

Houston High School Local Graduation Seals



The Hardin-Houston Board of Education authorizes students to earn the following seals to fulfill State requirements to earn a diploma.

Students will demonstrate readiness for their post-high school paths by earning two diploma seals that allow them to demonstrate important foundational and well-rounded academic and technical knowledge, professional skills, social and emotional competencies, and leadership and reasoning skills. These important sets of knowledge, skills and dispositions are necessary for high school graduates to be successful in the workplace, college, the military or other self-sustaining professions. Students will demonstrate readiness by earning at least two diploma seals, one of which must be state defined.



State Defined Seals

1. **Ohio Means Jobs Seal-** *Meet the requirements and criteria established for the readiness seal, including demonstration of work-readiness and professional competencies.*
2. **State Seal of Biliteracy-** *Meet the requirements and criteria, including proficiency requirements on assessments in a world language and English.*
3. **Industry-Recognized Credential Seal-** *Earn an approved industry-recognized credential that is aligned to a job considered in demand in this state and its region.*
4. **College-Ready Seal-** *Earn remediation-free scores on the ACT or SAT.*
5. **Military Enlistment Seal-** *Provide evidence that a student has enlisted in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces; or participate in an approved JROTC program.*
6. **Citizenship Seal-** *A student can-*
 - a. *Earn a score of proficient or higher on both the American History and American Government end-of-course exams*
 - b. *Earn a score that is at least equivalent to proficient on approved Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams*
 - c. *Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to a "B" or higher in an appropriate class taken through the College Credit Plus program.*
7. **Science Seal-** *A student can-*
 - a. *Earn a proficient or higher on the Biology end-of-course exam*
 - b. *Earn a score that is at least equivalent to proficient on appropriate Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams*
 - c. *Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to a "B" or higher in an appropriate class taken through the College Credit Plus program.*
8. **Honors Diploma Seal-** *Earn one of six Honors Diplomas outlined below:*
 - a. *Academic Honor Diploma*
 - b. *International Baccalaureate Honors Diploma*
 - c. *Career-Tech Honors Diploma*
 - d. *STEM Honors Diploma*
 - e. *Arts Honors Diploma*
 - f. *Social Science and Civic Engagement Honors Diploma*
9. **Technology Seal-** *A student can:*
 - a. *Earn a score that is at least equivalent to proficient on an appropriate Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam*
 - b. *Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to a "B" or higher in an appropriate class taken through the College Credit Plus program*
 - c. *Complete a course offered through the district or school that meets guidelines developed by the Department*



Community Service Seal

The Hardin-Houston Board of Education believes that high-quality community service experiences help prepare students for success in the workplace by allowing them to apply academic and technical skills in a real-life setting. Community service also connects students with the community in a positive way and teaches them to become good citizens.

A student may earn a Community Service Seal by completing a minimum of one high-quality, school approved community service experience during their high school career.

A high-quality community service experience achieves the following:

1. Helps students make invaluable connections in their community
2. Gives students an opportunity to explore possible career options in the public, nonprofit and philanthropic sectors and gain valuable work skills
3. Exposes students to the needs of their community and promotes an understand of and the value in vivid engagements well as volunteerism
4. Provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate social and emotional skills, academic knowledge, leadership, professionalism, and critical reasoning.

Community service experiences must be approved by the Districts's designated community service advisors in advance. The Board designates School Counselor, Stephanie Merickel and High School Principal, Jeff Judy to serve as community service advisors. To obtain approval, students must submit the following information:

1. Name and description of the organization
2. A description of the proposed community service activities
3. A timeline for completing the community service project/s

Students will be required to submit a completed community service agreement that is signed by the advisor/s, students, parent and an individual at the organization who will oversee the student's work. Completion of the community service project must be documented and verified by an individual at the community service organization before they are submitted to the community service advisor/s for approval.

Students will be required to submit a reflection on the community service work experience. Reflections must be submitted to the advisor in writing and include a summary of the tasks completed as well as an assessment of how the service has benefited both the students and community at large before the project/experience will be approved.

The community service agreement form should be obtained prior to the start of the project. Forms should be submitted to Mrs. Merickel or Mr. Judy.



Fine/Performing Arts Seal

The Hardin-Houston Board of Education believes that participation in fine and performing arts programs supports the development of critical skills such as creativity, sensory processing, communication, problem-solving, cultural awareness, and expression. It also helps students gain confidence that will assist them throughout life.

A student may earn a Fine/Performing Arts Seal by earning at least two credits of approved fine arts program electives.

Students may also earn the seal by participating in three full seasons of an approved fine or performing arts extracurricular activity in one of the recognized disciplines. In order for participation in a fine/performing arts extracurricular activity to count outward earning the seal, students must participate in the entire scheduled season of the activity. Participation must be verified by the program advisor.

Qualifying Visual Arts Classes:

- Art I
- Art II
- Painting/Watercolor
- Advanced Art

Qualifying Music Classes:

- Chorus
- High School Band
- Jazz Band

Qualifying Extracurricular Activities

- Fall Musical/Play
- Pep Band
- Spring Musical/Play



Student Engagement Seal

The Hardin-Houston Board of Education believes that meaningful participation in Board-approved extracurricular activities helps to develop well rounded students who are more engaged in the school community.

Students may earn a Student Engagement Seal by earning at least five points within the approved extra-curricular activities list during high school. Eligible activities include participation in an athletic program, recognized school club or student government.

In order for participation to count toward earning the seal, students must participate in the entire scheduled season of the activity. Participation must be verified by the program advisor or coach.



Student Engagement Seal: In order for participation to count toward earning the seal, students must participate in the entire scheduled season of the activity. Participation must be verified by the program advisor or coach. To earn the seal a student must accumulate five points throughout their high school career.

Student Name: _____

Club <i>*The following clubs/organizations will count as 1 toward the Engagement Seal</i>	Years	Fine art <i>*The following will count as 1 toward the Engagement Seal</i>	Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Academia <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Club <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Circle <input type="checkbox"/> Blood donation <input type="checkbox"/> Other* (as approved by HS Principal)	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Pep band <input type="checkbox"/> Fall play <input type="checkbox"/> Spring play <input type="checkbox"/> Other* (as approved by HS Principal)	_____ _____ _____ _____
Organization <i>*The following will count as 1 toward the Engagement Seal</i>	Years	Sport <i>*The following athletics will count as 1 toward the Engagement Seal</i>	Years
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Council <input type="checkbox"/> FCCLA <input type="checkbox"/> FFA <input type="checkbox"/> NHS <input type="checkbox"/> Yearbook <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. Honor Society <input type="checkbox"/> Other* (as approved by HS Principal)	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Baseball <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball <input type="checkbox"/> Cheerleading <input type="checkbox"/> Cross Country <input type="checkbox"/> Golf <input type="checkbox"/> Softball <input type="checkbox"/> Track <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball <input type="checkbox"/> Other* (as approved by HS Principal)	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

Student total _____



Transfer Students

In the event that a student transfers into the Hardin-Houston School District, Houston High School will honor all local seals that the student has earned and that have been verified by that student's previous school or educational setting. All efforts will be made to convert an incoming student's prior qualifying engagement into progress toward the attainment of the approved Houston High School Graduation Seals.

