

GRADUATING WITH HONORS OR DISTINCTION

A variety of honors and distinctions may be awarded to graduating students meeting state or locally specified criteria.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY SCHOOLS HONORS DIPLOMA

To earn a Williamson County Honors Diploma, students shall complete the core curriculum and four credits of science, plus the additional path requirements which include an elective focus. Except as described in this paragraph, course requirements for the Williamson County Honors Diploma are the same as for the regular diploma. A minimum of 14 credits must be at Honors or Advanced Placement level or through dual enrollment as described below. Students must qualify for Latin honors by having a 3.75 or higher academic average on either a 4.0 or 5.0 scale.

Students who are accepted for dual enrollment or early admission to a college or university may have college courses considered for meeting the 14-honors credit requirement if the course taken at the college level is offered at the Honors or Advanced Placement level by WCS.

When a student receives a high school pass/fail credit at the middle school level, the credit will be counted as an honors class toward meeting the Williamson County Honors Diploma requirement if the class was taught at the honors level. Otherwise, the course will be listed as high school credit but will not count toward meeting the Williamson County Honors Diploma requirement.

TENNESSEE DISTINCTION

Students will be recognized as graduating with “state distinction” by attaining a B average or better and completing at least one of the following:

- Earn a national and/or state recognized industry certification
- Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
- Participate in one of the state’s All State musical organizations
- Earn statewide recognition or award at a skill- or knowledge-based state tournament, convention, or competition hosted by a statewide student organization and/or qualify for national recognition by a national student organization
- Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist
- Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT
- Attain a score of 3 or higher on at least two Advanced Placement exams
- Successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
- Earn 12 or more hours of postsecondary credit

Students are responsible for self-reporting and submitting all evidence that they have fulfilled.

TENNESSEE HONORS

Honors: Students who score at or above all of the subject readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on the SAT will graduate with honors. The ACT benchmarks are as follows:

English - 18 Reading – 22 Math - 22 Science – 23

SEAL OF BILITERACY

WCS will recognize students who have obtained high levels of proficiency (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) in one language (or more) and English by awarding the Seal of Biliteracy to high school seniors who have met the following criteria. A seal will be placed on the student's diploma. It is the responsibility of the student to submit all evidence for approval via district instructions by the set deadline.

Williamson County Schools Seal of Biliteracy 2019-2020	
SILVER AWARD	
Evidence of English Proficiency	Evidence of World Language Proficiency
WCS weighted cumulative GPA in required English Language Arts courses of at least a 3.0	Score at least Intermediate-Mid on an ACTFL-recognized exam in all modes of communication, including: Interpersonal Listening & Speaking, Presentational Writing, Interpretive Reading, and Interpretive Listening or
and one (1) of the following:	Score at least a 3 on a world language Advanced Placement exam or
Score at least on-track on each English Language Arts End of Course assessment or	Score at least a 4 on a world language International Baccalaureate exam or
Score at least a 3 on the Advanced Placement English Language or English Literature Exam or	Score at least Intermediate Mid (or the equivalent) on a foreign government's approved non-English exam or a another country's secondary level exam
Score at least a 4 on the English International Baccalaureate Exam or	
Score at least a 22 on the ACT Reading subtest or	
Score at least a 4.5 (cumulative) on the WIDA Access-ESL students only	
GOLD AWARD	
Evidence of English Proficiency	Evidence of World Language Proficiency
WCS weighted cumulative GPA in required English Language Arts courses of at least a 3.5	Score at least Advanced-Low on an ACTFL-recognized exam in all modes of communication, including: Interpersonal Listening & Speaking, Presentation Writing, Interpretive Reading, and Interpretive Listening or
and one (1) of the following:	Score at least a 5 on a world language Advanced Placement exam or
Score at least mastered on each English Language Arts End of Course assessment or	Score at least a 6 on a world language International Baccalaureate exam or
Score at least a 5 on the Advanced Placement English Language or English Literature Exam or	Score at least Advanced-Low (or the equivalent) on a foreign government's approved non-English exam or a another country's secondary level exam
Score at least a 6 on the English International Baccalaureate Exam or	
Score at least a 25 on the ACT Reading subtest or	
Score at least a 4.8 (cumulative) on the WIDA Access-ESL students only	
Evidence of Intercultural Engagement	
Examples of evidence from at least one (1) service, event, or activity via a one-page reflection: (Items not listed require pre-approval from the World Language Curriculum Specialist)	
Scholarship awarded based on English and 2nd language skills	Host a student from a target language country in your home
Work for a business that requires use of English and 2nd language	Plan an event to benefit or celebrate the target language community
Frequent 2nd language use when traveling to a target language country	Work as an assistant in Elementary World Language Program
Tutor an ESL student for a semester	Active membership in a world language honor's society
Volunteer at or plan a multicultural community event that requires the use of English and the 2nd language	Provide a service using English and the 2nd language in your school or community
Revised: 12/16/2019	Williamson County Schools World Language

COMMUNITY SERVICE/VOLUNTEERISM

Students who voluntarily complete at least ten (10) hours of community service each semester the student is in attendance at a public high school, shall be recognized in the graduation program. Students are responsible for self-reporting and submitting all evidence that they have fulfilled the requirements. IHS students should report community service hours here: <https://forms.gle/Y8u5E6tztgkAqrb6>

WILLIAMSON COUNTY DISTINCTION

Students shall be recognized as graduating with district distinction if they have met the graduation requirements, have obtained an overall grade point average of at least a 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, and have earned an industry certification in his or her career interest category or a regionally recognized industry certification. Students are responsible for self-reporting and submitting evidence of certification and will be recognized in the graduation program.

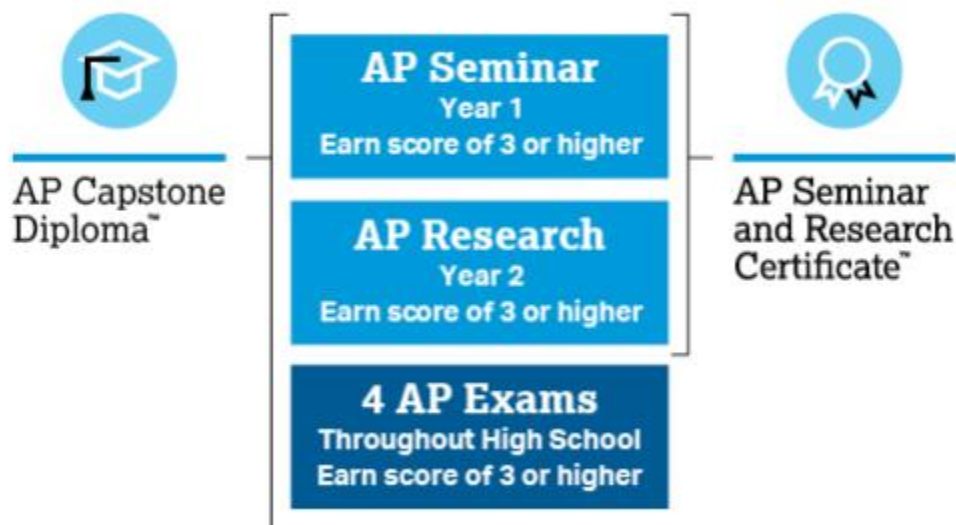
TENNESSEE TRI STAR SCHOLAR

A student who earns a composite score of nineteen (19) or higher on the ACT, or an equivalent score on the SAT, and earns a capstone industry certification as promoted by the Department of Education, shall be recognized as a Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar upon graduation from high school. The student shall be noted as a Tennessee Tri-Star Scholar in the school's graduation program and will receive a certificate from the school. Students are responsible for self-reporting and submitting all evidence that they have completed the requirements.

AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA or AP RESEARCH CERTIFICATE

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing receive the AP Capstone Diploma.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.



NATIONAL CAREER READINESS

Students graduating with a gold or platinum medal on National Career Readiness Certificate (WorkKeys) shall be recognized in the graduation program. See ACT website for assessment information. Students are responsible for self-reporting and submitting all evidence that they have fulfilled the requirements.

<http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-employers/assessments.html>

WORK ETHIC DISTINCTION

Students who earn a minimum of 20 points out of a possible 40 points on the industry developed employability standards as well as a regular high school diploma shall be recognized in the graduation program. Students are responsible for self-reporting and submitting all evidence that they have fulfilled the requirements. <https://docs.wcs.edu/pdf/ccte/CCTE-Work-Ethic-Distinction.pdf>