

## Seward High School – Honors Diploma

To recognize students who display excellence, both academically and through extracurricular endeavors in school and community, Seward High School has established an Honors Diploma. To receive the recognition of an Honors Diploma, graduating Seniors must meet the following criteria:

1. Meet current Level 1 criteria for the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) regarding GPA and curriculum requirements only. See APS guidelines for more specific information <https://acpe.alaska.gov/financial-aid/ak-performance-scholarship>

Current requirements:

- Complete additional rigorous coursework in Math, Science, Social Studies, Fine Arts, and/or a World Language
- Achieve a 3.5 or greater cumulative GPA.

2. Participate in two years of extra-curricular activities. These activities include:

- National Honor Society
- Debate
- Battle of the Books
- Athletics
- Ocean Science Bowl
- FFA, 4-H, Scouts, SOS
- Student counsel
- Other activities as approved.

3. Perform 100 cumulative hours of volunteer service learning with an approved community-based organization while in high school. (Documented on Community Service Log).

4. Write a 250-word (minimum) essay that describes their service learning, the benefits to the community, and the benefit to the student.

5. Write a 250-word (minimum) essay that describes their personal leadership qualities and how those qualities will be utilized in their future.

The Community Service Log and APS Guidelines are available in the counselor's office. Honors Diploma requirements must be achieved and presented to the counselor prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>.