

# **STERLING SCHOLAR SUGGESTED REQUIREMENTS**

The purpose of the Sterling Scholar Awards is to publicly recognize and encourage excellence in scholarship, leadership and citizenship in high school students. This competition is sponsored by KSL and Deseret News. Students are judged in the three areas of scholarship, leadership and citizenship.

There are several things that will aid in qualifying you in a particular category. These include:

1. Take many classes in the areas in which you're interested and earn excellent grades in them.
2. Maintain a high overall GPA, ACT, and class ranking.
3. Participate in extracurricular activities both in school and the community.
4. Take advantage of summer workshops, internships, competitions and other activities in your fields of interest. Teachers can help you be aware of available opportunities if you ask them.
5. **Initiate** service projects in your community that are ongoing rather than just be involved in some others have initiated. Ongoing service to the community, school and other organizations is considered.

The following list has been compiled by faculty members at Viewmont who are involved in the judging process. It contains **SUGGESTED** requirements the judges are looking for in specific areas. **If you do not fit every qualification, this DOES NOT MEAN you are not able to apply. The more knowledge, experience, and course work in the content area for which you are applying, the greater your chances are of being selected.**

## **ENGLISH**

- Must be in AP or CE English
- Minimum GPA of 3.8 overall
- ACT scores in English and Reading must be at or above a 26
- Take at least one elective in the English area (Creative Writing, Yearbook, Debate)

## **MATHEMATICS**

- Have completed AP Calculus before Senior year, preferably BC Calculus (if you are enrolled as a senior, this will also be acceptable)
- Have taken the ACT before applying

## **SOCIAL SCIENCE**

- Attending Boys' or Girls' State
- Have many hours of community service
- Participate in city youth councils
- A 3.5 GPA and/or rank in the top 10% of the class
- Taken at least one CE or AP class in a social studies field
- Have school leadership experience through student government, class committees, teams, or other clubs and organizations
- Plan on entering a Social Studies related field
- Have a knowledge of current events

## **SCIENCE**

- Have taken or are taking 2 AP science courses. Three is better.
- Have taken the ACT

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

- Must be in a 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, or AP level World Language class or have comparable experience using the target language while residing in a non-English speaking country
- A student who has demonstrated outstanding ability in a 3<sup>rd</sup> year World Language class may also be considered if nominated by a World Language teacher.
- GPA of at least 3.75
- Have taken the ACT
- Experience using the foreign language through community or school service or while on an extended visit to a non-English speaking country
- The ability to participate in an interview in your target language. This interview will include questions about your family and friends, your future plans, and a memorable experience from the past

## **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY**

- Have good grades and good ACT score
- Have a lot of computer experience, such as programming or coding
- Make sure anything brought to demonstrate for the judges will work on the available computer or bring a laptop

## **SKILLED AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Have creativity in portfolio (work done to date)
- High GPA
- Good depth of course work in Skills and Tech classes
- Participation in competitive events
- Variety of community service
- Good interview skills

## **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

- GPA 3.74 or higher
- Three or four FACS classes since 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Leadership positions and activities in FCCLA
- Service activities in the school and community
- Member FCCLA
- Competing in a FCCLA STAR Event preferred

## **BUSINESS AND MARKETING**

- It's beneficial to be involved in many of the following activities:
  1. FBLA and DECA Officer/Member
  2. FBLA / DECA competition participant/winner
  3. FBLA / DECA Leadership Conferences participant
- High grades in many business and marketing classes
- Work experience related to these areas
- Business / Marketing career goal that has been researched (job shadow, etc.) so you can discuss future plans intelligently
- Service activities (using business skills would be an extra benefit)
- Certifications (MOS, IC3)
- Attend other business conventions

## **SPEECH/THEATER ARTS/FORENSICS**

- Be actively involved in either forensics or the drama department
- For Forensics (debate), be prepared to give a brief (2-3 minutes) demonstration of a competitive forensics activity, appropriate to their specialty
- For Forensics, current membership in the National Forensic League, providing a student point record from the National Forensic League
- For Forensics, have taken the ACT before applying and have a 3.7 GPA or higher
- For Forensics, have taken at least 3 semesters of Debate
- For Forensics, have competed at Region, National Qualifiers, and 5A State Tournament at least twice (two years)
- For Forensics, have a variety of documented community service
- For Drama, have at least two minutes of a monologue (humorous or serious) to perform
- Candidates in drama must have taken drama for at least two years in high school

## **VOCAL PERFORMANCE**

- Five minute interview
- Five minutes to perform
- Demonstrate a knowledge in vocal performance
- Demonstrate a knowledge in other areas such as theory, music history, composers and vocal technique

## **VISUAL ARTS**

- Applicants should have a portfolio of their work demonstrating the following:
- Draftsmanship
- Design and composition
- Creativity and originality. No drawing of photos.

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

- Five minute interview
- Five minutes to perform

- Demonstrate a knowledge in instrumental performance
- Demonstrate a knowledge in other areas such as theory, music history, composers and technique

## **DANCE**

- Perform a one-minute original composition (modern or ballet are recommended)
- Improvise to a prompt given at the audition
- You don't need to have taken dance at Viewmont to be eligible