AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

The Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Office of Education encourage excellence as a goal for all students and wishes to publicly recognize students for exemplary achievements in academic, athletic, extracurricular, or community service activities.

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)
(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

Student awards may include verbal recognition, a letter, a certificate, a County Board resolution, public ceremony, trophy, gift or plaque.

The Yolo County Superintendent of Schools or designee shall develop criteria for the appropriate selection of student award recipients.

Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

At graduation from high school, special recognition shall be awarded to those students whose academic achievements in core curriculum areas have been outstanding.

The County Superintendent or designee shall identify high school students who have demonstrated mastery of the high school curriculum qualifying them for the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma. (Education Code 51454)

(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
220 Nondiscrimination
35160 Authority of governing boards
35310-35319 Scholarship and loan funds
44015 Awards to employees and students
51243-51245 Credit for private school foreign language instruction
51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
876 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
1632 Credit for private school foreign language instruction

Management Resources:
WEB SITES
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
California Department of Education, Golden State Seal Merit Diploma:
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sr/meritdiploma.asp
Californians Together: http://www.californianstogether.org

Adopted: August 25, 2015  YOLO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
Woodland, California
AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT

The Yolo County Superintendent of Schools or designee may appoint a committee at each school to consider awards for student accomplishments. This committee may consist of school administrators, teachers, parents/guardians, community members, and student representatives.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)

The committee shall submit recommendations for student awards to the County Superintendent or designee for approval.

Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

To be eligible to receive the Golden State Seal Merit Diploma upon high school graduation, a student shall: (Education Code 51451, 51452; 5 CCR 876)

1. Complete all requirements for a high school diploma

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)
(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)
(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)

2. Demonstrate mastery of at least six subject areas by earning a scaled score of 370 or above on six separate high school California Standards Tests (CST), including:

a. One mathematics exam, excluding the Algebra I, General Mathematics, or Integrated Mathematics I test

b. One English language arts exam

c. One science exam, excluding the grade 10 Life Science exam

d. The grade 11 history-social science exam (United States history)

e. Two additional CSTs of the student's choice, which may, but are not required to, include additional exams in mathematics, English language arts, science, or history-social science

(cf. 6162.51 - Standardized Testing and Reporting Program)

The County Superintendent or designee shall maintain appropriate records to identify students who are eligible for the merit and shall affix an insignia to the diploma and transcript of each student awarded the merit diploma. (Education Code 51454)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)
The County Superintendent or designee shall submit an insignia request form to the California Department of Education in sufficient time to allow processing of the request prior to the high school graduation ceremony.

**Scholarship and Loan Fund**

The County Office's scholarship and loan fund shall be administered by a County Office committee composed of County Board members, the County Superintendent, and other community, faculty, administrative, and/or student representatives as determined by the County Board. (Education Code 35310)

Members of this committee shall be appointed by the County Board and shall serve two-year terms.

The County Superintendent shall serve as chairperson of the committee and chief executive officer of the fund. The committee shall meet at least once each fiscal year and at other such times as it may be called into session by the County Superintendent. (Education Code 35311, 35312)

Scholarship and loan funds shall be deposited, administered, and audited in accordance with Education Code 35314 and 35318.

(cf. 3400 - Management of District Assets/Accounts)
(cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)

The committee may accept gifts, donations, and bequests made for the purposes of the fund. The committee also may prescribe conditions or restrictions on these gifts and bequests. The committee shall review any conditions imposed by the donor and make a recommendation to the County Office as to the compatibility of such conditions with the intent and purpose of the fund. The County Office may prohibit the committee from accepting any donation under conditions it finds incompatible with the fund's intents and purposes. (Education Code 35313)

(cf. 1260 - Educational Foundation)
(cf. 3290 - Gifts, Grants and Bequests)

The County Superintendent or designee shall establish rules governing applications for scholarship and/or loans from the fund. (Education Code 35316)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Activities and Programs)

The County Superintendent or designee shall report to the County Board at least annually regarding the status and activity of the fund. (Education Code 35319)