the three requirements and submitted the Public Meeting project OR Public Meeting Log (if project is not a class requirement). |
| Proven Practice #5: Encourage participation in classroom and/or school governance. | ● School Site Council |  |
| 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. | ● ASB |  |
| | ● Establish Classroom norms of behavior/Social Contract |  |
| | Attend/View a local public meeting: |  |
| | ● School Board, |  |
| | ● Chico City Council, |  |
| | ● CARD, etc. |  |
| | Can be completed at any time of enrollment. |  |
| | Actively Participate in a local public meeting in Senior year. |  |
| | Completion of Public meeting project (if required for class) |  |
| | OR Public Meeting Log* |  |

Comments:

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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

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