

Hiram High School Honors Day Invitation Selection Process and Graduation Cord/Stole Requirements 2015-2016

Honors Night will be reserved for honoring those students who have excelled academically. The list below details who will be invited to attend Honors Night and the criteria for selection.

Academic Scholarships, Awards and Recognition

Numerous academic, memorial, church and civic scholarships, awards, and recognitions are awarded yearly to deserving students. Recipients of these scholarships will be recognized at Honors Night. Parents must notify and present verification of scholarships to the 12th grade counselor in order to be recognized by at Honors Night. It will be the counseling office's responsibility to submit these to the Honors Day Coordinator by **April 15** of each year. These include **United States Military Scholar Awards, United States Marines Corps Scholastic Excellence Award, United States Marines Corps Science Award, United States Marines Corps Semper Fi Bandsman Award, & United States Marines Corps Distinguished Athlete Award**

Dual Enrollment

The Dual Enrollment Program provides an opportunity for academically-accelerated high school students to take college courses in lieu of remaining high school requirements and electives. Students earn dual credit, fulfilling both high school and college requirements at the same time. Dual Enrollment students may choose as few or as many college courses as they wish, up to five classes per semester. This list will be pulled by the counseling office at the end of the fall semester.

Departmental Awards

These awards are given by each department to recognize students who have gone above and beyond to achieve academic success in their classes.

Georgia BEST Award

The Georgia BEST (Business Ethics Student Training) program trains students in core work ethic traits which are sought by employers in the global economy. The state board of education in conjunction with the Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) established 10 standards as part of the Georgia BEST Program: discipline and character, attendance and punctuality, work habits, teamwork, time management, attitude, communication skills, responsibility and organization. Participating students earn 1, 2 or 3 points per standard, depending on how well and have consistently they exhibit the skill. Those who earn 25 out of 30 possible points receive a Georgia BEST certificate from the GDOL, a designation that will enhance their college and job applications.

Georgia Certificate of Merit

The University of Georgia (UGA) recognizes 11th grade students who have excelled academically. Juniors who are ranked in the top 5% of their class at the end of their fifth semester receive a Certificate of Merit from UGA.

Governor's Honors Program (GHP)

Pursuant to State Board Policy 160-4-2-.09, the Georgia Governor's Honors Program (GHP) is a summer residential instructional program designed to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students challenging and enriching educational opportunities not usually available during the regular school year. Activities are designed to provide each participant with opportunities to acquire the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to become independent, life-long learners. The Georgia Governor's Honors Program is fully-funded by the Georgia General Assembly and operates at no cost to the participant. Students who attend the summer program will be recognized at Honors Day.

Honor Roll

Students who earn an un-weighted cumulative average of 85 and higher (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) through the fall semester of the current grade level. In addition, the student must be on track for graduation and must not have any failing grades on his/her transcript. This list will be pulled by the counseling office at the end of the fall semester.

President's Award for Educational Achievement

The purpose of this award is to recognize students who show outstanding educational growth, improvement, commitment, or intellectual development in their academic subjects but who do not meet the criteria for the President's Award for Educational Excellence. This award is meant to encourage and to reward students who work hard and give their best effort in school, often in the face of special obstacles to their learning. Teacher recommendations for this award will begin **February 1 and end February 28.**

President's Award for Educational Excellence

The purpose of this award is to recognize academic success in the classroom. To be eligible for this award, students must possess an un-weighted 3.5 GPA or higher through the fall semester of the current school year, have a SAT-V of 430 and SAT-M of 400, or sub scores of 17 on both the English and Math sections of the ACT, and have one letter of recommendation by a core curriculum (English, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies) teacher for outstanding achievement in an core curriculum course, plus one additional letter from another staff member. In addition the student must have accumulated a minimum of 50 hours of verified community service. Teacher recommendations for this award will begin **February 1 and end February 28.**

Principal's Award

The recipient of this award participates in school and/or community services; shows a positive attitude toward classmates, school, and community; displays an understanding and appreciation of civic responsibility; possesses strength of character and the courage to do what is right; and promotes citizenship with their school or community through other activities.

Ray Kroc Youth Achievement Award

The Ray Kroc Youth Achievement Award was established by the Greater Atlanta McDonald's Operators Association in 1986 in memory of McDonald's Founder, Ray Kroc. The program is implemented annually in over 12,000 high schools throughout the country, including over 175 in the 48-county greater Atlanta area. The recipient of this award is one who has earned the respect of teachers and fellow students alike through selfless contributions to the school and/or the community. The Ray Kroc Award recipient is not necessarily the best scholar or the best athlete. Rather, he or she is simply a good person whose actions have an impact in the school and/or community. **The counseling office will begin to solicit recommendations for this award February 1 – February 28. If needed, a vote will be decided upon by the staff.**

STAR Student & STAR Teacher

The STAR Student award is an academic achievement award based primarily on SAT scores. The STAR student must take the three-part SAT any year on any national testing date through and including November of their senior year. STAR student's SAT scores must be equal to or higher than the latest available national average published by College Board in late September. The STAR Student must be in the **top 10 percent or be among the top 10 students numerically**, whichever category provides the largest number of eligible students in the school. A student must meet the "top 10" requirement based on cumulative high school (grades 9 through 11) grade average numerically computed by utilizing the system normally utilized by the school. The STAR teacher is selected by the STAR student for having made the most significant contribution to the STAR student's scholastic development. At the time of the Honors Day Program, the **STAR Student and STAR Teacher will have been formally recognized at a county ceremony; they will be formally recognized at this event.**

Hiram High School Senior Cording and Stole Ceremony & Reception

As seniors come to the end of their academic career at Hiram High School, they will be asked to attend a formal ceremony recognizing their achievements in completing the Hiram High School Cord/Stole requirements in one or more areas. Students will receive cords for their achievements, which they will wear at the graduation ceremony. Students will select an adult family member and/or close family friend to cord them during the ceremony. A small reception will follow the ceremony. **An RSVP is required and will be available online April 1 – April 30.** The Senior Cording and Stole Ceremony will take place during Senior Week (May).

Cord and Stole Requirements

Graduation Cord/Stoles will be made available for purchase to students in the categories listed below:

- Student must meet the criteria stated below to qualify to order a Cord/Stole.
- Annually, Cord/Stole will be sold **January 1 – February 15** at a cost of **\$10 - \$15 per Cord/Stole (price based on the cord/stole type selected by the sponsor).**
- In order to purchase/ receive a Cord/Stole, students **must complete an application.**
- Cord/Stole applications will be located in the front office and online.
- It will be the student's responsibility to complete the application in its entirety (**including obtaining the teacher/club sponsor's signature**).
- Payments must be made with the appropriate club/organization sponsor, teacher, etc.
- Cash payments ONLY.
- **Late payments will not be accepted.**
- **No refunds.**
- Completion of the Cord/Stole Application does not guarantee the student will receive the cord.
- Failure to complete club/organization requirements will result in the student not receiving the ordered cord/stole.
- **Some clubs and organizations pay for its members cords/stoles (please confirm with the club/organization sponsor).**

Cord/Stole Opportunities

Community Service/Service Learning

Students who have earned 100 verified hours of Community Service/Service Learning are eligible to purchase a cord.

Capstone Completion Cord

Students who earned an 85 or higher on all portions of the Senior Capstone are eligible to purchase a cord.

CTAE Pathway Completer Cord

CTAE Pathway Completers are students who have successfully completed course work from a coherent, articulated sequence of rigorous academic and career-related courses in a specific area of study. These students must earn a Cord/Stole when they **complete the required three courses and pass an industry End of Pathway Assessment (EOPA).** **JROTC students must complete course levels 1-3 and also actively participate in for a minimum two years on at least one JROTC sponsored team organization** (Stinger Battalion, Drill Team, Rifle Team, Academic Team, Leadership Team, Sabre Team, Color Guard, and/or Raider Team) and **accumulate at least fifty (50) approved community service hours.**

Advanced Academics Pathway Completer Cord

An advanced academic pathway Cord/Stole may be earned in **English /Language Arts, Math, Science, and/or Social Studies.** Students earn an advanced academic pathway when they complete the required coursework to include **at least one AP** or one IB or **one Dual Enrollment course.** An advanced academic pathway must also include **at least two credits in one world language.** AP, Dual Enrollment and Georgia Virtual School courses count towards pathway completion.

Fine Arts Academic Pathway Completer Cord

A fine arts pathway completer Cord/Stole may be earned in **Visual Arts, Music, Journalism, or Theatre.** Students complete a fine arts/performing arts pathway when **three courses have been successfully completed in any one of the five areas.**

World Languages Pathway Completer Cord

A world language pathway completer Cord/Stole may be earned in any of the world languages offered (Spanish/French). Students earn a world language pathway when they complete **three credits in one language**.

Clubs & Organization Graduation Cord/Stole Requirements

Nationally recognized clubs/organizations will adhere to the guidelines outlined in its charter bylaws (see sponsor). If the national organization does not outline awards requirements, these clubs and organizations will adhere to the HHS Clubs and Organization Graduation Cord/Stole requirements.

Nationally Recognized Clubs and Organizations Cord/Stole Requirements

Nationally recognized clubs and organization include will adhere to its charter bylaws regarding awards protocols. If a protocol is not established in the bylaws, these clubs and organizations will at a minimum follow the HHS Graduation Cord/Stole Requirements. Hiram's nationally recognized clubs and organizations include; Beta Club, International Thespian Society, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Model United Nations, FCA, Key Club, CTI, FBLA, HOSA, SGA, Skills USA, & National Technical Honor Society. **All requirements must be logged with the sponsor.**

Hiram High School Graduation Cord & Stole Minimum Requirements

The following are the minimum requirements a student must complete to purchase a graduation stole/cord for a club or organization sanctioned by Hiram High School. (Some clubs/organizations due to national charter may have additional requirements that must be met- see sponsor).

- **Membership Requirements:** 2 years of active service. If the club/organization is a newly formed organization only one year of active service is required.
- **Dues:** Students must be paid members of the club/organization. Sponsors may offer fundraising options to assist with dues (if applicable).
- **Meeting Attendance Requirements:** Clubs should meet a minimum of once monthly from August through May (nine the December/January may be combined). Students must attend at least 70% of the regularly scheduled meetings.
- **Community Service Hours:** Students must accumulate a minimum of fifty (50) approved community service hours.
- **Sponsors may elect to require more than the minimums indicated here.**

These clubs include: Art Club, Cultural Diversity, Drama, HBO, Insight Magazine, Comic Book & Gaming Club, & Mad Hornets