



NDHSAA DISTINGUISHED STUDENT PROGRAM



Attn: High School Principal

Objectives & Goals: To recognize deserving young people who are the "backbone" of interscholastic activities, not necessarily the leader, but the individual whose participation in high school activities strengthens the program for participants, their school and their community.

Criteria: Applicant must be a junior the year the application is submitted. Student must be a participant as a player, manager, statistician or other role in at least one NDHSAA sponsored activity in the current year to include fine arts activities. Note: Participation does not necessarily mean excellence, honors or even active play. Student must be a good citizen and role model to his/her peers as well as a contributor to the community. The committee will evaluate applicants' essays on their demonstration of sportsmanship and citizenship and how the applicant feels these values derived from activities will provide them lifelong benefits. *Student must be available through the awards ceremony (8:00-1:30) on the date of the interviews in order to be selected as a finalist.*

Selection Process: One applicant per school is allowed. A pre-screening committee will narrow the applicants to six finalists. The Distinguished Student selection will be based upon an interview conducted by a Selection Committee. Immediately following the interviews, the results will be announced at an NDHSAA sponsored luncheon for finalists, their families and sponsoring administrators.

Deadlines: Completed application forms must be postmarked or sent via PDF no later than April 1. Applications postmarked after April 1 will not be considered. Finalists will be notified by mid-April. Interviews and the luncheon announcing the results will be held the first part of May.

Awards: All applicants of the NDHSAA Distinguished Student Program will receive a certificate suitable for framing. A press release naming all applicants will be sent statewide. Finalists will receive a medallion, a Distinguished Student polo shirt and will be featured in the September issue of the NDHSAA publication, the Bulletin. They will also be invited to participate in other functions connected with NDHSAA events. Farmers Union Insurance has graciously funded scholarships for the finalists. The NDHSAA Distinguished Student recipient will receive a gold medallion and a \$2,000 scholarship to the college of his/her choice. The runner-up will receive a silver medallion and a \$1,000 scholarship. The other four finalists each will receive a silver medallion and a \$500 scholarship to the college of his/her choice. The Distinguished Student will be invited to speak at the NDCEL Convention and, along with the other finalists, participate in other activities such as serving as the NDHSAA spokesperson for High School Activities Week, promoting the values of activity programs and participating in awarding of trophies at NDHSAA state contests.

NDHSAA DISTINGUISHED STUDENT Official Student Recognition Award Selection Form

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--|--------|--|------|--|
| Student's Name | | School | | Date | |
| School Address | | | | | |

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read entire form before completing to ensure your selection will be considered for the NDHSAA Distinguished Student Program and to help determine the appropriate response for each item.
2. Only high school JUNIORS are eligible.
3. Please complete selection form.
4. **Type** only in space provided. **Addendum will not be accepted.**
5. Items 1-4 must be completed by principal/faculty. Student must complete Item 5.
6. Return completed form to the North Dakota High School Activities Association, P.O. Box 817, Valley City, ND 58072. Applications must be postmarked no later than April 1.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

(Participation does not necessarily mean excellence, honors or even active play)

1. List each interscholastic activity - (athletics and/or fine arts) - in which the student has participated.
(Examples: freshman football, junior varsity basketball manager, debate, varsity volleyball, one-act play, etc.)

NOTE: Interscholastic means competition between schools.

| | <u>9th grade</u> | <u>10th grade</u> | <u>11th grade</u> |
|--|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Interscholastic Music/Speech & Academic Activities | | | |

| | <u>9th grade</u> | <u>10th grade</u> | <u>11th grade</u> |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Interscholastic Athletic Activities | | | |

| | | | |
|----------------|--|--------|--|
| Student's Name | | School | |
|----------------|--|--------|--|

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCHOOL

2. Other than interscholastic activities, describe student's additional high school involvement including peer counseling groups, student government, tutoring, school clubs, fund raising events, social planning, intramural sports, etc. Description may include office of positions held.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY

3. Briefly describe community involvement/contributions. (Examples: youth groups, civic and professional organizations, community service projects, church volunteer work, etc.)

COMMENTS ABOUT STUDENT

4. In the space below, explain why the student's participation in interscholastic activities is exemplary and how the student positively influences others in that activities program.

Contributor's Signature

STUDENT ESSAY

(Must be completed by the student) **Document needs to be typed**

5. In the space below, address how you personally have benefitted from participation in interscholastic activities.

Student's Signature

Date

Parents Names _____ Address _____

PRINCIPAL CERTIFICATION

The student named on this selection form is currently a high school junior, has been enrolled in a North Dakota high school for the last five semesters and is designated to represent our school as its Distinguished Student in the student recognition award program sponsored by the NDHSAA.

Principal's Signature

Date