The Daniel and Jason Stevenson Extracurricular Achievement Award

Frequently Asked Questions

Before emailing <u>Jason Stevenson</u> or contacting the HHS Guidance Office, please consult the answers below to see if they can help.

Who is eligible for the Stevenson Award?

All graduating seniors from Hudson High School are eligible for the Stevenson Award.

What constitutes an "extracurricular achievement?

The primary component of the Stevenson Award is an extracurricular intellectual endeavor that **rises significantly above the traditional level and expectation of high school work and activities.** The endeavor should involve a project or achievement accomplished outside of the regular high school curriculum and extracurricular offerings. It must require a serious commitment from the applicant as well as personal initiative, intelligence, and hard work. Participation in regular extracurricular clubs or in activities such as public service are not considered "intellectual endeavors" unless they involve and extraordinary level of personal effort and independent initiative (i.e., starting 'something from nothing').

Previous winning extracurricular endeavors have included:

- Pursuing an independent science project with research at a national laboratory and placement in national science fair competitions
- Writing and directing an original play that was widely published and performed
- Organizing a successful chamber music group that placed in national competitions
- Self-directed political engagement on campaigns, issues, or a significant public lobbying effort at city, state, or national level
- Founding and directing a new community service program serving disadvantaged Ohio communities
- Launched an environmental science project to fund and build a water conservation system at a local municipal park
- Time-intensive training and practice in professional ballet with multiple performances and shows
- Creating and distributing an educational computer program for language arts classes

Note: the completion of a Boy Scout Eagle Project or the Girl Scout Gold Award normally does not constitute an extracurricular achievement for this award because it is done for specifically for another program and is not a unique or self-determined endeavor.

Do you have a list of past recipients of the Stevenson Award?

The award has been given out since 1997. You can download a list of the past recipients of the award in this <u>PDF</u>

Is there a GPA cut-off?

There is no GPA requirement. However, previous winners have generally had above a 3.5 GPA cumulative over their high school career.

Is there an SAT score cut-off?

There is no SAT score requirement. However, previous winners have generally had at least a 1920 (new version) combined SAT score or a 29 ACT score.

What is the deadline for applying for this award?

The Stevenson Award application deadline is **Monday, March 3, 2025.** All materials, including the application, transcript (official or unofficial), and recommendation form(s), must be sent (postmarked) by this date, whether sent by email or regular mail delivery.

Where do I email/mail the teacher/advisor recommendation form(s)?

Completed teacher/advisor recommendation(s) must be submitted electronically to <u>Jason</u> <u>Stevenson</u> (jason-dot-stevenson@gmail.com)

Note: The recommendations must be submitted directly by the teachers/advisors.

Please give teachers/advisors instructions for how they should send their recommendations to this email address, and enough time to complete the process. All of this information is included on the form.

If your teachers/advisors prefer to mail their recommendations, please provide them with a stamped and addressed envelope and give them sufficient time to complete the recommendation before the deadline. They should send the letters to:

Jason Stevenson 1126 E. Michigan Avenue Salt Lake City, UT 84105

Please submit the main application form electronically (by <u>email</u>), if possible.

Where/How do I email/mail the high school transcript?

Complete the **Transcript Request Form** on the <u>Application Forms</u> page and submit it to Mrs. Linda Golden in the High School Guidance Office. Once she receives this request form, Mrs. Golden will email the transcript to the award committee for consideration. You can also contact or <u>email</u> Mrs. Golden for additional instructions.

Where do I submit the award application and supporting materials?

Please email all electronic materials to <u>Jason Stevenson</u> (jason.stevenson-at-gmail.com). For physical materials, mail only those items you do not want returned, to:

Jason Stevenson 1126 E. Michigan Avenue Salt Lake City, UT 84105

If you have additional questions, or would like to use an online file sharing system like DropBox, contact Jason Stevenson via <u>email</u> (jason.stevenson-at-gmail.com)

What constitutes "supporting materials"?

Anything that you believe is crucial for the scholarship committee to understand and judge your extracurricular endeavor. In the past, applicants have submitted DVDs of movies and plays, science papers, musical compositions, and publications. Please do not send one-of-a-kind or valuable materials--only submit copies that you don't need returned to you. If you can't figure out how to submit your supporting materials, contact Jason Stevenson by <u>email</u> and we'll figure out a solution.

Who selects the Stevenson Award winners?

The applications are reviewed by both Daniel and Jason Stevenson. They choose one or more winners based upon the range and quality of applicants.

Does being president of a school club or captain of a sports team constitute "extracurricular achievement"?

No. While leadership in a sports or club activity is an important and valuable accomplishment, it does not meet the "extracurricular achievement" requirements of this award.

Does participating in high school extracurricular activities increase my chances to win this scholarship?

Yes. This award is designed for students who not only pursue a range of high school activities, but also excel in something that is outside the extracurricular offerings of Hudson High School.

Do I have to go to Hudson High School all four years to be eligible for this award?

No. Any graduating senior at Hudson High School is eligible for the Stevenson Award. For example, the first recipient of the Stevenson Award in 1997 spent only his senior year at Hudson High School. Students with backgrounds at other high schools should supply slightly more background information on their activities outside of Hudson.

Do I have to be going to college to be eligible for the Stevenson Award?

The Stevenson Award Scholarship was envisioned to provide financial assistance to collegebound high school seniors. However, students planning to attend the service academies, enter the military, or enroll in specialized design or trade and vocational schools are encouraged to apply as well. The purpose of this award is to provide financial assistance in continuing education.

Is the Stevenson Award for academic performance, extracurricular activities, or demonstrated leadership?

All three. Although the heart of the award is the extracurricular endeavor, a successful applicant will also participate in traditional high school activities and preferably hold leadership positions in these groups or teams.