

**Students**

**Awards for Achievement**

The Board of Education encourages excellence as a goal for all students and wishes to publicly recognize students for exemplary achievements in academic, athletic, extracurricular, or community service activities.

Student awards may include verbal recognition, a letter, a certificate, a Board resolution, public ceremony, trophy, gift, plaque, or cash gift.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop criteria for the appropriate selection of student award recipients.

**Golden State Seal Merit Diploma**

At graduation from high school, special recognition shall be awarded to those students whose academic achievements in core curriculum areas have been outstanding.

The Superintendent or designee shall identify high school students who have demonstrated mastery of the high school curriculum qualifying them for the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma.

**Biliteracy Award**

In order to recognize and encourage linguistic proficiency and cultural literacy, the district shall present the State Seal of Biliteracy to each graduating high school student who demonstrates proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English.

In order to affirm the value of bilingualism and encourage students' enrollment in world language programs, the Superintendent or designee may present awards at appropriate grade levels to recognize the pursuit and/or attainment of grade-level proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.

Legal Reference:     EDUCATION CODE  
                          220 Nondiscrimination  
                          35160 Authority of governing boards  
                          35310-35319 Scholarship and loan funds  
                          44015 Awards to employees and students  
                          51243-51245 Credit for private school foreign language instruction

51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

876 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

1632 Credit for private school foreign language instruction

MANAGEMENT RESOURCES:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Golden State Seal Merit

Diploma: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/meritdiploma.asp>

Californians Together: <http://www.californianstogether.org>

Policy

adopted: 02/16/10

revised: 08/15/17