

SEALS OF EXCELLENCE

All students completing the graduation requirements for the Springfield Public Schools will receive a diploma; however, those students who demonstrate achievement of the standards of excellence in identified subject areas will have a "Seal of Excellence" included with their diploma. This Seal will designate the subject area or areas in which excellence has been achieved. The appropriate department at each high school will approve a student receiving a "Seal of Excellence".

A student will be eligible for a "Seal of Excellence" upon (1) Submission of application to the appropriate department; (2) Verification by the department that all subject area standards of excellence have been completed; and (3) Recommendation by the department that a "Seal of Excellence" be awarded.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

English

Student must earn a non-weighted GPA of 3.76 or above in English courses.

Student must score an average of 24 or higher on the English and reading portions of the ACT or score in the 90th percentile or higher on the reading and writing portions of the SAT.

Student must have earned 4 units of English (not counting Drama, Speech, or Journalism).

Drama

Student must earn a non-weighted GPA of 3.76 or above in Drama.

Student must have been enrolled in Drama for at least two years (2 credits).

Student must have participated in at least three school plays.

Student must be a member of the school chapter of the International Thespian Society.

Journalism

Student must have taken at least two years (2 credits) of Journalism.

Student must earn a non-weighted GPA of 3.76 or above in Journalism.

Student must have held a staff position above reporter or photographer.

Student must have been dependable and cooperative regarding meeting publication and marketing deadlines.

Speech

Student must earn a non-weighted GPA of 3.76 or above in Speech.

Student must have been a member of NSDA for two years. Student must have placed in at least two major tournaments.

Student must have attended ten speech or debate tournaments.

MATHEMATICS

Student must score a 24 or higher on the Math portion of the ACT or score Advanced on the math EOC taken in high school.

Student must earn four or more units of credit in mathematics courses.

Student must earn credit in at least one of the following courses: AP/College Statistics, AP Precalculus, AP/College Calculus AB, AP/College Calculus BC, Calculus 3, any level of IB Math.

Student must earn a non-weighted GPA of 3.76 or above in mathematics courses.

Student must have participated in one or more of the following mathematics activities: math competition, active member of a math honors society or math club, completion of a math project approved by the department chair.

SCIENCE

Student must score a 24 or above on the Science portion of the ACT.

Student must have completed four or more science courses, with a minimum of 2 weighted or honors courses.

Student must have a non-weighted GPA of 3.76 or above for science courses.

Student must participate in at least 3 science related extracurricular activities, with at least one of the activities being an approved science competition. Student must provide verification of activity.

Approval of activity from the Science department chair.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Student must have earned 4.0 units of credit in social studies. Student must have earned a non-weighted GPA of 3.76 or above in his/her social studies courses.

Student must have participated in one or more extra-curricular activities related to the social studies curriculum: i.e. participation in student government; attendance at Boys' State or Girls' State; member of Key club or some other service club; participation in History Bowl or History Day contests; participation in the UN Mock Assembly; Youth-in-Government; Youth Election Program; Mock Trial; Geography Bowl; participation in Missouri Public Affairs Academy; or attendance at a session of the state legislature, school board meeting, city council, federal or state judicial court session; and other activities deemed significant by the social studies department.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Student must have completed 1 1/2 units of required Physical Education and 1/2 unit of Health with a grade of A or A-.

Student must participate in a school athletic program or health related community service (examples: Relay for Life, Special Olympics, MS150 Bike Ride, Fun Run).

WORLD LANGUAGE

Student must have successfully completed at least the third level of a foreign language with grades of A or A-.

Student must have demonstrated an interest in the target culture by participation in extracurricular activities related to foreign language.

VISUAL ARTS

Student must have a grade of A or A- in three units of art. Student will present a portfolio of 7-10 pieces demonstrating proficiency in his/her area of emphasis.

Student must participate in art-related extracurricular activities.

MUSIC

Student must enroll in music classes for a minimum of three years, including the senior year. Student will be allowed to work toward separate vocal music and instrumental music awards. Student may receive both vocal and instrumental awards. Student must enroll for a minimum of three years in the specific area to be awarded, vocal or instrumental or both (transfer credit allowed). Student must achieve a GPA of 4.0 or above in music courses. Student must achieve a minimum total of extra-curricular points as follows: vocal – 25; band – 28; orchestra – 16.

Points Earned Annually: (applied to vocal and/or instrumental awards).

Completion of AP Theory with a minimal grade of B – 1 point

Local school, large extra-curricular ensemble or musical of 9 or more members - 2 points each ensemble

District and/or All-State Choir, Band, or Orchestra – 1 point each ensemble

Participation (including accompanist) in solo or small ensemble receiving no less than a “II” rating in District or State Music Contest – 1 point each event so rated

Other annual point awards: Springfield Youth Symphony - 2 points; Local school pep-band - 1 point; College-sponsored “honors” performing organizations -1 point

BUSINESS EDUCATION

Student must have an A or A- in a minimum of two units of business education classes (courses could include GO CAPS Business & Entrepreneurship).

Student must demonstrate proficient operation of the computer.

Student must have been a member of FBLA and participated in a business-related contest.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

Student must have earned 2 units of credit in Family and Consumer Sciences.
Student must pass a corresponding IRC.
Student must participate in FCCLA Star Events at least once during high school.

MARKETING & COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

Student must have an A or A- in a minimum of 2 units of marketing classes (courses could include GO CAPS Business & Entrepreneurship).
Student should have entered the DECA district CDC.
Student must have participated in the marketing co-curricular leadership, social, vocational and civic activities.
Student must have indicated an ability to make good ethical choices in business and work-related situations.

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

Students must take 3 credits of PLTW courses.
Students must earn an A or A- in all PLTW courses.
All PLTW EOCs must be taken and students must score at least accomplished on two of the EOCs.
EOC levels: distinguished, accomplished, practiced, novice.
Students must participate in an aligned CTSO for two competition cycles. CTSOs include: HOSA, TSA, Robotics, Cybersecurity/Computer Science.

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Student must have completed 2 units of industrial technology with a grade of A or A-. Student must demonstrate excellence through written materials, process performance skills and show evidence of technological literacy.
Student must develop and successfully complete a special project. This project should be displayed and presented to third parties.
Student must demonstrate exceptional leadership initiative and responsibility.