



Excellence in Education

43rd Student Recognition Criteria

Deadline Date:

Wednesday, Mar 29th 2017

The Student Recognition Program has been created to recognize those seniors, in each high school, for their achievements in the categories listed below. A total of ten (10) students from each public school and two (2) students from each private school will be honored.

Recognizing that each school may have more students worthy of recognition in a specific category, the submission of each school's student list does not require nominations in all categories, however, at least two (2) students from each public school and one (1) student from each private school should be in the Academic category. When considering a student for submission, think out of the box as to special accomplishments and not just academic standing.

The Chamber recognizes that some students have participated in activities that have brought significant honor to them, to their school or their community and it is the purpose of this event to shine a special light on those accomplishments.

*** Students will not be considered for duplicate categories.**

Nominated students and their parents will be invited to the 43rd Annual Greater Hernando County Chamber of Commerce Student Recognition Banquet & Ceremony to be held on April 27th, 2017 at 5:30pm at the Palace Grand. Student Sponsors and local dignitaries will also be in attendance. Students are encouraged to submit an application for scholarship opportunities to be awarded that evening.

All nominations and scholarship submissions including essays must be typewritten and must address all essay questions. Category criteria for consideration but not limited to:

Academic

- A student who has managed to balance schoolwork with volunteerism and leadership.
 - Class Ranking in top 10%
 - Participation in AP or IB classes
 - Student who has demonstrated consistent academic improvement
 - Dual enrollment in college courses
 - Outstanding ACT (24 or higher) or SAT (1800+ or higher) scores
 - Extracurricular and community service activities a plus
 - Students must have a minimum of a **4.0 GPA***
 - This award will be given to the most outstanding applicant(s) who meet the above requirements. In the event no one meets these requirements, no scholarship(s) will be given.

***Please note:** requirement of minimum 4.0 GPA is for the **Academic Category only!**

Community Service

- A student who has dedicated many hours to volunteer work. There are no particular restrictions about the kind of work the student has done, but they should be able to show long-term commitment and how they have made an impact.
 - Consider quality of service; above and beyond as a meaningful benefit to community; has their service left a legacy to the community? Examples may include: organized food drive or Relay For Life Team Captain; church; charitable organization
 - Recognition of accomplishment at county, state or national level for service performed.
 - Students must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA and minimum of 200 hours of community service
 - This award will be given to the most outstanding applicant(s) who meet the above requirements. In the event no one meets these requirements, no scholarship(s) will be given.

Leadership

- A student who has shown strong leadership skills – the ability to direct and inspire others – along with a dedication to community service.
 - Participation in Student Governance; captain of team, committee or chair event
 - Student has demonstrated characteristics of being a strong leader
 - Has been the recipient of a peer group honor or award in or outside school activities
 - Students must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA.
 - This award will be given to the most outstanding applicant(s) who meet the above requirements. In the event no one meets these requirements, no scholarship(s) will be given.

Career & Vocational

- Students who are planning on pursuing certain college degrees while in high school:
 - Recognized achievement & industry certifications in specific field (examples: Robotics, bio medics, computer, culinary, automotive, cosmetology, medical etc)
 - Application of career or technical ingenuity
 - Measurable contribution to a career industry, technical project or program that warrants special recognition
 - State or National achievement in a specialized field that brings recognition to the student, school and community.
 - Students must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA
 - This award will be given to the most outstanding applicant(s) who meet the above requirements. In the event no one meets these requirements, no scholarship(s) will be given.

***** New Category**

The Arts

- Creativity and talent combines the arts with other elements of student life, like academics, community service and volunteering
 - Young artists can submit works in animation, ceramics and glass, computer art, design, digital imagery, drawing, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, instrumental or vocal music, drama (one-act or major production) or video & film.
 - A portfolio of a minimum of 8 works is required of all applicants
 - Productive Participant (on or off stage) – volunteer/ community service
 - Students must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA
 - This award will be given to the most outstanding applicant(s) who meet the above requirements. In the event no one meets these requirements, no scholarship(s) will be given