



Civics & Law Honor Roll Guidelines

What is the Civics & Law Honor Roll?

The Civics & Law Honor Roll recognizes secondary school students from throughout the United States who have demonstrated a commitment to civic learning and engagement. Created by the American Bar Association Commission on Civic Education in the Nation's Schools, its purpose is to create enthusiasm for and reward academic and community volunteer achievements in civic education and engagement. Students selected for the Honor Roll receive signed certificates of achievement and a pocket edition of the US Constitution/Declaration of Independence.

Who sponsors the Civics & Law Honor Roll program?

The Law, Youth and Citizenship (LYC) Committee of the New York State Bar Association is a sponsoring organization for New York State.

What is the selection process?

LYC will recognize students for the Civics & Law Honor Roll in accordance with selection criteria recommended by the American Bar Association. The opportunity is open to students in public and private high schools and local organizations, including, but not limited to, Boy and Girl Scouts, YMCAs, YWCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, home schools, as well as other judicial, legal, civic, or educational organizations.

What are recommended criteria for selection?

To be eligible for recognition, students should fulfill at least *one* qualification within each of the *two* categories below:

1. Scholarship in Civic Education

- Excel with a B or higher grade average in one or more high school courses in civic education, including civics, government, history or law.
- Participate in a civics and law academy.

2. Engagement in Community Citizenship Activities

Devote a minimum of six hours to one of the qualifying activities below. In addition to participating in activities, students should engage in a relevant follow-up action step, such as addressing a public policy issue before an appropriate government body, writing a letter to the editor, using social media to comment on the activity or disseminate information, or engaging in a debriefing exercise.

- Participate in a volunteer civic or community activity that promotes the rights, duties and obligations of good citizenship.
- Attend and participate in a city or town council or school board meeting, or serve as a volunteer at a legislative session.
- Attend a municipal, county, or state court trial or proceeding.
- Volunteer in a candidate's election campaign for public office.

Application Procedures:

Application is on a rolling basis. Teachers/administrators may submit student names they certify as eligible, according to the posted criteria above, for certificates and Constitutions. Names may be submitted by email from official school email accounts. Please include student name as it will appear on certificate, their grade level, and the school contact/address to which the certificates and pocket Constitutions should be sent.

Nominations should be sent to lyc@nysba.org