

Distinguished Graduate Initiative
2013-2014

This initiative spotlights each SAC program during our annual graduation ceremony by honoring one outstanding student from those programs, called the “Distinguished Graduate in _____(program name).” Students receive special recognition at the graduation ceremony by wearing a cord signifying their Distinguished Graduate status and through an announcement made when they cross the stage. Their diplomas are also marked to show that they have achieved this honor.

Students are required to apply through a process as outlined below.

Criteria for selecting the Distinguished Graduate from each department (departments may add to these criteria):

- 1) Student must have a minimum GPA of 3.2.
- 2) Student must participate in the May graduation ceremony.
- 3) Student must participate in events to promote graduation.

Department’s choice must be:

- 1) A student meeting the criteria above with a major in the respective department.
- 2) If a department has more than one program, they may have that many distinguished graduates.

Application Process

A student who meets the criteria must submit an application that includes:

- 1) An essay explaining how his/her experience at San Antonio College and within their major influenced/inspired the student’s path to graduation.
- 2) A signed statement indicating that they are willing to serve as outlined above and an understanding that failure to do so may result in the rescindment of his/her award (page 3 of this application packet).
- 3) A personal/academic biography that is 150-200 words.
- 4) An inspirational quote including the name of the original author.

The deadline for a student to submit a complete applications to their academic department is **December 6, 2013**.

Each department must submit the name of their Distinguished Graduate to the Office of Vice President for Student and Academic Success either in-person to FAC 309 or via email to Chaye Pena at apena259@alamo.edu by **January 17, 2013**.

Privileges of Honor

As Distinguished Graduates, students will:

- 1) Receive a Graduation Cord;
- 2) Earn special recognition at the graduation ceremony;

- 3) Have their names added to the Distinguished Graduate Department Plaque;
- 4) Receive a formal certificate;
- 5) Receive a T-shirt;
- 6) Have their picture, biography, and inspirational quote featured on the SAC website; and
- 7) Attend a President's reception in their honor on May 8, 2014.

Selected students should be prepared to attend a first meeting on January 30, 2014 at 3pm in the LSC Fiesta Room.

Application for Distinguished Graduate in _____ (provide program name)

****DUE DECEMBER 6 in Department Office****

Every program at San Antonio College will select one “distinguished graduate” each year. That student must either be a major in the program or a student in one or more of its classes. S/he will receive special recognition at the graduation ceremony by wearing a cord signifying his/her distinguished graduate status and through an announcement made when s/he crosses the stage. His/her diploma will also be marked to show the achievement of this honor.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Student must have a minimal GPA of 3.2.
- 2) Student must participate as a graduate in the SAC graduation ceremony taking place in May.
- 3) Student must demonstrate service to the college and department in the form of graduation promotion.
- 4) Student must complete the application, including signature, below:

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICATION PACKET:

- Signed Agreement Statement (this page)
- Essay
- Biography
- Inspirational Quote

Name: _____ Banner ID#: _____

Major: _____ GPA: _____

Cell phone #: _____ Alt Phone #: _____

Email address: _____ T-Shirt Size: _____

By applying for this award the student must agree to participate in a project that promotes graduation.

STUDENT: By signing below, I certify that I am willing to serve as outlined above to the fullest extent required throughout the prescribed time period. I understand that failure to do so may result in the award being rescinded.

Signature

Date