The Advanced Studies
Laureate Curriculum
of the
District School Board of Collier County
leading to
The Laureate Diploma

2014-2015
The Advanced Studies Laureate Program

The overall goal of the Advanced Studies Laureate Program is to provide a rigorous academic course of study and to challenge and recognize high-achieving students. Although centered on Advanced Studies courses, the program encompasses other activities that enhance a student’s general background and preparation for higher education. The program assumes each candidate’s exceptional motivation, aptitude, and achievement while encouraging high levels of integration of ideas and application of skills.

Laureate Diploma, Certificate, and Scholar Awards

Collier County Public Schools’ students who wish a challenging high school program may aspire to earn a Laureate Diploma, a Laureate Certificate, or a Laureate Scholar Award. The Scholar Award is available only to students in schools with limited Advanced Studies programs. Students must apply for admission to the program, meet the entrance criteria, and complete the following:

1. **For the Advanced Studies Laureate Diploma:**
   Complete six or more Advanced Placement courses and/or AICE (AS) courses covering at least three areas—English & Languages, Mathematics & Science, Arts & Humanities (including Social Studies)—with a cumulative AP or AICE test average of 3.0 / E or better on six of the exams.

2. **For the Advanced Studies Laureate Certificate:**
   Complete five or more Advanced Placement courses and/or AICE (AS) courses covering at least two areas—English & Languages, Mathematics & Science, Art & Humanities (including Social Studies)—with a cumulative AP or AICE test average of 3.0 / E or better on five of the exams.

3. **For the Advanced Studies Laureate Scholar Award:**
   Complete three or more Advanced Placement courses and/or AICE (AS) courses covering at least two areas—English & Languages, Mathematics & Science, Art & Humanities (including Social Studies)—with a cumulative AP or AICE test average of 3.0 / E or better on five of the exams.

(Scholar Award is limited to Immokalee High and Everglades City Schools.)

**Students who complete an A level AICE course exam will earn two qualifying credits.**

The Advanced Studies Laureate Candidate must also:

- Maintain a minimum un-weighted, cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 for all courses applied to graduation.
- Meet designated graduation requirements for either CCPS or AICE and accrue 100 hours+ of documented community service.
- Present portfolios, demonstrations, and interdisciplinary products including a major 4,000-6,000 word Laureate Essay to be presented in the junior or senior year to a community panel.
- Participate in at least two school-based demonstrations of excellence per year upon application for the diploma or certificate.

At Collier County Public Schools’ spring academic recognition programs and at graduation, students in the program will be recognized as Advanced Studies Laureate Candidates potentially eligible for Laureate Diploma, Certificate, or Scholar Awards. Upon receipt of the Advanced Studies test results in July, final designation of awards and scholarships will be determined.

Specific Guidelines for the Program

Guidelines for Admission to Collier County’s Laureate Program

- Application submitted with documentation.
- Studies in the 85th percentile or above on standardized achievement tests or teachers’ and principal’s recommendation if below the 85th percentile.
- An un-weighted cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or above for the preceding three years.
- Documentation of parent or adult mentor’s commitment to the program, including signatures on the application form to indicate willingness to cooperate to help the Laureate candidate and to monitor the student’s progress with a guidance counselor.
- Documentation of student’s commitment to the program indicated by signature on application, attendance at required meetings, agreement to participate in after-school tutorial if the grade-point average falls below the required 3.0 average, and acceptance of responsibility to monitor own progress with school staff.

Demonstration Requirement of the Laureate Program:

- Academic, Co-curricular Group:
  Students must complete at least one of the two required portfolio/demonstrations per year in the program from the academic group; however, both may come from this group. To count as Laureate credit, each activity must receive prior approval of the student’s academic advisor. Examples are listed below:
  1. Science Fair
  2. Mock Trial
  3. Teen Court
  4. Model United Nations
  5. Envirothon competition
  6. Journalism competition
  7. Creative writing competition
  8. Mu Alpha Theta

- Extra-curricular Group:
  Students may complete one portfolio/demonstration per year in the program from the extra-curricular group. To receive Laureate credit, the activity must receive prior approval of the student’s academic advisor. Examples are listed below:
  1. Band, orchestra, or choral competitions, concerts, and recitals
  2. Art competitions and shows
  3. Dramatic presentations
  4. Participation in interscholastic athletics
  5. JROTC competitions