

## **Fresno Unified Board Policy (BP) 5126**

### **Awards for Achievement**

The Governing Board encourages excellence as a goal for all students and wishes to publicly recognize students for unique or 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)*

#### **District/School Awards**

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

The Superintendent 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 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 - State Academic Achievement Tests)*

#### **Biliteracy Award**

The district shall present the State Seal of Biliteracy to each graduating high school student who has attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. (Education Code 51460-51464)

*(cf. 6142.2 - World/Foreign Language Instruction)*  
*(cf. 6174 - Education for English Learners)*

In order to affirm the value of bilingualism and encourage students' enrollment in world language programs, the Superintendent or designee may present awards at appropriate grade levels to recognize the pursuit and/or attainment of grade-level proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.

#### **Scholarship Fund**

The Board shall establish and maintain a scholarship fund which may be used to provide interest-free loans for educational advancement, scholarship, or grants-in-aid to bona fide organizations, students, or graduates of district schools. (Education Code 35310, 35315)

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

The district's scholarship fund shall be administered by a district committee composed of Board

members, the Superintendent, and such other community, staff, administrative, and/or student representatives as determined by the Board. (Education Code 35310)

The Board shall select its own representatives to the committee. Staff, community, and/or student representatives shall be selected by the Superintendent. Members of this committee shall serve two-year terms.

*(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)*

*(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)*

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

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

*Fresno Unified School District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, age, creed, religion, political affiliation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, mental or physical disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy or parental status, medical information, military veteran status, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other basis protected by law or regulation, in its educational program(s) or employment.*

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

51460-51464 State Seal of Biliteracy

52164.1 Assessment of English language skills of English learners

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

876 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma

1632 Credit for private school foreign language instruction

11510-11516 Assessment of English language development

Regulation FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

approved: Fresno, California

revised: January 20, 2021

*Policy Section: 5000 Students*