

# SOUTHWEST UTAH HANDBOOK

*DESERET NEWS* AND THE KSL BROADCAST GROUP



## STERLING SCHOLAR

---

A W A R D S

PRESENTED BY Deseret News 

FOR NOMINEES, PARENTS,  
COORDINATORS, PRINCIPALS and  
JUDGES



SINCE 1962

©1994-2023 *DESERET NEWS* PUBLISHING  
COMPANY

**DESERET NEWS KSL BROADCAST GROUP**  
**STERLING SCHOLAR AWARDS PROGRAM**

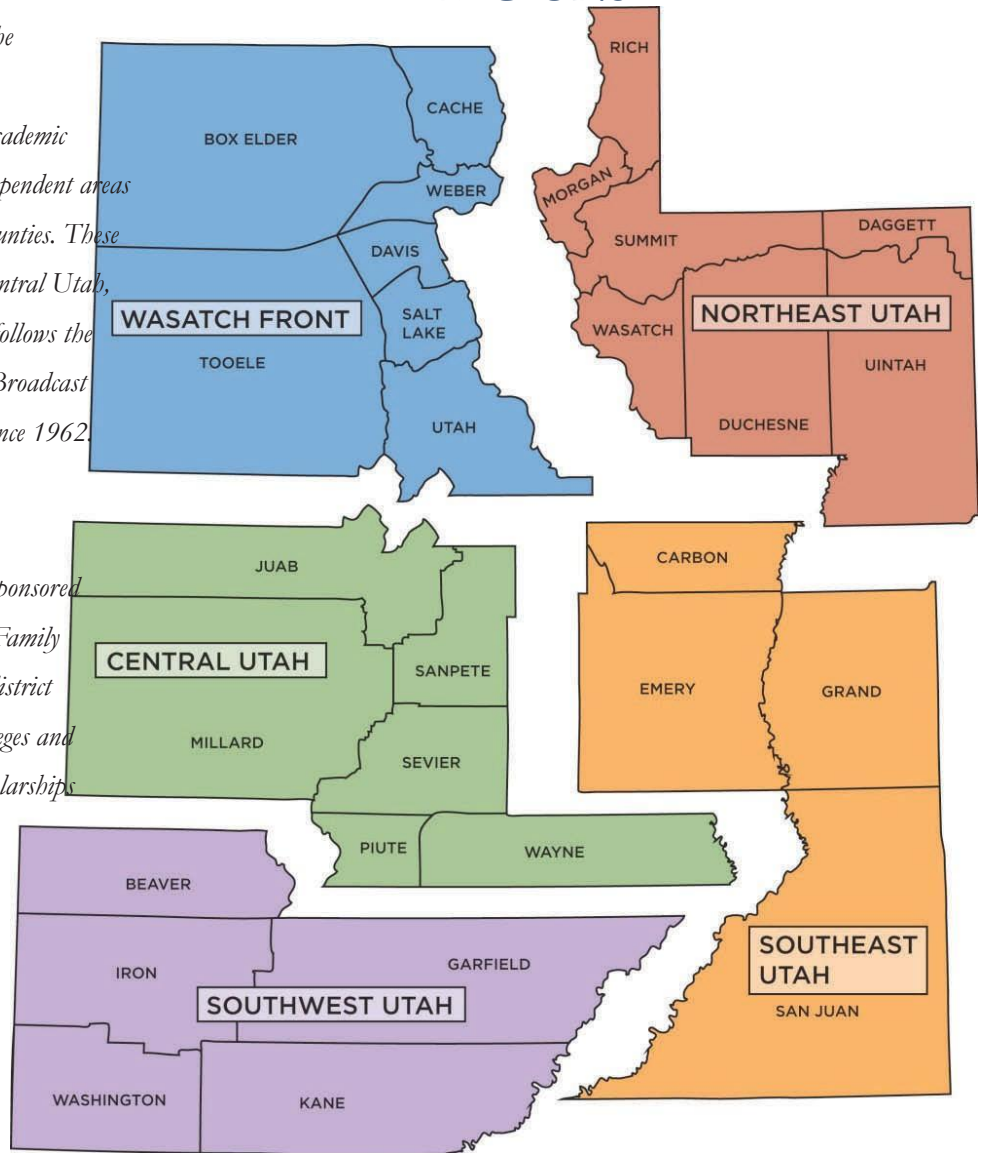
55 NORTH 300 WEST ● P.O. BOX 45654 ● SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84145-0654 ● (801) 323-4223 ● STERLINGSCHOLAR.ORG

*The Deseret News, KSL Broadcast Group Sterling Scholar Awards Program recognizes outstanding scholastic achievement of high school students graduating in the 2023-2024 school year in the State of Utah.*

*Due to the distance involved and differing academic circumstances, the program is conducted in five independent areas throughout the state's 41 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 Deseret News and KSL Broadcast Group, sponsors of the Sterling Scholar Awards since 1962. However, only the Wasatch Front competition is directly administered by Deseret News*

*and the KSL Broadcast Group. The program is sponsored in cooperation with Larry H. and Gail Miller Family Foundation, Utah State Office of Education, district officials, high school administrators as well as colleges and universities that support the program through scholarships and other financial assistance.*

**STERLING SCHOLAR  
REGIONS**





# STERLING SCHOLAR

A W A R D S

PRESENTED BY Deseret News 

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 students graduating in the 2023-2024 school year in the State of Utah. The Deseret News and KSL Broadcast Group developed the program especially to focus attention on outstanding students in order to recognize them publicly as well as award scholarships and tuition waivers from participating institutions. The Sterling Scholar Awards Program seeks to commend and encourage excellence among all nominees. 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 Utah 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.)*

## 2024 STERLING SCHOLAR AWARDS PROGRAM

The *Deseret News* – KSL Broadcast Group 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, nominees should be reminded that it is truly a great honor to be nominated by their teachers and administrators who know them best. These nominees encompass the essence of the Sterling Scholar Awards. Congratulations to all of our nominees!

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The Sterling Scholar Awards are open to Utah public high school students in line to graduate in the current school year from a Utah public high school. It is expected that each school will nominate one candidate in any of the 15 categories. Each school may nominate only one nominee in each of the 15 categories and a nominee may be nominated in only one category. ***The selection and nomination process of a potential Sterling Scholar is left entirely up to each high school.*** Sterling Scholar officials consider a nominee a high school student if he/she will be graduating during the year 2024.

High school students who attend college classes full or part-time or are classified as foreign exchange nominees are eligible for the Sterling Scholar Awards. However, the program is designed to recognize scholastic achievement in Utah public high schools. To be selected as a Sterling Scholar nominee, students must have extraordinary scholarship scores as well as service in leadership and community service/citizenship opportunities at their Utah public high school. It is up to each school to determine if an individual has been in attendance enough to experience these leadership and community service/citizenship opportunities. Each Sterling Scholar nominee's entire school experience will be considered, although emphasis will be placed on the high school years. ***High school officials are urged to nominate scholars for categories in which the nominees are genuinely interested and qualified.***

### METHOD OF NOMINATION

Ultimately, selecting nominees is the responsibility of the school principal and not the *Deseret News* or KSL Broadcast Group. No specific method of selection is required, although the process outlined below provides an excellent opportunity to encourage scholarship. Accordingly, the opportunity to apply to the Sterling Scholar program should be open to as many nominees as possible. The following procedure is encouraged to determine each school's Sterling Scholar:

1. Principal selects and assigns a committee of school faculty, including a Sterling Scholar coordinator, to administer the nomination process of public high school students, graduating in the 2023-2024 school year, for Sterling Scholar Awards participation.
2. The committee should create a questionnaire that is distributed to nominees as a guide for evaluating activities, achievements and ambitions within an area of high school education that is characterized by one of the Sterling Scholar categories.
3. The completed questionnaire and supporting materials should be submitted to the principal and/or assigned committee for review. Departmental advisors should be contacted for aid in nominee recommendations based on the submitted questionnaire and additional information.
4. Ultimately, the principal will determine which individual in each category will be submitted as the school's official nominee.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The *Deseret News* and the KSL Broadcast Group do **NOT** take part in the selection of nominees. All questions and concerns must be directed to the school and NOT the *Deseret News* or KSL Broadcast Group. All inquiries must be handled by the school coordinator, principal or assistant principal, who is responsible for contacting the Sterling Scholar director for clarification (***this includes parents, nominees,***

*teachers, etc.).*

## **JUDGING & QUALIFICATIONS**

Each nominee will be required to complete an electronic portfolio containing a Release Form, a photo, category-based showpiece items and other required information. (Please see “Guidelines for Preparing Portfolios”). Judging will be based on portfolios, exhibits and personal interviews that demonstrate excellence in the following areas:

- **ACT score of 17 or above** (if a student does not have a 17 or above they will not be considered for the Sterling Scholar program)
- **SCHOLARSHIP - 20 Points:** A nominee’s overall GPA, difficulty of class schedule, standardized test scores such as ACT and SAT, class ranking and similar scholarship items attained during high school will be used to establish points for Scholarship.
- **CATEGORY EXPERTISE - 20 Points:** Emphasis is placed on the nominee’s ability and talent in their specific category. While judges seek evidence of growth and service in all activities, the nominee’s talent and aptitude within their category will receive particular emphasis.
- **LEADERSHIP- 20 Points:** The qualities of leadership in Utah public high schools can be measured in part by the responsibilities placed on a nominee by his/her teachers and fellow nominees. However, evidence of positive influence with fellow nominees also shall be considered an indication of leadership.
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE/CITIZENSHIP - 20 Points:** Each Sterling Scholar nominee should exhibit a record of high standards of citizenship throughout his/her high school years. Service to school, community or other organizations will be considered. The nominee’s attitude toward the acceptance of responsibility in contribution roles, as well as seeking out service opportunities, will be especially important. Evidence of a long-term commitment to service will also receive particular attention.
- **INTERVIEW - 20 Points:** During the interview, judges will evaluate the nominee’s ability to answer questions pertaining to their category. Body language, technical knowledge, communication skills, professional appearance and plans for continued education in the category will all be included in the interview point assessment.

The Southwest Region has 20 public high schools participating in the Sterling Scholar Awards Program. Judges will be provided for each category in each area and will be selected from a pool of higher education faculties and Utah’s business and professional communities. Judges in each category work together – but independently of all other judges. There are no provisions to allocate or distribute winners or runners-up among the schools. Judges are instructed to select the most qualified in each category without regard to school affiliation. **Nominees must be present at the appropriate time and place for their interviews. Interviews cannot be changed to another day to accommodate individual needs if a nominee is unable to attend the date outlined in the 2024 schedule... NO EXCEPTIONS. ALL DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES ARE FINAL.** Officials from the *Deseret News* and KSL Broadcast Group will not overrule any judges’ decisions absent clear and definite proof of fraud or abuse.

## CATEGORIES

**NOTE:** Upon entering the building for 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. Accompanists may only stay during the performance portion of the interview and must leave the room upon conclusion of the performance.

**AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE** - For outstanding scholarship and achievement in agriculture science. The nominee may have won awards in competitions, devised equipment or materials for school use or shown unusual progress in this field.

**BUSINESS AND MARKETING** – Demonstrate a high level of scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: Business management, non-profit management, accounting, entrepreneurship, sales, marketing and other fields related to business occupations. Nominees may have won awards in competitions or exhibited proficiency in working with or in small or large businesses. Nominees may have held elected offices, captainships, and other evidences of peer acknowledged leadership. Nominees are also encouraged to provide evidence of successful outside activities that support business career development and interests. Evidence of excellence in standardized test scores, GPA, class ranking, IB classes and quantitative AP courses should be provided.

**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 multi-media, 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. Nominees are not expected to have experience in all listed fields, but expertise in at least one discipline.

**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 **three minutes in length**. Nominees competing in ballroom dance may use a partner for the performance portion of the interview. The dance partner must leave the room upon conclusion of the performance. Nominees will also be asked to respond to an improvisational problem during part of the interview. No performance videos required – but should be included in the electronic portfolio. (Nominees should not be discouraged if judges interrupt the performance so that they can continue the interview.)

**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. The quality of thought, maturity, originality and technical skill will be considered.

**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.

**GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP** - This most prestigious category is intended to provide recognition for

the highly capable scholar who uses exceptional ability in many areas. This MVP of scholarship must have achieved high excellence in many fields without noticeable weaknesses. The choice of a candidate in this category is to be made on grounds of scholarship, leadership, citizenship, and service in many areas.

**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. Nominees should submit state and national math scores and other standardized mathematics test scores.

**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 **three minutes in length** by playing an instrument or singing. It is the responsibility of the nominee to provide all devices needed to perform or present materials. (instrument, devices to play recorded material, etc.) For example, if a nominee needs to play an organ for his/her interview demonstration and an organ is not available at the judging site; a DVD recording may accompany the nominee to the interview. (Nominees should not be discouraged if judges interrupt the performance so that they may continue the interview.)

**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.

**SKILLED AND TECHNICAL SCIENCES EDUCATION** – For outstanding scholarship and achievement in one or more of the following areas: 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. Nominees are not expected to have experience in all listed fields, but expertise in at least one discipline.

**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.

**SPEECH/DRAMA** - For scholarship and achievement in either debate, drama, 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, **three minutes in length**. (Nominees should not be discouraged if judges interrupt their demonstration so that they may continue the interview.)

**VISUAL ARTS** – For scholarship and achievement in creative expression in one of 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 completed in district and state art shows. Nominees are allowed to display actual artwork during judging but only if the piece can be carried without assistance of any kind. **Visual arts nominees must show some examples of artwork in their portfolio.**

**WORLD LANGUAGES** – For outstanding scholarship and persistence in the study of a world language. Nominees should have made unusual contributions to the field of world language study or demonstrated increasing interest in such studies at their school. Rankings received in world language festivals should be submitted. Nominees 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 by speaking, listening, reading and writing. For languages lacking a written component (for example American Sign Language and some native American languages) the written component may be replaced by a translation, interpretation or literature exercise that demonstrates skills in grammar, syntax, and artistic forms.

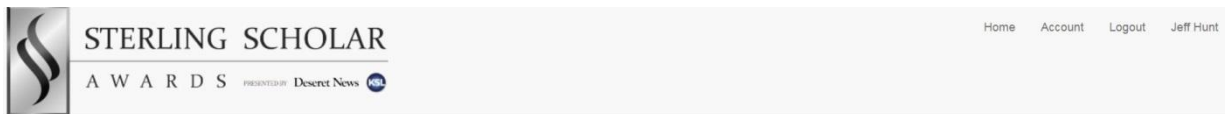
**NOTE:** *World Language includes any language, other than English, offered for credit in the general curriculum (not as an independent study) of any high school, college or university within the state of Utah. A foreign-born nominee attending an English-speaking high school may not use English or their native tongue as a “foreign language.” CANDIDATES MAY NOT COMPETE IN A LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN THEIR HOME (NATIVE LANGUAGE). Deaf nominees, for whom ASL is their first language, are considered native language users. Children of Deaf Parents are considered in the same manner as children of first generation native world language users.*



## GENERAL INFORMATION AND PORTFOLIO PREPARATION

### *For Coordinators*

**Electronic Procedure:** Each coordinator will receive, by email, login information with a temporary password. Upon entering the Sterling Scholar website and clicking on the login button (upper right corner) you will be directed to enter your user ID (your email address) and temporary password (included in the email invitation). After your initial login you will be directed to create and set a permanent password. Once completed you will be able to begin entering the names and personal information for your schools Sterling Scholars and their category as well as upload the Sterling Scholar group photograph. Screen Example:

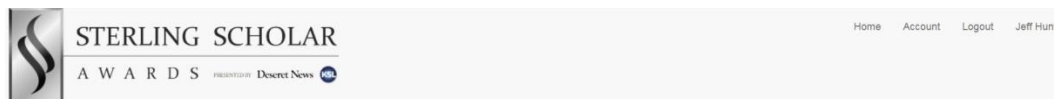


Add Nominee    Parent/Student Declaration Form    Upload Group Photo    Submit Nominees

Nominees for Monticello High School

Nominees    Categories without Nominees    Group Photo

Name	Email	Phone	Category	Status	Actions	Parent Form
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> Alyssa Reeve	alyssa_reeve@yahoo.com	(435) 459-9419	Mathematics	Incomplete	<a href="#">View Portfolio</a> <a href="#">Resend Email</a>	<a href="#">Upload</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> Ashley Adair	aad526@sjsd.org	(435) 459-2993	Music	Incomplete	<a href="#">View Portfolio</a> <a href="#">Resend Email</a>	<a href="#">Upload</a>
<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> Brayson Wilcox	braysonephram@gmail.com	(435)459-1422	Skilled and Technical Science Education	Incomplete	<a href="#">View Portfolio</a> <a href="#">Resend Email</a>	<a href="#">Upload</a>




Add Nominee    Parent/Student Declaration Form    Upload Group Photo    Submit Nominees

Nominees for Monticello High School

Nominees    Categories without Nominees    Group Photo

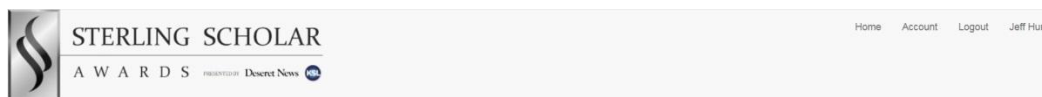
Caption (Enter student names as they appear in the photo, this list will appear in all publications of this photo)

[Save](#)



The coordinator will be responsible for the initial setup of each Sterling Scholar nominee profile; which includes entering student information, transcripts and scores. Each nominee will receive a welcome email with their login information along with a temporary password based on the email information entered by their coordinator during this initial setup process. As illustrated below, coordinators should also upload the nominees individual picture and update personal information including the nominees address and parents name (in the “Robert and Carol Jones” format please) and any comments you would like to make (This would be a good place to make a note when there are two sets of parents or any other particular situation which may need to be annotated). At this time the coordinator should print out the Release Form to be signed by each nominee

and their parent(s). Coordinators and nominees are to have all forms uploaded to the student's profile by Thursday, January 11, 2024. **The coordinator should also have the group photo uploaded by this date.** **NOTE: The student's name, as it is entered by the coordinator, will be the name used for interview times, email correspondence, newspaper articles and the Sterling Scholar awards program and certificate.**



GoBack

Student Information Photo Transcripts & Scores Missing Items

Name: Test Student Status: Incomplete

Email: test@test.com Category: English

Address: City:

State: Utah Zip:

Phone:

Parents:

Comments:

Save

After completing the above screen, you will have access to a listing of all the portfolio items to be completed for that nominee:

As the coordinator you will be responsible to enter/upload the nominee's high school transcript and ACT/SAT scores. The nominee will not have access to this screen. The nominee's class ranking should be on their transcript. **Please note:** Proof of ACT scores are required if not on the uploaded transcript. **ALL** scores **MUST** come from the same test. Mixing and matching scores from different tests is **NOT** allowed.

The coordinator has completed the initial setup process once all student information and transcripts and scores have been entered. The remaining pages numbered on this screen are different screens that the nominee will complete. You will be able to monitor the nominees' progress and review each section. It is your decision as to how often you do so:



GoBack

Student Information Photo **Transcripts & Scores** Missing Items

Proof of ACT scores required if not on transcript. Students must select from one test the scores they want to use. ALL scores MUST come from the same test. Mixing and matching scores from different tests is NOT allowed.

Upload Transcript

American College Testing (ACT) -- Please enter standard test scores. Test range is a possible low of 1 to a possible high of 36.

English  Mathematics  Reading  Sci./Reasoning  Composite

Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) -- Please list score. A possible high of 800 for each.

Reading  Mathematics  Writing

Grade Point Average and Class Ranking

Grade Point Average  Class Ranking  Save

When the nominee has completed his/her portfolio it is recommended that you go over the portfolio with each nominee and agreed upon changes should be made at that time.

**Once the nominee has submitted their portfolio, only the coordinator has the ability to reopen the portfolio for the nominee to make corrections or additions as needed.**

***For the Nominee***

When a nominee has been entered into the system by the coordinator he/she will receive an email with their login information along with a temporary password (their individual email address is their unique User ID). The first portion of their portfolio contains their “Personal Information”, school transcripts and college entrance exam scores which have been entered by the school’s Sterling Scholar Coordinator. The screen below shows the different sections to be filled out by the nominee to complete their portfolio.

-----

Personal Info

Test Scores

Personal Biography

Letter of Recommendation

Category Scholarship Activities

In 20 words or less, list up to six activities, honors and awards relating to your category

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Save

Category Scholarship Activity Description

Leadership

Leadership Description

Community Service /Citizenship

Community Service /Citizenship Description

Unique Qualities

Each nominee will begin preparing their portfolio with the upload of their “Letter of Recommendation”. For the remainder of your portfolio the acceptable file formats are .PDF, .TXT, .RTF, .JPG, .TIF, WAV, WMA, .MP4, .ACC, .MP3 and .MPG. The maximum file size for all attachments is 20MB so make sure that any files exceeding this limit are compressed before uploading them. External links to YouTube, Vimeo or other video sharing sites are the preferred path for videos. The nominee will have an opportunity to upload a supporting document within each section and more at the end of the portfolio.

test student

- Personal Info
- Test Scores
- Personal Biography
- Letter of Recommendation
- Category Scholarship Activities
- Category Scholarship Activity Description

Choose one of the activities, honors or awards, describe it briefly and explain why it was meaningful to you. What did you learn and what did you accomplish?  
Please limit your response to 3000 characters (approx. 500 words) or less.

Supporting Documents

- Upload files or documents that support the information you have entered, ie: certificates, newspaper stories, etc.

- Leadership

**Letter of Recommendation:** A letter of recommendation by any teacher/instructor should include the teacher’s assessment of the individual with specific reasons for the recommendation plus examples of evidence as to why “This is an outstanding nominee,” etc. Only one letter of recommendation is preferred.

**Category Scholarship Activities:** The nominee will have the opportunity to list six different *Category Scholarship Activities* each using 20 words or less.

**Category Scholarship Activity Description:** Choosing one of the above listed activities, the nominee will write in detail about that activity (in 500 words or less). They will also be able to upload a supporting document (e.g., a pdf of the actual award, a picture of nominee receiving award, or an external link to a video of the activity itself highlighting the nominee’s participation).

**Leadership Activities and Community Service/Citizenship:** The previous two screens will be duplicated for these two section list/essay requirements.

**Unique Qualities (list & essay):** Please describe two or three unique things about yourself while relating them to your competition category. The nominee should take this opportunity to relate the challenges they have had to overcome and describe any distinctive experiences they may have had and how they affected them.

**Life Enrichment (essay):** How do you think your involvement in this category will enrich your life?

**Attachments:** This section of the portfolio is for the nominee to include examples of their work within their category.

**Note:** Each essay section will allow only 500 words maximum so it is recommended that the essay be written in Word®, making sure of the word count as well as spelling corrections, and then copied to the essay screen.

Screen Example:

**Additional Attachments**

Upload/Link to Documents, Images, Media, Etc.

- Documents
- You may upload 1 document in several file formats, including .PDF, .TXT, or .RTF.
- You may also add a link to a document online. Make sure the link is public and you link directly to the document.

Upload File

Add link

Description:  Uri:

- Images
- You may upload 1 .JPG, .PNG, or .TIF file (Not to exceed 2 MB in size)
- You may also add a link to an image online. Make sure the link is public so that judges can view it.

Upload File

Add link

Description:  Uri:

- Media
- Media can be a maximum of 5 minutes in length
- You may upload a media file (.WAV, .WMA, .MP4, .MPG, .ACC, .MP3). For video formats, please use a link to the video on an external site.
- You may share a link to anywhere your video is online. Make sure the link is public so that judges can view it.

Upload File

Add link

Description:  Uri:

## ***Final Preparations***

Upon completion of the portfolio each nominee will submit their completed document to their Sterling Scholar Coordinator. Uploaded documents and pictures will be embedded within the portfolio pdf. Any external links for video or audio files will be included as hyperlinks. The coordinator will be notified of the submission. It is recommended that the coordinator meet with the nominee to review the portfolio. If changes are suggested, the coordinator may re-open the portfolio for the nominee to make those adjustments. The nominee will then, again, resubmit their portfolio.

At midnight of March 7, 2024, all coordinators and nominees will be prevented from making any additions or updates to portfolios. All student profiles will be then sent to the judges for review and scoring as-is.

**At some point after the award ceremony on March 28, 2024, all portfolios and judging documents will be deleted from the Sterling Scholar Award Program, servers and documents will be unrecoverable. Students are encouraged to save their portfolio as a .pdf beforehand if they would like a copy.**

## **General Information**

Organizers will be sensitive to situations involving divorced or single parents and step-parents. Please make intentions clear.

For those participating in the Southwest Sterling Scholar Region, each school coordinator must complete and submit the “Release Form” along with each nominee’s photo, which should be uploaded on or before Thursday, January 11, 2024. This deadline should not be confused with the deadline for portfolio submission on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at midnight.

Nominees will be judged on their portfolios, exhibits and personal interviews. The interviews are important and nominees should prepare for them. **ALL NOMINEES MUST BE PRESENT AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME AND PLACE FOR THE INTERVIEW. FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PERSONAL INTERVIEW ARE GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS. DEPENDING ON UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE DESERET NEWS/KSL BROADCAST GROUP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RESCHEDULE THE JUDGING OF INTERVIEWS.** No provisions will be made to schedule special interviews to suit individual needs for a videotape, audiotape, PowerPoint presentation, teleconferencing or another individual to represent that nominee.

Nominees should be counseled to bring only pertinent exhibits to interviews. Any samples, demonstration

presentations, keepsakes, or other offering that could be interpreted as gifts for the judges are in extremely poor taste and are not allowed and, more importantly, may result in disqualification.

Regional programs follow these same basic Sterling Scholar guidelines but with their own schedule. Some procedures may vary.

### ***A WORD ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHS***

**Minimum photo sizes should be:** For group shot, 6.5 inches x 4.5 inches, 300 dpi (or about 135 kb). For individual shot, 1.75 inches x 2.5 inches, 300 dpi (or about 66 kb). No hands, books, flowers, etc. in the individual photo. Photographs should be in color. Nominees should be photographed individually against any PLAIN or light-colored background. Avoid any background that would distract from the subject. If photographing outdoors, shoot with the sun or light on the nominee's face, never against his or her back. NO LASER PRINTS. PLEASE REVIEW THE PICTURES FOR INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL (GANG SIGNS, CLOTHING, ETC.).

# **PARTICIPATING HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE SOUTHWEST REGION**

**BEAVER**  
**BRYCE VALLEY**  
**CANYON VIEW**  
**CEDAR**  
**CRIMSON CLIFFS**  
**DESERT HILLS**  
**DIXIE**  
**ENTERPRISE**  
**ESCALANTE**  
**HURRICANE**  
**KANAB**  
**MILFORD**  
**PANGUITCH**  
**PAROWAN**  
**PINE VIEW**  
**ST. GEORGE ACADEMY**  
**SNOW CANYON**  
**UTAH SUCCESS**  
**VALLEY**  
**WATER CANYON**



## Interview Tips for Students

- Be prepared
- Arrive 15 minutes early to allow time for check in and warm-up (if needed)
- Dress appropriately
- Make sure clothes are properly laundered, pressed and modest in appearance
- Suits and ties or sport coats for young MEN are recommended
- Business suits or nice dresses for young WOMEN are recommended
- No tank tops, spaghetti straps or sleeveless tops are permitted
- No jeans or denim skirts.
- Skirts may not be shorter than mid-thigh
- No prom dresses or formal gowns
- Dress shoes or appropriate footwear must be worn at all times. No flip-flops
- Turn off cell phone
- Have electronic devices needed for presentation (laptops, mp3 player, etc.) charged upon arrival
- Make eye contact
- Speak clearly
- Sit/stand up straight
- Listen carefully
- Give direct answers
- Smile
- Bring an example of your work (if possible)
- Relax and have fun
- Be courteous and allow the interview to end on time

It is imperative that the students maintain a highly professional, business image during the interviews and the award ceremony. Students must be dressed appropriately to sit on the stage.

Coordinators are asked to ensure that their students follow these guidelines. If problems occur, the coordinator will be asked to speak with the student and enforce the dress code.

---

---

**DESERET NEWS**  **KSL BROADCAST GROUP**  
**STERLING SCHOLAR AWARDS PROGRAM**