



ACADEMIC AWARDS HANDBOOK

(Please note: this document is subject to change at any time, depending on sponsorships and criteria)

Updated August, 2025

Awards Criteria

All awards have varying monetary values based on sponsors. Each award consists of a certificate and a monetary value. Unless stated otherwise, the school awarded mark is used for diploma courses.

Marks obtained through ADLC, PBB, Alternate Schools, Special Projects, Work Experience, Green Certificate and RAP courses cannot be considered for local awards at PBHS although, participation in some of these courses is considered.

In the event of a tie for an award other factors will be considered:

- General classroom contribution
- Attendance
- Cooperation and interaction with others in the classroom

All grade 12 students are eligible for academic awards providing that they have a minimum 65% in specific classes. Students are eligible to receive awards that are based on criteria other than academics (e.g. volunteer work, attitude, community involvement etc.) without a minimum mark. Students must attach a copy of an acceptance letter to a post-secondary institution in order to be considered for awards with criteria indicating a post-secondary education.

Special awards are based on set criteria and students are selected by the Staff, the Awards Committee, and in some instances, in conjunction with the sponsor.

Specific criteria for awards are listed at the end of this document
Jr. High (grades 7-9) COURSE & SPECIFIC AWARDS

At Each Grade Level:

Certificates:

- Honours
- Honours with Distinction
- Honours with Great Distinction

Monetary Awards: (as determined by teachers)

- ❖ Top mark in in each of the following – Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, Science
- ❖ Highest Overall Average – (**\$35 - ATA Awards**)
- ❖ Option Awards
- ❖ Citizenship Awards

Special Awards (Grades 7-9 determined by Teachers and Awards Committee)

Koster Family Award (\$25) (ends: -) This award is presented to recognize the achievements made by a Junior High student who has made exemplary progress through considerable determination and efforts in his/her studies.

Mary Nolan Memorial Junior High Award (\$50) (ends: -) These awards are presented to celebrate and recognize the achievements made by two Junior High students who have overcome obstacles or adversities in their studies by demonstrating diligent work habits and a positive attitude.

The Legion Citizenship Award (\$50) (ends: 2085) Sponsored by the Town, This award recognizes a grade 9 student who displays outstanding citizenship, leadership and community service and who also has had a positive impact on our school community.

Daniel Sawa - Wilbur-Ellis Memorial Award (\$50/each grade level) (ends: -) Humanitarian award. Recipients will have demonstrated a willing spirit and positive attitude necessary to attain personal goals while lending a helping hand so that others may also achieve and celebrate success.

Sr. High (Grades 10-12) COURSE & SPECIFIC AWARDS

Certificates:

- Honours
- Honours with Distinction
- Honours with Great Distinction

Monetary Awards: (As determined by teachers)

Highest Overall Average – (\$50 - ATA Awards)

Humanities including:

English 10-1 / 10-2/10-4 Social Studies 10-1 / 10-2/10-4

English 20-1 / 20-2/20-4 Social Studies 20-1 / 20-2/20/4

English 30-1 / 30-2/30-4 Social Studies 30-1 / 30-2/30-4

Math/Sciences including:

Science 10/14/24 Math 10C / 10-3/ 10-4

Biology 20/30 Math 20-1 / 20-2 / 20-3/ 20-4 Chemistry 20/30 Math 30-1

/ 30-2 / 30-3/30-4 Physics 20/30 Math 31

Combined Chemistry + Biology

Health/Physical Education Awards including:

Career and Life Management (CALM 20)

Physical Education 10 / 20 / 30 (Male and Female recipients)

Sports Medicine

Career & Technology (CTS) and Options including:

Construction Foods 10 / 20 / 30

Fabrication Forensics

Mechanics Cosmetology

Trades Award Video / Photography / Photo Shop Mechanics Tool Award Music

Construction Tool Award Art

Grade 12 Academic Awards:

The recipients will be the graduating Grade 12 students who obtain the highest averages in any Grade 12 courses. Averages and eligibility are outlined in the 'Academic Awards Criteria' at the end of this document. The number of awards each year are based on sponsorships available providing students have a minimum average of 65%.

Valedictorian Policy

The Valedictorian is chosen from among the highest achieving academic students in Grade Twelve. To be eligible, the nominees must have completed or be in the process of completing the courses that will qualify them for a High School Diploma. The final blended marks in courses from the Fall semester, and end of Quarter 3 marks in the Spring semester will be used to calculate the academic averages. LA 30-1 is required to be taken into consideration. If courses being compared are of different streams, higher streams will be given a 10% bonus. Only courses taken at Picture Butte High School can be used and the student must complete at least their Grade 11 and Grade 12 years at PBHS to be eligible for this position. The Valedictorian will be the student with the HIGHEST AVERAGE outlined in the 'Rutherford criteria' at the end of this document.

Governor General Award – Selected by the Awards Committee

Bronze Medal and Certificate issued by the Government of Canada.

A BRONZE medal is awarded to the student who achieves the highest average in all grade 12 courses (inc Diploma Exams) upon graduation from a secondary school. Equitability of access for the entire student population is an important aspect of the Medal's value. Regardless of the stream or the subjects chosen, all students are eligible for consideration upon graduation.

Special Awards (Grades 10-12)

Awards not requiring application (Determined by teachers and Awards Committee)

Top Male and Female Academic Athlete Award (\$50) (ends: -) Open to any Grade 10-12 student who has competed in at least two sports. Recipients will be determined based on athletic and academic performance over the course of the year.

Picture Butte “Teen Club” Award (\$50) (ends: -) Open to any Grade 10-12 student who, through his or her activities at PBHS, exhibit notable organizational efforts, dependability, enthusiasm, and willingness to serve their fellow students and school.

Corn Maze Award (Lethbridge Corn Maze) (\$50) (ends: -) Presented to students who are part of the weekly work experience program at the Corn Maze. This award celebrates a hard working young farm labourer who puts in effort and determination.

PBHS Canteen Award (\$25) (ends: -) Presented to students who are part of the weekly work experience program in the Canteen. This award celebrates a student who takes direction and works with a positive attitude.

Barrhill Community Club Award (Dependant upon interest - \$250) (ends: 2036) Open to any student graduating from PBHS and enrolling in a post-secondary program (College, Technical Institute, or University) in a field of endeavour relating to agriculture or domestic sciences (Home economics, Business administration, etc.). Male and female students will be allowed equal opportunity for this scholarship. Split each year when possible.

Mary Nolan Memorial Senior High Award (\$50) (ends; -) These awards are presented to celebrate and recognize the achievements made by two Senior High students who have overcome obstacles or adversities in their studies by demonstrating diligent work habits and a positive attitude.

Gord Bramfield Caring and Citizenship Awards (x2) (\$50) (ends: -) These awards are presented to high school students who have shown to be productive citizens through their contributions to school and community through various programs and initiatives.

Koster Family Award (\$25 Jr/\$50 Sr) (ends: -) This award is presented to recognize the achievements made by a senior high student who has made exemplary progress through considerable determination and efforts in his/her studies.

The Town of Picture Butte Citizenship Award (\$100) (ends: -) Sponsored by the Town, This award recognizes someone who displays outstanding citizenship, leadership and community service and who also has had a positive impact on our school community. This recipient also qualifies for the **Premier’s Citizenship Award** from the province and will receive a plaque the following fall.

Daniel Sawa (Wilbur-Ellis) (\$250 for Grade 12, \$50 for other grades) (ends: -) Humanitarian award. Recipients will have demonstrated a willing spirit and positive attitude necessary to attain personal goals while lending a helping hand so that others may also achieve and celebrate success.

Lil Kubik Memorial Scholarship (The Picture Butte Fish and Game Association) (\$150) (ends: -)

Presented to the PBHS Grade 12 Student who best demonstrates a commitment to the conservation, enhancement, and utilization of outdoor recreational opportunities.

The Bill and Eleanor Vogt Award (\$100) (ends: 2026) Presented on behalf of the Vogt Family and serves to recognize a hardworking student demonstrating interest in the trades program.

Michael Blair Memorial (PBHS Class of 2007) (\$100) (ends: 2026) Jessica Trapp Memorial (PBHS Class of 2007) (\$100) (ends: 2026)

The funds for these awards have been left as a legacy to the school on behalf of the graduating class of 2007 and will be awarded to grade twelve students at the academic awards ceremony until the funds are depleted. The awards shall be in the amounts of \$250.00 each in 2007, and \$100.00 each after 2007.

Michael Blair Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to a grade twelve student who is:

- Pursuing a career in the trades. This student has taken construction, mechanics, welding (not necessarily at the 30 level), has entered into the RAP program in high school **or** completed a work experience in one of the trades
- A good citizen of PBHS and of the community at large.

Jessica Trapp Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to a grade twelve student who:

- Has demonstrated an interest and/or talent in the arts. This student has taken one of the high school courses in art, drama, or music (not necessarily at the 30 level) **or** has demonstrated and shared their talents with the school population and/or community at large
- Is a good citizen of PBHS and of the community at large

Candace Wolodchenko Memorial Scholarship (PBHS Class of 2009) (\$100) (ends: 2029) The funds for this award have been left as a legacy to the school on behalf of the graduating class of 2009 and will be awarded to a grade twelve student at the academic awards ceremony until the funds are depleted. The awards shall be in the amounts of \$250.00 in 2009, and \$100.00 after 2009.

Awarded to a grade twelve student who:

- has persevered through a hardship of some kind, whether medical, physical, emotional, or personal, to successfully complete his/her high school education
- has enrolled, or plans to enroll, in a post-secondary institution to further his/her education

- is a good citizen of PBHS and of the community at large.

Chelsey West Memorial Award (\$500) (ends: -) This award is presented in memory of Chelsey West, valedictorian of the 2003 PBHS graduating class. Chelsey was a member of the RCMP and killed during active duty in 2010. The recipient of this award will meet the following criteria:

- Strong academically, especially with regards to Math and Science, although not necessarily the top academic in these classes.
- Is involved with or has plans to be involved with emergency response services, including, but not limited to, fire department, EMS, RCMP, criminal justice, and nursing or medicine.
- Is an individual with aspirations of giving back to the community through service (i.e. volunteer, coaching, EMS, etc)
- Is an individual who is known for their compassion when dealing with all people.

Picture Butte and District Agricultural Society Scholarship (\$1000) (ends: -) To be presented to students who are continuing their education in the field of agriculture. Award is not to be presented if there are no students who qualify.

Breanna Steele Social Justice Award (\$ 150) (Ends 2025)

Given to a student who is a staunch advocate of human rights, particularly related to Indigenous, disadvantaged, at risk, LGBTQ2S+ and racialized students. This student typically stands up for the rights of others and participates in or organizes activities and events related to these groups and is interested in continuing this work throughout his/her school career.

Ethan Chief Moon Memorial Award (\$ 100) (Ends: 2027) Given to an Indigenous student or a racialized student who has experienced prejudice or discrimination and has persevered through it to achieve success in school. This student is engaged in their learning and persists through difficult times and situations with a positive outlook and a sense of humour.

Happy Old Timer's Bursary – health care related

See the School Academic advisor for details. Must be applied for.

LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE

You can apply for admission at any time during the year. It is a good idea to begin the application process early. Admission requirements are program-specific, so be sure to check the Lethbridge College website at www.lethbridgecollege.ca for admission requirements to your program.

The application for scholarships and awards opens annually online on March 1st. The deadline to apply for scholarships and awards is May 1st.

UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE

You can apply for admission at any time during the year. It is recommended to submit your application for admission by December 15th as you will automatically be considered for the Board of Governors' Award. Admission requirements include English 30-1, three other five-credit academic courses at the 30-level (does not include Social 30-2), and a fifth course which also must be five credits at the 30-level. Some programs will have additional requirements, so be sure to check the University of Lethbridge website at www.uleth.ca for complete admission details.

The application for scholarships and awards is available online by the end of January each year. Entrance awards include Leadership Awards and High School Applicant Awards. The deadline for Leadership Awards is March 15th. The deadline for High School Applicant Awards is March 15th for Fall entrance and November 15th for Spring entrance.

There are other sites available for scholarships as well:

www.studentawards.com

www.campusaccess.com

www.pallisersd.ab.ca

www.scholarshipscanada.com

PBHS Academic Awards Criteria (update 2019)

Junior High Honour Awards

- Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science, and
- Highest two (2) other marks
 - Health and Phys Ed are blended
 - All options

Senior High Honour Awards

GRADE 10

- One of: English 10-1, 10-2, 10-4 and
- Two of the following:
 - Mathematics 10C, Mathematics 10-3, or 10-4
 - Science 10, 14, 10-4
 - Social Studies 10-1, 10-2, 10-4
 - A language at the Grade 10 level (1000 series), and
- Two courses with a minimum three credit value at the Grade 10 level (1000 or 4000 series) including those listed above and combined introductory C.T.S. courses.

GRADE 11

- One of: English 20-1, 20-2, 20-4, and
- Two of the following:
 - Math 20-1 20-2, 20-3, or 20-4
 - Science 24, 20-4
 - Biology 20
 - Chemistry 20
 - Physics 20
 - Social Studies 20-1, 20-2, 20-4
 - A language at the Grade 11 level (2000 series), and
- Two courses with a minimum three credit value at the Grade 11 level (2000 or 5000 series) including those listed above and combined intermediate C.T.S. courses.

Honour Awards will have the following three levels: Honours (80% or above and less than 85%)

Honours with Distinction (85% or above and less than 90%)

Honours with Great Distinction (90% and above)

NOTES:

- A course cannot be repeated after a higher level course has been taken in the same series.
- Eligibility is restricted to grades obtained while at Picture Butte High School.
- Averages are not rounded up for scholarship purposes.
- Driver Education, Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP), Green Certificate, and Special Projects will not be used when calculating a student's average.
- Regarding CALM, this course can be taken in any grade but the final mark will be calculated in Grade 11.

GRADE 12

- One of: English 30-1, 30-2, and
- Two of the following:
 - Mathematics 30-1 or Mathematics 30-2
 - Mathematics 31
 - Science 30
 - Biology 30
 - Chemistry 30
 - Physics 30
 - Social Studies 30-1, 30-2, or 30-4
 - Any one language at the Grade 12 level (3000 series).
- Two courses with a minimum five credit value at the Grade 12 level (3000 or 6000 series) including those listed above and combined advanced C.T.S. courses.

C.T.S. Courses:

Three one credit modules can be combined and used as an option at the Grade 10 and/or Grade 11 level. Five one credit modules can be combined and used as an option at the Grade 12 level. To be combined:

- all courses must be from the same level i.e. Introductory, Intermediate or Advanced,
- courses can be from different streams or subject areas, i.e. computer courses with welding courses, and
- marks will be averaged.

Senior High Subject Awards

These awards recognize the student who received the highest grade in each of the given

courses. • Students will be eligible for subject awards (regardless of grade) if

- they completed the course in the current school year.
- they completed the course at Picture Butte High School, including distance education courses registered and monitored through Picture Butte High School.

• For CTS course:

- Three one credit modules can be combined and used as an option at the Grade 10 and/or Grade 11 level.
- Five one credit modules can be combined and used as an option at the Grade 12 level. To be combined: ■ All courses must be from the same strand, but can be at different levels. Preference will be given to students with credits all at the same level and
 - marks will be averaged.

Only teacher awarded marks will be used. Blended marks (teacher awarded + Provincial Exam) will **not** be used. If more than one award is available to be presented more than one student will be awarded the awards. When more than one student is tied for an award and only one award is available to be presented the money will be split equally and all tied individuals will be given an award.

Grade 12 Academic Awards

These awards recognize the top students enrolled in the current grade 12 class.

- The sponsors' criteria will be used to assign awards to students.
- When no sponsor criteria are given, awards will be assigned to students at the discretion of the awards committee.
- The awards committee will be guided by the principle of equitable distribution while maintaining a focus on high academic achievement when distributing these awards.
- These awards will be distributed as follows:
- In a case where **15 or more** students have averages higher than 80%;
 - the five students with the highest averages will receive 3 awards.
 - the five students with the next highest averages will receive 2 awards.
 - the five students with the next highest averages will receive 1 awards.
 - Any additional students with averages higher than 80% will receive 1 award.
- In a case where there are **less than 15** students with averages higher than 80%;
 - At the discretion of the awards committee, the "cut-off" point for awards may be lowered.
 - The awards will be divided in the same spirit as above.
- In a case where a single student has received a large number of awards and the committee feels that the second place student is equally deserving of recognition, the committee will use their discretion to distribute the awards in an equitable manner.

These awards will be calculated using the same criteria as the grade 12 honour awards:

- One of: English 30-1, 30-2, 30-4 and
- At least two of the following:
 - Mathematics 30-1, Mathematics 30-2, Mathematics 31, Science 30, Biology 30, Chemistry 30, Physics 30, Social Studies 30-1, Social Studies 30-2, Any **one** language at the Grade 12 level (3000 series).
- Two courses with a minimum five credit value at the Grade 12 level (3000 or 6000 series) including those listed above and combined advanced C.T.S. courses. (See notes in honour awards criteria)

Special Awards

- The sponsors' criteria will be used to assign awards to students.
- Where the sponsor criteria are not enough direction to select a single recipient, the staff will be surveyed for worthy nominees. Class lists and award criteria will be distributed to the staff one week prior to the voting date. No nominations will be accepted after the awards meeting begins.
- In the case of students applying for awards, must have their application submitted to the awards committee by the 1st of June. If a suitable pool of candidates has not applied, the awards committee may extend the deadline by 1 week.

Highest Average (Junior High)

These awards will recognize the students with the highest average based on the honour award calculations. • In each grade, the top student will be recognized.

Highest Average (Senior High)

These awards will recognize the students with the highest average based on the honour award calculations. • In each grade, the top student will be recognized in both the academic and general streams. ○ A **general** student is defined as a student that is taking one or more core classes (English, Math, or Social Studies) at the -2/-4.

- An **academic** student is defined as a student that is **not** taking any of the core classes (Biology, Chemistry, English, Math, Physics, or Social Studies) at the -2/-4.

Honour Roll

The honour roll maintained at each reporting period is separate from the year end honour awards. The honour roll will be calculated using a weighted average (for senior high, a minimum of ten credits are required, and must include one core course.). As well, any student receiving 80% or above in any course will be recognized alongside the honour roll using an achievement list.