



JOY HOFMEISTER

STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

January 27, 2016

Dear High School Counselor:

The Oklahoma Academic Scholars program recognizes outstanding academic achievement of graduating seniors. Oklahoma Academic Scholars will be presented a certificate of distinction from the state and their local high schools. A gold seal will be affixed to their diplomas and the honor will be recorded on their official transcripts. Graduating seniors must meet all of the following criteria to qualify for this honor:

- Accumulate over Grades 9, 10, 11 and the first semester of Grade 12, a minimum grade point average of 3.7 on a 4.0 scale, or be in the top 10 percent of their class.
- Complete (or will complete) the curricular requirements for a standard diploma.
- Achieve a 27 composite score on the ACT or 1220 combined reading and mathematics score on the SAT I. The ACT or SAT I must have been taken on a national test date.

You will be able to report the names of qualifying seniors via the Single Sign On System from January 29 through March 31, 2016. You will see the report listed after signing into the system.

**You will need to report via the Single Sign On System even if you do not have any qualifying seniors. All high schools must report to ensure all students are recognized that have met the requirements mentioned above. Please enter the mailing address of your school not the physical address.**

Your school will be mailed certificates and gold seals for the diplomas by April 10, 2016, and the names of qualifying seniors will be shared with the news media. If a student at your school qualifies with scores from the April, 2016 ACT test date, call the Gifted Education Office. We will add them and get the seal and certificate mailed to you.

Thank you for your assistance in recognizing outstanding Oklahoma high school seniors! If you have questions or concerns, contact me at (405) 521-4288 or by email at <Rebecca.Mclaughlin@sde.ok.gov>.

Sincerely,

*Rebecca McLaughlin*

Rebecca McLaughlin, Director  
Gifted and Talented Education, AP, AVID,  
NMSI