

# Deseret News Sterling Scholar Awards: Introduction

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The purpose of the Sterling Scholar Awards is to publicly recognize and encourage the pursuit of excellence in scholarship, leadership and citizenship of high school seniors in the state of Utah.

The Deseret News and KSL Television developed the program especially to focus attention on outstanding seniors in order to recognize them publicly as well as award cash scholarships and tuition waivers from participating institutions. The Sterling Scholar Awards program seeks to commend and encourage excellence among all students. All nominees are judged equally on the basis of scholastic achievement without regard to religion, sex, political preference or national origin.

The sponsors salute the extraordinary development of the talents and ideals of each year's outstanding scholars. We gratefully acknowledge the cooperation and assistance of the State Office of Education, Utah colleges and universities, school districts, high school administrations and faculties, Utah businesses and many others.

(The name Sterling Scholar Awards is a registered U.S. Trademark.)

## **Regions**

The Deseret News-KSL Television Sterling Scholar Awards program recognizes outstanding scholastic achievement of high school seniors in the state of Utah.

Because of the distance involved and differing academic circumstances, the program is conducted in five independent areas throughout the state's 40 school districts and 29 counties.

These areas are the Wasatch Front, Northeast Utah, Central Utah, Southeast Utah and Southwest Utah. Each area follows the guidelines established by the Deseret News and KSL Television, sponsors of the Sterling Scholar Awards since 1962. However, only the Wasatch Front competition is directly administered by the Deseret News and KSL Television.

The program is sponsored in cooperation with the State Office of Education, district officials and high school administrators as well as colleges and universities that support the program through the offer of scholarships and other financial assistance.

**Wasatch Front** — Counties: Box Elder, Cache, Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, Tooele, Utah

**Northeast Utah** — Counties: Rich, Morgan, Summit, Wasatch, Duchesne, Dagget, Uintah

**Central Utah** — Counties: Juab, Sanpete, Millard, Sevier, Piute, Wayne

**Southwest Utah** — Counties: Beaver, Iron, Garfield, Washington, Kane

**Southeast Utah** — Counties: Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan

*The Deseret News/KSL Television Sterling Scholar Awards would like to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of all students nominated as Sterling Scholars from their high school. While only a few Sterling Scholar nominees will receive our highest recognition, students should be reminded that it is truly a great honor to be nominated by teachers and administrators from their high school who know them best. These students encompass the essence of the Sterling Scholar Awards. Congratulations to all of our high school nominees!*

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# Deseret News Sterling Scholar Awards: Categories

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## Categories

For the Wasatch Front program, public recognition will be given to all nominees, finalists, winners and runners-up through media exposure. The two runners-up in each category will receive a cash award of \$250 in addition to scholarship opportunities. One winner in each category will receive a cash award of \$1,000, plus be eligible for scholarships as well as a chance to win the all around "General Sterling Scholar" Award granted to one of the 13 category winners, which includes an additional \$1,500 cash award. (Cash awards may vary from year to year.)

The Sterling Scholar Awards will recognize 13 different categories of nominees from each high school.

After semi and final judging competitions have been held, additional judges will be brought in to determine "The General Sterling Scholar" from among the winners in each of the other 13 categories. In order to determine the "General Sterling Scholar" winner, judges will utilize portfolio information as well as previous judging information. No interviews will occur. Judging criteria will remain the same, in that each of the 13 winners will be judged on Scholarship, Leadership and Community Service/Citizenship as applied to their own category. The overall "General Sterling Scholar" winner will be named in the final moments of the awards ceremony after all 13 winners and 26 runners-up have been recognized. There will be no runners-up to the "General Sterling Scholar."

The awards are for the following categories:

### **English**

For scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: creative writing, English, journalism, literature and related subjects. Two examples of work, either published or prepared as classroom assignments, must be submitted. There will be an additional four, single-sided portfolio pages allowed for this submission. The quality of thought, maturity, originality and technical skill will be considered.

### **Mathematics**

For scholarship and achievement in mathematics and related areas. Scholars may exhibit outstanding records in mathematics competitions and evidence of potential contributions to mathematical knowledge. Nominees should be prepared

to calculate a mathematical equation(s) in the judging interviews. Students should submit state and national math scores and other standardized mathematics test scores.

## **Social Science**

For scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: American government, geography, history, economics, social issues, world affairs and/or related subjects. Scholars should have a broad background in the social sciences and demonstrate, exemplify and practice good citizenship. The nominees may have shown inventiveness in relating social studies to existing problems and in translating concepts into experiment.

## **Science**

For scholarship and achievement in advanced work, inventiveness or outstanding service in one or more of the following areas: biology, chemistry, engineering, physics, health science, science and related subjects. Imagination, originality or special contributions will receive major consideration in judging.

## **Foreign Language**

For outstanding scholarship and persistence in the study of a foreign language. Students should have made unusual contributions to the field of foreign language study or demonstrated increasing interest in such studies at their school. Rankings received in foreign language festivals should be submitted. Students should also submit a brief resume of language projects or adventures in which they have participated. Nominees should be prepared to demonstrate their ability to communicate in the language of speaking, listening, reading and writing.

**PLEASE NOTE: A foreign-born student attending an English-speaking high school may not use English or their native tongue as a "foreign language."**

## **Computer Technology**

For outstanding scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: Computer programming, interfacing, networking, repair, construction, design and illustration, media and multimedia, or other related fields. The nominee may have won awards or recognitions, implemented their skills in behalf of their school and community or demonstrated innovative progress in their field. **PLEASE NOTE: Upon entering the building, for either semi-final or final interviews, any interview exhibits, displays and/or artwork MUST be limited to what can be carried in the arms of the nominee without the help of others. (Parents, fellow nominees, etc. may not assist in any way). Nominees may not use carts or similar devices.**

## **Trade and Technical Education**

For outstanding scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following

areas: agriculture sciences, automotive services, automotive collision repair, cabinetmaking/millwork, carpentry, cosmetology/barbering, drafting/CADD, graphics/printing technology, law enforcement, machinist technician/CNC, welding, film making and other related fields. The nominee may have won awards in competitions, devised equipment or materials for school use or shown unusual progress in this study. **PLEASE NOTE: Upon entering the building, for either semi-final or final interviews, any interview exhibits, displays and/or artwork MUST be limited to what can be carried in the arms of the nominee without the help of others. (Parents, fellow nominees, etc. may not assist in any way). Nominees may not use carts or similar devices.**

### **Family and Consumer Sciences**

For outstanding scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: child development and care, interior design, family living, food and nutrition, culinary arts, clothing and fashion and other life skills. Nominees are not expected to have experience in all listed fields, but expertise in at least one discipline. Nominees may have won awards in youth organizations, other competitions or may have used skills to render service to their school, church or other organizations. **PLEASE NOTE: Upon entering the building, for either semi-final or final interviews, any interview exhibits, displays and/or artwork MUST be limited to what can be carried in the arms of the nominee without the help of others. (Parents, fellow nominees, etc. may not assist in any way). Nominees may not use carts or similar devices.**

### **Business and Marketing**

For scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: business management, accounting, data processing, word processing and other fields related to business occupations. Nominees may have won awards in competitions or exhibited proficiency in office technology. Nominees are also encouraged to provide evidence of successful outside activities that support business career development and interests. **PLEASE NOTE: Upon entering the building, for either semi-final or final interviews, any interview exhibits, displays and/or artwork MUST be limited to what can be carried in the arms of the nominee without the help of others. (Parents, fellow nominees, etc. may not assist in any way). Nominees may not use carts or similar devices.**

### **Speech/Drama**

For scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: debate, drama, musical theater, theater, public speaking or other forensic events. Nominees are not expected to have experience in all listed fields, just expertise in at least one discipline. Nominees should include in their portfolios two examples of their work or descriptions of their activities related to this category. They should also be prepared to give a brief demonstration of public or oral communication, appropriate to

their specialty, approximately two to three minutes in length. (Nominees should not be discouraged if judges interrupt the performance so that they can continue the interview.)

## **Visual Arts**

For scholarship and achievement in creative expression in one or more of the following areas: drawing, artistic photography, commercial art, mixed media, graphic art, painting, sculpture and related fields. The nominee may have demonstrated professional potential in one or more disciplines, contributed outstanding service to the school and successfully competed in district and state art shows. **Visual Arts nominees must show some examples of artwork in their portfolio.**

## **Music**

For demonstrating outstanding scholarship and achievement in one or more of the areas of music. Exceptional talent in composition, vocal or instrumental music will be considered, but service to school or community through this talent also will be among determining qualifications. Nominees should be prepared to demonstrate their musical talent during a period of two to three minutes by playing an instrument or singing. For information on judging interviews, please see #7 under [General Information](#). (Nominees should not be discouraged if judges interrupt the performance so that they may continue the interview.)

## **Dance**

For demonstrating exceptional skill, achievement and creative expression in artistic dance (ballroom dance included). Portfolios should include training received, dances choreographed, major performances and dance service rendered to the school or community. Nominees should be prepared to demonstrate their technique and choreographic skills by performing a self-choreographed solo composition, approximately two minutes in length. Nominees will also be asked to respond to an improvisational problem during part of the interview. No performance videos required. (Nominees should not be discouraged if judges interrupt the performance so that they may continue the interview.)

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# Deseret News Sterling Scholar Awards: Financial assistance

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*Most colleges and universities in Utah and Brigham Young University-Idaho in Rexburg, ID, offer financial assistance to top students in the Deseret News KSL 5 Television Sterling Scholar Awards program. Some are offered to winners only while other institutions may offer scholarships also to runners up. Some financial assistance also is offered to finalists or even nominees in the program. Several are renewable based on the student's grade point average. Therefore, you can see the awards vary. The following are participating educational institutions and their financial assistance for 2011 Sterling Scholars.*

**Bridgerland Applied Technology College, Logan** — Full tuition waiver for enrollment in a full-time preparatory program beginning within one year of high school graduation to all winners. Runners-up will receive half tuition waivers. Visit BATC on-line at [www.batc.edu](http://www.batc.edu)

**Brigham Young University, Provo** — One-year (two-semester) full LDS tuition scholarships to all winners contingent upon admission to BYU by the appropriate deadline and maintaining good academic standing. Should you qualify for an academic scholarship at BYU, you will receive whichever scholarship is of greater value. [Lesawithers@byu.edu](mailto:Lesawithers@byu.edu)

**Brigham Young University-Idaho, Rexburg, ID** — Full tuition scholarships offered to regional winners for one year (two semesters) and half-tuition scholarships for one year (two semesters) to regional runners-up, contingent upon admission to BYU-Idaho by the appropriate deadline. Regional winners and regional runners-up may not receive more than full tuition from BYU-Idaho for any one semester.

**Utah State University-College of Eastern Utah, Price** — A two year scholarship, including student fees, to all regional winners and runners-up, valued at \$4,800. Also, a scholarship valued up to \$4,400 to all Sterling Scholars in each category named from their high school. If you qualify for an academic scholarship, you will receive the scholarship of greater value. Scholarships contingent upon recipients maintaining 12 credit hours per semester and a 3.000 semester GPA.

**Dixie State College of Utah, St. George** — Dixie State College offers one-year, full tuition waivers to Utah High School Sterling Scholar Winners (\$2,940 value). Sterling Scholar scholarships, when used in conjunction with any other

scholarships awarded from Dixie State College, cannot exceed the cost of full tuition. To claim this scholarship, the student must be admitted to Dixie State College and submit a copy of their Sterling Scholar Certificate to the scholarship coordinator. Contact Sue Perschon at [sperschon@dixie.edu](mailto:sperschon@dixie.edu)

**LDS Business College, Salt Lake City** — One-year full LDS tuition to winners (valued at \$2,900) and one-half LDS tuition to runners-up (valued at \$1,450). Also, a full LDS tuition to runners-up in Business & Marketing Education. Scholarship contingent upon student meeting admissions requirements.

**Neumont University, South Jordan** — **New Mountain Scholarship — Up to 25% of the Cost of Tuition** — To encourage the enrollment of highly qualified students, Neumont University grants scholarships of up to 25% of tuition costs for students who demonstrate superior academic competency and skills. Students awarded tuition scholarships are not eligible for other institutional scholarships awarded by the University.

**Salt Lake Community College, Salt Lake City** — (4) Full-year tuition waivers to offer (12 to 18 credit hours maximum) for two semesters in an eligible program offered to winners, runners up and finalists, valued at \$2,376. Recipients must enroll in a minimum of nine credit hours (scholarship amount based on tuition for enrolled credit hours). Students are required to pay individual fees. Scholarship may be added to other awards but not in all cases. Sterling Scholar scholarships are given on a first-come, first serve basis. Scholarships are non-renewable and limited. Recipients must provide a copy of certificate or newspaper clipping of award.

**Snow College, Ephraim** — A two-year resident tuition scholarship is offered to a regional winner or runner-up in any Sterling Scholar category. This scholarship cannot be used in conjunction with an academic scholarship. To be eligible for any scholarship, students must submit the application for admissions and scholarships, postmarked on or before the “new” student scholarship deadline. Students seeking this scholarship must provide documentation to the scholarship office showing receipt of the Regional Sterling Scholar award by May 1 of the year awarded. Additional information on all available scholarships is available at [www.snow.edu](http://www.snow.edu)

**University of Utah, Salt Lake City** — Northeast Utah, Central Utah, Southwest Utah and Southeast Utah, one year (two semesters) tuition waiver valued at approximately \$5,800 to any winners. Wasatch Front, four year (8 semesters) tuition waiver valued at approximately \$27,000 to any winners and runners-up. Tuition for a maximum of 18 course hours per semester is covered. Recipients are responsible for mandatory fees and may enroll for a maximum of 18 credit hours per semester. All students are invited to apply for general (freshman) scholarships by February 1. For additional information about scholarships, please check our website [www.sa.utah.edu/finance](http://www.sa.utah.edu/finance).



**Utah State University, Logan** — In addition to any other scholarship received from USU, regional winners will receive a \$2,000 stipend for one year (\$1,000 per semester); regional runners-up will receive a \$1,000 stipend for one year. (\$500 per semester) and Finalists in the Wasatch Front Region receive a \$500 stipend for one year (\$250 per semester). USU scholarship requirements can be found at [www.usu.edu/scholarships](http://www.usu.edu/scholarships). Students must apply for admissions by February 1st to qualify. Winners and runners-up should contact Katie Nielsen, Associate Director of Recruitment, at [katie.nielsen@usu.edu](mailto:katie.nielsen@usu.edu) and provide a copy of the award.

**Utah Valley University, Orem** — Any Regional winner or Region runner-up is eligible to receive an Exemplary four-year tuition Scholarship upon completion of the on-line scholarship application and meeting the listed requirements including a 3.0 cumulative GPA, along with providing verification of their Sterling Scholar award. All high school category winners are eligible for a one-year full tuition scholarship upon completion of the on-line scholarship application by the February 1 deadline and the listed requirements including a 3.0 cumulative GPA. Instructions to apply are located at [www.uvu.edu/financialaid/scholarships](http://www.uvu.edu/financialaid/scholarships)

**Weber State University, Ogden** — Regional winners will be awarded one year partial tuition (\$2,100). Runners-up will receive partial tuition (\$1,000). High School winners may be eligible for partial tuition scholarships (\$1,000). The Scholarship Office must be notified by May 5th of any Sterling Scholar Awards. Recipient must maintain a 2.5 GPA. Students may start applying for scholarships by October 1st each year.

**Westminster College, Salt Lake City** — Renewable full-tuition scholarship to all winners, valued at \$25,560. Renewable half-tuition scholarships to all runners-up, valued at \$12,780. Students must maintain good academic standing and satisfactory progress to renew the scholarship for up to eight semesters of study or receipt of bachelor's degree (whichever comes first). Full-time enrollment is required. Students who have been awarded an incoming merit-based scholarship (Presidential, Deans, Founders or Westminster) from Westminster and are also a Winner or Runner-up in the five Sterling Scholar Regional competitions will receive the single scholarship with the higher amount.

**NOTE: Awards are listed as described by the institutions. Exact amounts are not included due to some changes in fee structures, and some restrictions may apply. Application must be made immediately; good for the 2011-2012 school year. \*\*Above subject to change.**

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