



Student Recognition & Awards Program

Program Philosophy

The Dalat student Recognition & Awards program is designed to identify and celebrate growth in the areas of academics, the arts, service, leadership, citizenship, discipleship, and athletics. There is a distinction drawn between exemplars of significance, and “awards” which are characterized by excellence and competition. The program seeks to both recognize and award in different areas.

For the program to be effective, the honors must be both desirable and meaningful, and the students must be aware that they have accomplished something beyond the ordinary when the honor is given. To ensure this takes place, criteria have been established that are challenging yet attainable.

An effective recognition program is easy to understand. This document is intended to clearly define the criteria that will merit an award. The awards committee’s desire is that student actions will follow which will lead them toward outstanding growth and achievement.

Student Recognition at Graduation

The following honors are bestowed upon students who graduate with the requisite GPA which is determined after the first semester of the senior year (Students who show a significant downward change of GPA in the final semester may be disqualified). Students are recognized with special colored cords during the Baccalaureate and Commencement Ceremonies.

Summa Cum Laude - 3.90 GPA - Gold Cord
Magna Cum Laude - 3.70 GPA - Silver Cord
Cum Laude - 3.50 GPA - White Cord

Advanced Placement International Diploma - Students that merit the AP ID will merit this award upon completion of their coursework and testing using criteria established by the College Board. These students are honored in commencement exercises with a white and gold cord that is worn around the neck.

Program Specifics - Plaque and Pin Program

The first time a Dalat High School student merits an honor, he or she will be given a plaque and a decorative pin along with a certificate indicating the achievement. Students who achieve additional honors receive a pin to mount on the original plaque and a certificate. The plaque will be displayed on campus for the duration of a student’s attendance at Dalat. Plaques are given to students as a gift when they graduate or leave DIS as memorabilia that captures some of the key moments from the HS experience.

Students that earn the same award more than once will earn stars that indicate the achievement rather than a new pin. The second time a student earns the same award, he or she will earn a bronze star; the third, a silver star; and the fourth, a gold star.

The Flagship pins, Eagle Award and Program Awards are all recognized with pins that are slightly larger in size.

Flagship Exemplars

The four Dalat Flagships and their accompanying student outcome statements (SOS) communicate the desired outcome of student development for all students that attend Dalat. Each year one student in each of the four Flagships is selected as an exemplar for both their growth in this area and the model that they are for others to follow.

Relationship Exemplar - Relationship Student Outcome Statements are used to guide the senior class which will nominate a student for this recommendation. The final decision for this selection rests with the class sponsors. The student will have the honor of addressing the class in a speech during Commencement.

Relationship Student Outcome Statements: Listening and giving feedback respectfully, being flexible and adaptable, participating well on a team, understanding other points of view, cooperating, treating others with empathy, valuing other cultures and generations, valuing and appreciating Malaysian culture, engaging in the Dalat community.

Discipleship Exemplar - Discipleship Student Outcome Statements are used to guide the high school staff who nominate a student to the awards committee as the exemplar in this area. The student will have the honor of addressing their class, the staff, and the Dalat community in an address given during the Baccalaureate ceremony.

Discipleship Student Outcome Statements: Seeking the truth, applying God's word, making decisions based on Biblical truth, evaluating and articulating worldviews based on the Bible, showing gratitude, being teachable, pursuing a relationship with Christ, participating in mentoring, growing spiritually

Scholarship Exemplar: Valedictorian - This is the highest academic award recognized by Dalat, and one or two recipients are chosen each year by the awards committee. Students receiving this award have merited Summa Cum Laude distinction and have earned multiple course awards. They maintained a rigorous course load and have stood apart from their peers for their achievements in scholarship and academics while remaining well-rounded in other activities and pursuits. The awards committee will use the Scholarship outcome statements from the school Flagships as additional criteria for selecting the valedictorian(s). The Valedictorian is given the additional honor of addressing their classmates in a speech at Commencement. They are also recognized with special medals during the Commencement ceremony.

Scholarship Student Outcome Statements: Asking meaningful and relevant questions, creative expression through media and the arts, growth in reading, writing and speaking skills, conveying ideas clearly, demonstrating a growth mindset and intellectual curiosity, being self-directed, thinking critically, taking initiative, overcoming setbacks, demonstrating effective time management, being an active listener and demonstrate self-advocacy

Citizenship Exemplar

An exemplar service recognition will be given to one student each year who has demonstrated consistent commitment to service during his or her tenure at DIS. The awards committee will use the Citizenship SOS' to guide their selection for this award as well as the service award and service organizations in which

the student has been involved. The student will have the honor of addressing the Dalat community in an address given during the awards ceremony.

Citizenship Student Outcome Statements: Showing respect for others, being generous with time, talent, and finances, putting God and others first, leading with positive choices, caring for creation, using technology appropriately, living a balanced and self-disciplined life, promoting social justice, exhibiting integrity, and resolving conflict effectively

Eagle All-Around Award

The recipient of this award must have demonstrated excellence in at least three award categories: Scholarship, Sports, Fine Arts, Service, and Leadership. Recipients are selected by a committee that includes the Head of School, High School Principal, Residence Life Director, Spiritual Life Director, Athletic Director, Leadership Coordinator, and the Fine Arts Chairperson. Winners of the major awards also have their names engraved on special plaques that are displayed on campus permanently.

Program Recognition

The following program recognitions honor a top student who has excelled in each area. The recipient must demonstrate superior skill, exceptional commitment, and be a strong ambassador for the program. They recognize the contribution of the student over several years. Students are nominated by the chairperson of each discipline to the awards committee for final approval.

- **Athletics (Male and Female)**
- **Band Director's Recognition**
- **Choir Director's Recognition**
- **Drama Directors Recognition**
- **Forensics Recognition**
- **Visual Arts Recognition**

Other Recognition

Course Awards

Students nominated by their teacher as the most outstanding student in a course merit this award. Students are selected based on their grades earned, the quality of their participation, eagerness to learn, effort, benefit to classmates, and their overall commitment to excellence in the class. Some courses may not have a nominee. Only one student may be selected per course unless there are two different teachers of two different sections of a class and a minimum of 15 students enrolled. In this case, the teachers may decide to recognize a second student. Online courses taught by Dalat instructors are eligible for this award, but online courses offered by other service providers are not.

Principal's Recognition

Students merit this from the principal for immediate recognition for outstanding achievement, behavior, or unique accomplishment. These awards may be given to students throughout the school year at the principal's discretion for behavior that merits special note.

Honor Roll Awards

Students merit an award in Academics by earning four honor roll points. Two points are earned for each semester on High Honor Roll. One point is earned for each semester on Honor Roll. Each subsequent 4 points will merit a star progressing from bronze to silver to gold.

Honor Roll (3.500 to 3.749)

High Honor Roll (3.750 and above)

National Honor Society

NHS Members merit an award upon their induction into the society. Note that these awards and recognition will be given in a separate awards ceremony. NHS students are honored in commencement exercises with a blue and gold cord that is worn around the neck.

Sports Awards

Following the completion of all sporting events and presented at the annual Sports Award Banquet the following awards will be given. Nominees must participate for the duration of the season and final tournament to be considered for awards. For additional information please see the *Sports Handbook*.

Team Individual Awards

Three individual awards will be given for each varsity team. Student-athletes are nominated by their respective varsity coaching staff and confirmed by the athletic director. Coaches may seek the input of their team members for nominations, but this is not required. Student-athletes must participate for the duration of the season and final tournament to be considered for team awards. Awards recipients will receive an additional pin or star with the designations Most Improved Player (MIP), Sportsmanship Award (SA), and Most Valuable Player (MVP).

- Most Improved Player: Presented to the student-athlete that has shown the most improvement of skill and/or character over the course of the season. This might or might not show up on the scoresheet, but can be seen in their overall contribution to the team.
- Sportsmanship: Presented to the student-athlete that has shown a consistent respect for competition, coaches, teammates, opponents, and officials. Encourages others through examples of Christlike character in the realm of sport.
- Most Valuable Player: Presented to the student-athlete that has provided the most valuable contribution and leadership throughout the season to the team's overall performance.

Athlete of the Year

Nominees are selected by their respective varsity coaching staff along with the input of the athletic director. The athletic director will select the Male and Female of the Year winners to be submitted to the Awards Committee for final confirmation. Recipients will receive a plaque with the appropriate designation.

- Athlete of the Year: Given to a male and female athlete in grades 10-12 that has participated in two or more sports and has shown excellence in their contribution to the athletic program over the course of their varsity career. This athlete must have shown leadership abilities on and off the field of play and demonstrated a Christlike example to

their teammates.

Activity Recognition

For clubs or activities, the sponsors will make the final determination of merit considering a student's contribution to the group and overall participation. The criteria for recognition are listed on the following document: [Activity Recognition Criteria](#) and are determined by the activity sponsor with input from the High School Principal. Where tracking of hours is a consideration, the responsibility for submitting hours of participation in a timely fashion is the sole responsibility of the student using "Track-It-Forward." For more information on "recordable hours," see the related instruction sheet. "[Recordable Hours Instructions](#)".