

# **CVUSD**

## **Administrative Regulation**

AR 5126

### **Students**

#### **Awards for Achievement**

The Superintendent or designee may appoint an awards committee at each school which 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.

#### **Golden State Seal Merit Diploma**

\*\*\*Note: The following optional section is for use by districts that maintain high schools. Education Code 51450-51455 require the State Board of Education (SBE) to determine the means, performance standards, and achievement levels that demonstrate mastery of the curriculum for the purpose of awarding the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma. In November 2014, the SBE adopted new eligibility criteria for students graduating in 2015 to reflect changes in the state assessment system and established a workgroup to develop a plan for students graduating in 2016 and beyond. Eligibility criteria are published on the California Department of Education (CDE) web site. \*\*\*

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, in accordance with the means adopted by the State Board of Education, mastery of the curriculum in mathematics, English language arts, science, United States history, and two other subject matter areas selected by the student. (Education Code 51451, 51452; 5 CCR 876)

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

1. English-language Arts: Students must have earned one of any of the following:
  - a. A grade of B+ (or numeric equivalent) or above in a single course completed in grade nine, ten, or eleven
  - b. An achievement level of “Standard Met” for the high school Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment

2. Mathematics: Students must have earned one of any of the following:
  - a. A grade of B+ (or numeric equivalent) or above in a single course completed in grade nine, ten, or eleven
  - b. An achievement level of “Standard Met” for the high school Smarter Balanced Summative Assessment
3. Science: Students must have earned one of any of the following:
  - a. A grade of B+ (or numeric equivalent) or above in a single course completed in grade nine, ten, or eleven
  - b. A qualifying score that demonstrates mastery of the subject as determined by the LEA for an examination produced by a private provider or LEA
  - c. A scale score of 370 or above on any of the following CSTs, if available: Biology; Chemistry; Physics; Earth Science; or Integrated/Coordinated Science 1, 2, 3, or 4
4. U.S. History: Students must have earned one of any of the following:
  - a. A grade of B (or numeric equivalent) or above upon completion of the required U.S. history course
  - b. A qualifying score that demonstrates mastery of the subject as determined by the LEA for an examination produced by a private provider or LEA
5. Other two subject matter areas: Students may choose from any of the following:
  - a. Any additional English qualifying grade or score listed above earned for the subjects of ELA, mathematics, science, or U.S. history not already used to meet eligibility
  - b. A grade of B (or numeric equivalent) or above upon the completion of high school courses Language other than English (L.O.T.E.)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who are eligible for the merit diploma and shall affix an insignia to the diploma and transcript of each student awarded the merit diploma. (Education Code 51454))

\*\*\*Note: The CDE requires each district to annually submit one districtwide insignia request on a form provided by the CDE. The 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 the CDE and for district staff to place the insignias on the diplomas. The 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.

#### Biliteracy Award

To be eligible to receive the State Seal of Biliteracy upon graduation, a student shall demonstrate, in accordance with state criteria, proficiency in English and at least one other language, which may include American Sign Language. A student whose primary language is other than English shall also attain the required proficiency level on the state test of English language proficiency. (Education Code 51461)

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify high school students who qualify for the award and shall affix the insignia to the diploma or transcript of each student who earns the award. (Education Code 51463)

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.

CSBA (3/09 3/12) 4/15 6/16