

## Richland County High School Senior Honor Recognition

The recognition of senior students is based on an established set of criteria.

- Student may select from 13 capstone experiences
  - All weighted courses are capstone courses
  - Fine Arts Distinction (Listed on Appendix A)
  - Community Service Distinction (includes 40 hours of approved community service after the student's 4<sup>th</sup> semester in high school)
  - Student Leadership Distinction (includes serving as an officer at the regional, district, or state level in a recognized student organization)
  - College Readiness (a student may attain this by earning a minimum of 16 hours of IAI college credit through bachelor's degree transfer level dual-credit courses) Listed on Appendix C
- Student has a grade point average of 4.75 or higher at the end of senior year
- Student has not had any Level III Acts of Misconduct as outlined in the RCHS Student Handbook
  
- The recognition is divided into three levels.
  - **Summa Cum Laude** – a grade point average of 5.0 or higher (includes weighted courses), and the student has successfully completed 6 or more of the capstone experiences described above. These students would be recognized on stage alphabetically, not by rank. Also, these students will be designated as Summa Cum Laude in the graduation program and awarded an honor sash as they receive their diploma.
  - **Magna Cum Laude** – a grade point average of 4.75 or above (includes weighted courses), and the student has successfully completed 4 or more of the capstone experiences described above. These students would be recognized on stage alphabetically, not by rank. Also, these students will be designated as Magna Cum Laude in the graduation program and awarded an orange cord as they receive their diploma.
  - **Cum Laude** – a grade point average of 4.75 or above (includes weighted courses), and the student has completed 1 or more of the capstone experiences described above. The students will be recognized as Cum Laude in the graduation program and as they receive their diploma.
  - **Richland County Honor Society** – Those students who have acquired a 4.75 grade point average after the third term of senior year and maintain this GPA throughout the remainder their senior year. Additionally, these students must meet the criteria for the Richland County Honor Society, as outlined in the RCHS Student Handbook, to be part of this recognition. They will be designated based on gold honor cords and medals worn at the graduation ceremony.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Fine Arts Distinction**

There are three capstones in Fine Arts. In order for a student to receive the distinction as one of the 13 capstone experiences, the following criteria must be met.

### **BAND**

- 4 years of enrollment in Marching Band or total enrollment in band for 6 semesters.

### **CHORUS**

- 4 years of enrollment in choir for all 4 quarters and 2 of 4 elective music classes
  - Music Theory I
  - Music Theory II
  - Music History
  - Origins of Jazz & Rock

### **ART**

- Completion of 6 of the available visual arts classes
  - Art Exploration
  - Pottery & Ceramics
  - Sculpture
  - Drawing
  - Painting
  - Art 2D Studio
  - Graphic Design

## **APPENDIX B**

### Student Leadership Distinction

Students that serve in leadership positions may miss school and opportunities for classes as a result of these leadership positions. The learning opportunities gained from these leadership positions often times outweigh the missed school time. A listing of a few of the leadership opportunities Richland County High School students have participated in during past school years are listed below. This is not intended to be an exhaustive listing.

In order for a student to receive the Student Leadership Distinction, a student must have successfully completed a term in office in a recognized student organization.

- Section FFA Officer
- State FFA Officer
- State FBLA Officer
- IHSA Student Advisory Committee
- Regional Student Council Officer
- Illinois Student Advisory Committee

## APPENDIX C

### College Readiness Distinction

One of the main goals of Richland County High School is that all students are College/Career Ready when they graduate. Some students are ready for college-level coursework while still in high school. In order to receive the College Readiness Distinction, a student must have successfully completed 16 hours of IAI college credit while in high school. These college credits must be transfer level courses that lead towards a bachelor's degree. A listing of these courses and the dual-credit equivalent at Olney Central College can be found below. This list is subject to change as new courses may be added, or courses can be removed.

- Dual Credit Speech – SPE 1101 (*3 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit Composition I – ENG 1111 (*3 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit Composition & Analysis – ENG 1121 (*3 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit Intro to Statistics – MTH 1131 (*3 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit Biology – LSC 1101 (*4 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit Chemistry – CHM 1130 (*5 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit US History – HIS 2101 (*3 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit Contemporary US History – HIS 2102 (*3 credit hours*)
- Dual Credit Psychology – PSY 1101 (*3 credit hours*)

## **APPENDIX D**

### Community Service Distinction

Community service is a service provided through the school that the student uses to gain direct experience with people and project planning. Community service projects are tied directly to learning objectives in the classroom or documented problems in the community. These projects are not intended to be short-term endeavors such as a canned food drive or some other type of comparable endeavor. Rather, community service projects should have a long-term, tangible benefit for the community.

In order to receive the Community Service Distinction, a student must complete 40 hours of approved community service during the student's junior and/or senior year of high school. Students must submit a project proposal that requires pre-approval by the school administration. In order for a project to receive pre-approval, the student involved must be in a leadership role for the project. A student that serves simply as a volunteer for a project that is already established or ran by another individual or organization will not be granted approval. Upon completion of the project, the student must submit all necessary documentation to be granted credit for the community service project. This documentation is listed as attachments below.

## **ATTACHMENT D1**

### **Richland County High School Community Service Guidelines**

1. Community service hours should be done in Richland County for a non-profit agency or approved group. Service may not be performed for family or relatives.
2. This program can begin after the student has completed his/her fourth semester of high school.
3. Service time must be done in one-hour increments.
4. No hours will be accepted for service done for an individual unless prior approval is granted.
5. All completed documentation must be submitted by May 1<sup>st</sup> of the student's graduation year.
6. Community service hours must occur outside the normally scheduled school day. These hours may be done during the summer break or other breaks during the school year.
7. Services for which you are paid in either cash or benefits are ineligible.
8. The student must submit a two-page double spaced paper reflecting upon his/her community service project. Each individual project requires a written report.
9. Successful completion of the 40 hours of community service and the written report requirements will earn the Community Service Distinction.

**ATTACHMENT D2**

**Richland County High School  
Student Request for Community Service**

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade Level** \_\_\_\_\_

**Location you wish to volunteer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total hours requested:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address of volunteer site or event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What community service will be performed?** \_\_\_\_\_

**How many other people do you expect to participate with you?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of supervising adult:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Position or Title of supervising adult:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number of supervising adult:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Is this person a family member or relative?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for choosing this agency or organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

*For Office Use Only*

**Approved**

**Denied**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Principal or Designee**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTACHMENT D3**

**Richland County High School  
Community Service Verification Form**

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade Level:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Community Service:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Site of Event:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Performed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorized Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number/Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **ATTACHMENT D4**

### **Richland County High School Community Service Reflection Report**

This required report must contain at least three elements.

1. Discuss your responsibilities while performing the community service. Was this a project that you worked on alone, or did you organize and lead other people?
2. Describe the impact you believe you had on the community or individuals while performing this community service project. State specifically why you believe this.
3. Discuss what you learned and how this will benefit you in your future endeavors.

This report must be double-spaced and two pages in length.

This report must be submitted along with the Community Service Verification Form.

## Richland County High School Honor Recognition

<b>Summa Cum Laude</b>	<b>Magna Cum Laude</b>	<b>Cum Laude</b>	<b>Richland County Honor Society</b>
5.0 Grade Point Avg.	4.75 Grade Point Avg.	4.75 Grade Point Avg.	
<i>Completion of six (6) or more of the thirteen (13) capstone experiences listed below.</i>	<i>Completion of four (4) or more of the thirteen (13) capstone experiences listed below.</i>	<i>Completion of one (1) or more of the thirteen (13) capstone experiences listed below.</i>	<i>These students have acquired a 4.75 grade point average by the end of third term of their senior year. This GPA must be maintained to the end of their senior year.</i>
<b><i>(Each course listed below counts as one capstone)</i></b>	<b><i>(Each course listed below counts as one capstone)</i></b>	<b><i>(Each course listed below counts as one capstone)</i></b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DC Biology</li> <li>2. DC Chemistry</li> <li>3. Anatomy/Phys</li> <li>4. CEO I/II</li> <li>5. Calculus</li> <li>6. DC Comp/Analysis</li> <li>7. DC Intro to Stats</li> <li>8. Physics</li> <li>9. Pre-Calc/Trig</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DC Biology</li> <li>2. DC Chemistry</li> <li>3. Anatomy/Phys</li> <li>4. CEO I/II</li> <li>5. Calculus</li> <li>6. DC Comp/Analysis</li> <li>7. DC Intro to Stats</li> <li>8. Physics</li> <li>9. Pre-Calc/Trig</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DC Biology</li> <li>2. DC Chemistry</li> <li>3. Anatomy/Phys</li> <li>4. CEO I/II</li> <li>5. Calculus</li> <li>6. DC Comp/Analysis</li> <li>7. DC Intro to Stats</li> <li>8. Physics</li> <li>9. Pre-Calc/Trig</li> </ol>	<i>No Level III Acts of Misconduct.</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Fine Arts Distinction</li> <li>11. Community Service Distinction</li> <li>12. Student Leadership Distinction</li> <li>13. College Readiness Distinction (16 college credits from IAI dual credit courses)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Fine Arts Distinction</li> <li>11. Community Service Distinction</li> <li>12. Student Leadership Distinction</li> <li>13. College Readiness Distinction (16 college credits from IAI dual credit courses)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Fine Arts Distinction</li> <li>11. Community Service Distinction</li> <li>12. Student Leadership Distinction</li> <li>13. College Readiness Distinction (16 college credits from IAI dual credit courses)</li> </ol>	
<i>These students will be recognized on stage during the graduation ceremony. The students will be awarded honor stoles.</i>	<i>These students will be recognized during the graduation ceremony. The students will be awarded honor cords.</i>	<i>These students will be recognized during the graduation ceremony.</i>	<i>These students will be recognized during the graduation ceremony. The students will wear honor cords and medals.</i>