

Student Awards Handbook 2026

Inspiring Great Minds



Queensland Academy
for Science Mathematics
and Technology



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Queensland Academy for Science Mathematics and Technology (QASMT) is an academically selective entry school. Celebration of student excellence, achievement and effort is an important aspect of Academy life. QASMT offers the International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years and Diploma Programmes. They are academically challenging and balanced programs of education that are internationally recognised, and our student awards program is based on this renowned curriculum program. Throughout the year, QASMT acknowledges and rewards students in each year level for their diligence and achievements.

2.0 SEMESTER ACADEMIC AWARDS

The **Semester Academic Awards Assemblies** award the following (detailed criteria is provided below):

- Principal's Commendation for Academic Achievement
- Principal's Award for Most Improved
- IB Learner Achievement Awards

Middle Years and Senior Years award ceremonies are held once per year, in Semester 1, Term 1 to acknowledge Years 8 – 12 students for their achievements and efforts in Semester 2 of the previous year.

2.1 SEMESTER ACADEMIC AWARD CRITERIA

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENDATION FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (Certificate)

Awarded in Term 1, to Year 8 – 12 students who have consistently demonstrated outstanding achievement in their studies.

To be eligible for this award in the IB Middle Years Programme and Diploma Preparation Program:

- Students have achieved a GPA of at least 6.00, determined on cumulative reporting.
- Students received Satisfactory or better in Effort and Behaviour for all subjects.

To be eligible for this award in the IB Diploma Programme:

- Students have met all diploma criteria.
- Students have achieved a GPA of at least 6.00, determined on cumulative reporting.
- Students have achieved a satisfactory grade in all Inner Core subjects.
- Students received Satisfactory or better in Effort and Behaviour for all subjects.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD FOR MOST IMPROVED (Certificate)

Awarded to students who have demonstrated continuous commitment to their academic studies and have shown significant improvement in their achievement across all their subjects. To be eligible for this award:

- Students have not received another academic award.
- Students have an achievement progress score in the top 5% of students in their cohort, determined by calculating academic progress from the first term to the second term across Semester 2.

IB LEARNER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (Certificate)

Awarded to students who have consistently demonstrated the attributes of an IB Learner and have been recognised for modelling Positive Behaviour. To be eligible for this award:

- Students have received the most IB Attributes positive behaviour cards for the semester.

3.0 ANNUAL AWARDS EVENING

The **Annual Awards Evening** is a highlight in the school calendar. At this celebration, a number of awards are presented in areas of academic achievement, effort and leadership. The academic awards acknowledge holistic achievement and effort across the year, based on reporting data at the end of Term 3 for whole year subjects and reporting data at the end of Term 2 for semester subjects.

Academic Awards acknowledging achievement and effort (detailed criteria is provided below) include:

- Summa cum laude – Platinum Award (Year 12 students only)
- Magna cum laude – Gold Academic Excellence Awards
- Cum laude – Silver Academic Achievement Awards
- Labor et honor – Bronze Principal's Awards

In addition to the school Academic Awards, a number of special awards are announced on the evening, including IB Learner attributes, Sports, Arts and Service excellence, and a range of external awards for leadership and excellence.

3.1 ACADEMIC AWARDS CRITERIA

Summa Cum Laude - PLATINUM AWARD (Silver and black badge - glass plaque)

This award is presented to Year 12 students who have demonstrated the highest achievement in their academic studies coupled with exceptional personal integrity. They have displayed a consistent and determined approach every day in every class. To be eligible for this award:

- Students must meet all IB Diploma eligibility criteria, including inner core.
- Students have achieved a GPA of at least 6.80, determined on cumulative reporting at the end of Term 3.
- Students have achieved a GPA of 4.80 or above for Effort and Behaviour throughout the year.
- Attributes of IB Learner Profile must be evident.

Magna Cum Laude - GOLD ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS (Gold badge and certificate/medallion for Year 12)

This award is presented to students for consistent demonstration of outstanding commitment to, and achievement in, their studies. To be eligible for this award:

- Students have achieved satisfactory or better, in all subjects for Effort and Behaviour.
- Students have achieved a GPA of at least 6.60, determined on cumulative reporting at the end of Term 3 (Term 2 for semester subjects).
- IB Diploma students meet all Diploma eligibility criteria, including inner core.

Cum Laude - SILVER ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (Silver badge and certificate)

This award is presented to students for consistent demonstration of excellent commitment to and achievement in their studies. To be eligible for this award:

- Students have achieved a GPA of at least 6.30, determined on cumulative reporting at the end of Term 3 (Term 2 for semester subjects).
- IB Diploma students meet all Diploma eligibility criteria, including inner core.
- Students have achieved satisfactory or better, in all subjects for Effort and Behaviour.

Example 1: Year 9

All Year 9 students select one (1) elective subject each semester. Therefore, the Term 2 Academic Report result for the elective will be used in award calculations.

Student 1 – Gold Award				Student 2 – Silver Award			
Term 2		Term 3		Term 2		Term 3	
Subject	GPA	Subject	GPA	Subject	GPA	Subject	GPA
English	7	English	7*	English	7	English	7^
Latin	7	Latin	7*	Latin	7	Latin	7^
Mathematics	6	Mathematics	6*	Mathematics	6	Mathematics	6^
Media Arts	7	Media Arts	7*	Media Arts	7	Media Arts	7^
PHE	7	PHE	7*	PHE	7	PHE	7^
Science	6	Science	6*	Science	6	Science	6^
Elective 1	7*	Elective 2	6	Elective 1	6^	Elective 2	7
Av. GPA	6.71	Av. GPA	6.57	Av. GPA	6.57	Av. GPA	6.71
Award GPA *data used in award calculation			6.71	Award GPA ^data used in award calculation			6.57

Example 2: Year 10

All Year 10 subjects are semester based, therefore Term 2 results used to determine award recipients

Student 1 – Gold Award				Student 2 – Silver Award			
Term 2		Term 3		Term 2		Term 3	
Subject	GPA	Subject	GPA	Subject	GPA	Subject	GPA
Blue Planet	7*	Biology SL	7	Blue Planet	7^	Biology SL	7
English	7*	Chemistry HL	7	English	7^	Chemistry HL	7
Future Materials	6*	English SL	6	Future Materials	6^	English SL	6
Japanese	7*	ESS HL	7	Japanese	7^	ESS HL	7
Mathematics	7*	Japanese SL	7	Mathematics	7^	Japanese SL	7
Medical Biotechnology	6*	Mathematics AAHL	5	Medical Biotechnology	5^	Mathematics AAHL	6
Av. GPA	6.67	Av. GPA	6.5	Av. GPA	6.5	Av. GPA	6.67
Award GPA *data used in award calculation			6.67	Award GPA ^data used in award calculation			6.5

Labor et Honor - PRINCIPAL'S AWARD FOR MOST IMPROVED (Bronze badge and certificate)

Awarded to students who have demonstrated continuous commitment to their academic studies and have shown significant improvement in their achievement across all their subjects. To be eligible for this award:

- Students have not received another academic award
- Students have an achievement progress score in the top 5% of students in their cohort, determined by calculating academic progress from the first term to the third term across the year (or the first term to the second term for semester subjects).

3.2 SPECIAL AWARDS

THE IB STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS (Badge, trophy and certificate)

Awarded to one student from each year level (Year 7-12), who has demonstrated all of the IB Learner Profile attributes at the highest standard throughout the current year.

QASMT SPORTS EXCELLENCE AWARD (Trophy and certificate)

This award is presented to a student in Senior Years (10-12) and to a student in Middle Years (7-9). To be eligible for the QASMT Sports Excellence Award, students must embody and demonstrate the attributes and values of sporting excellence by:

- representing QASMT at district, regional, state or national level
- displaying sportsmanship and attitude that reflects the attributes of the IB learner profile
- attending all Carnival Days
- displaying a willingness to assist in all aspects of sport such as setting up for carnival days.

QASMT THE ARTS EXCELLENCE AWARD (Trophy and certificate)

This award is presented to a student in Senior Years (10-12) and to a student in Middle Years (7-9). To be eligible for the QASMT The Arts Excellence Award, students must embody and demonstrate the attributes and values of Arts excellence by:

- engaging in creative endeavours that move them beyond the familiar
- representing the school in several school and community-based events
- promoting The Arts with enthusiasm and commitment to Arts activities
- displaying a willingness to assist in all aspects of The Arts inclusive Commitment to practice, rehearsal and refinement of skill.

QASMT SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD (Trophy and certificate)

This award is presented to a student in Senior Years (10-12) and to a student in Middle Years (7-9). To be eligible for the QASMT Service Excellence Award, students must embody and demonstrate the IB Learner attributes and values of Service to others by:

- making meaningful contributions to their community and society
- applying personal and social skills in real life situations involving initiative, responsibility and accountability for their actions
- making significant contributions to Service activities in school, in the community or internationally.

3.3 EXTERNAL AWARDS

THE ADF LONG TAN LEADERSHIP AND TEAMWORK AWARD (Money and certificate)

Awarded to a student in Year 10 and to a student in Year 12 (Year 10 – \$250 and Year 12 – \$550). To be eligible for this award, students must:

- demonstrate the attributes of leadership, teamwork, values, problem solving, resourcefulness, communicator, co-operation and community involvement throughout the current year
- display strong values, such as doing one's best, respect for others and "mateship", that are integral to Australian society.

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND AWARD FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (cash card and certificate)

Awarded to a Year 11 student team. To be eligible for this award, the student team must:

- exhibit excellence in their STEM Research Program
- demonstrate the personal qualities of persistence, ingenuity and inquisitiveness.

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (\$250 cash card and certificate)

Awarded to a Year 12 student. To be eligible for this award, the student must:

- exhibit academic excellence
- engage in community service and leadership roles
- display dedication and aspirations towards tertiary studies.

THE AMPOL BEST ALL ROUNDER AWARD (Medallion and certificate)

To be eligible for this award, the student must:

- demonstrate consistently high standards in academic, attitude, personal conduct, leadership, service, sport and the arts, throughout their schooling.

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY SPARK AWARD (\$200 and certificate)

Awarded to a Year 11 student. To be eligible for this award, the student must:

- display determination in working towards a brighter future for their community
- demonstrate they are making a difference through one of the following:
 - *Excellence* – doing something great that has a positive impact
 - *Diversity and Inclusion* – respect for all people
 - *Environmental Responsibility* – respect for the environment
 - *Ethics and Social Justice* – making our world fairer and more equitable.

THE WALTER TAYLOR COMMUNITY SERVICE SENIOR AWARD (Certificate)

Presented to a Senior Years student. This award not only honours the recipient but also inspires others to engage in meaningful community service. To be eligible for this award, the student must:

- demonstrate exceptional dedication to community service
- embody the values of leadership, kindness, compassion, and a commitment to making a positive impact.

PETER DOHERTY AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING SENIOR STEM STUDENT IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) EDUCATION (\$5,000 and certificate)

Awarded to a Year 12 student. These awards are determined annually by the Department of Education. To be eligible for this award, the student must:

- demonstrate an outstanding and innovative contribution to STEM education in Queensland
- complete their Year 11 studies in a Queensland school
- be currently enrolled in at least two Year 12 approved senior science, technology, engineering or mathematics subjects
- attain an A standard of achievement or equivalent.

ICAS MEDALS (Certificate)

Each year our students participate in a range of ICAS Competitions. Our students are top performers, and many receive Distinctions and High Distinctions placing them in the top 10% of the country. ICAS Medals are awarded to students with the top score in each subject in each year level nationally.

Additional awards may be recognised in this category dependent on offerings available throughout the year.

3.4 INVITATIONAL PROGRAMS

HONOURS PROGRAM

The Honours program recognises and celebrates up to the top 5% students from Years 7-11 (moving into Years 8-12). Beyond academic achievement, this program places a strong emphasis on service, encouraging students to actively contribute to their school and wider community. Honours students are expected to lead by example, embodying principles of empathy, responsibility, and global citizenship through meaningful service initiatives like QASMT outreach programs (i.e. STEM Scholars, and Young Einsteins).

Eligibility is determined in line with the Enrichment and Leadership Policy, ensuring that participants not only achieve excellence but also make a tangible, positive impact on others. Students are invited into the Honours Program, after the Awards Night, based on the following criteria:

- Students are Magna Cum Laude award recipients.
- Students have demonstrated the highest level of commitment to class work (effort), homework and behaviour.
- Students have demonstrated outstanding academic performance.
- Students must meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the Enrichment and Leadership Policy.
- Students who are selected for involvement in this program also demonstrate the attributes of the IB Learner Profile.