

# Academic Recognition Program - Required Course of Study

	White Cord	Gold Cord	Gold Stole
Required	<b>Scholar with Expertise</b> Meets CSU minimum requirements	<b>Scholar with Honors</b> Meets or exceeds CSU requirements	<b>Scholar with Distinction</b> Meets UC recommendations
<b>1. GPA Criteria</b>	gr 10 - 12 GPA of 2.5+ in all "a-g" courses	gr 10 - 12 GPA of 3.0+ in all "a-g" courses	gr 10 - 12 GPA of 3.6+ in all "a-g" courses
<b>2. Letter Grade</b>	Earn a grade of C or better in "a-g" courses	Earn a grade of C or better in "a-g" courses	Earn a grade of C or better in "a-g" courses
<b>3. Character</b>	Academic Honesty	Academic Honesty	Academic Honesty
<b>4. Courses</b>			
<b>LOTE</b> <small>(Language other than English)</small>	2 years (same language)***	2 years (same language)***	3 years (same language)***
<b>Adv. Math</b>	3 years including Algebra 2	4 years (4th year beyond Algebra 2)**	4 years (4th year level beyond Algebra 2**)
<b>Lab Science</b>	2 years 1 year Biology (d) 1 year Physical Science (d or g)	2 years* 1 year Biology (d) 1 year Physical Science (d or g)	3 years* 1 year Biology (d) 1 year Physical Science (d or g)
<b>VPA/CTE</b> <small>(Visual Performing Arts and Career Technical Education)</small>	1 Year	1 Year	1 Year
<b>5. Additional</b>	<b>Concentration Area</b> Three years (6 semesters) with grades of B or better from one of these areas: 1. Agriculture 2. Athletics 3. Business/Computers 4. Family/Consumer St. 5. Industrial Technology 6. Leadership 7. Performing Arts 8. Visual Arts 9. Approved Career Focus 10. MUN 11. CIBACS 12. Career Technical Ed. 13. AVID		<b>AP Courses - 4 year long courses</b>
Scholars must also complete all diploma requirements			

\* Option: 2 years (Biology and Physics) may be fulfilled by Integrated Science 2 and 3

\*\* 4th year of UC approved Math which requires Algebra 2 as a pre-requisite

\*\*\* Students who have satisfied the LOTE requirement through an alternative means are also eligible

## Frequently Asked Questions: Academic Recognition Program

**Q. Is a grade of C or better in all required courses necessary to be a candidate for any of the three Scholars Programs?**

A. Yes. If a student earns a grade of D or F in a required course, it must be repeated to earn a grade of C or better. Most students will repeat the course through Adult Education enrollment when available. If a student earns a low grade in a college prep course completed *in addition* to the specific subject requirements (such as a 4<sup>th</sup> year of lab science), it will not affect candidacy for the Scholar program. NEW Exception: UC/CSU Validation.

**Q. As I entered my senior year, I dropped from candidacy as Scholar with Distinction to Scholar with Honors, which I found was due to my deficiency in the number of completed AP courses. I have completed one AP course and am taking three additional AP courses as a senior. Why am I not considered a Scholar with Distinction as an entering senior since I have three AP courses in progress?**

A. The transcript evaluation of scholar candidacy each semester includes automatic measurement of the probable completion of 4 years of AP by June of the senior year. If a student completes 2 years of AP with a grade of C or better by the end of the junior year, the student is considered to be making typical progress towards the completion of the Scholar with Distinction program. In this example, the student taking three AP courses in the senior year will result in the shift back to candidacy for Scholar with Distinction when the senior AP grades of C or better appear on the midyear transcript.

**Q. I did not take a college prep level English course for one year. May the four-year college prep English requirement for Scholar recognition be waived?**

A. No. If a student is missing one or more semesters of college prep English, the deficiency may be made up by completing the required English credit through Adult School to become qualified.

**Q. I transferred into the HBUHSD as a senior and did not take any lab science at my prior school. Since I did not take the courses required for the Academic Recognition Program in my prior school, can the science requirement(s) be waived?**

A. No. The recognition given to Scholars is in celebration of completing a rigorous curriculum. If all course/credit/GPA requirements are still incomplete by June of the senior year, a student will not be identified as a Scholar at commencement or on the final transcript.

**Q. The Scholar with Distinction program requires three years of lab science. Which lab science courses qualify for Scholar with Distinction?**

A. Two of the three years of lab science must include Biology, Chemistry, or Physics. The third year can be selected from any UC-approved lab science course (refer to high school list of college prep courses on the web at <https://doorways.ucop.edu/list>).

**Q. I completed Spanish 1 in eighth grade. Do I need three years in high school?**

A. No, but recommended. The three required years of foreign language are completed when a student earns a grade of C or better in both semesters of Spanish 3 in the sophomore year. The advantages of continuing in the language and completing AP Spanish 4 are related to better preparation in the language, college competition, as well as completing one of the yearlong AP courses in the Scholar with Distinction program.

**Q. If I get a D first semester and a C second semester, will the grade of C clear the grade deficiency?**

A. No. Repeating the fall course at Adult Education is one way to make up grade deficiencies.\*

NEW Exception: \*Validation of deficient grades in In Mathematics and language other than English only, completion of a higher-level course with C or better validates an earlier grade of D or F in a lower-level course. For example, a D in the first semester of geometry is validated by a grade of C or higher in the second semester of geometry.

**Q. Does Algebra 2/Trig count for both one year of Algebra 2 and one semester of Trigonometry?**

A. No. Both Algebra 2 and Algebra 2/Trig fulfill the one-year Algebra 2 requirement only.

**Q. If I finish Pre-calculus as a junior, do I have to have a senior year math to be a Scholar?**

A. No, but you should consider that all universities expect two semesters of advanced math in the senior year.