



## GRADUATING SENIORS PROGRAM

The Graduating Seniors Program was developed to recognize the achievements of those individuals graduating from high school who have made the commitment to continue their training in figure skating while pursuing their academic studies.

The purpose of this program is to honor and credit those qualified graduates for their achievements during their high school years through the presentation of a certificate to the skater during a school function or recognition opportunity.

To further applaud the achievements of the individuals awarded, U.S. Figure Skating will publish the names of the recipients on both the U.S. Figure Skating Graduating Seniors Program webpage, as well as in SKATING magazine.

The Graduating Seniors program was reintroduced in 2011, with the goal of encompassing a greater spectrum of athletes deserving of this honor. Recognition is proudly awarded on behalf of the Program Development Committee of U.S. Figure Skating to those high school graduates who meet the necessary application criteria.

In late spring following the application deadline and review process by U.S. Figure Skating, the Graduating Seniors certificates and award materials will be mailed directly to the applicant's house. At the same time, an e-mail describing the award and distinction will be sent to the listed point of contact at the athlete's school. Once the student receives his/her award materials, they are encouraged to take them to their point of contact at their school so that the award may be presented to him/her at an appropriate school function.

To be considered for this award, applicants must complete an online application by **midnight MST on March 15**. The application is available on U.S. Figure Skating's website on the "Graduating Seniors Page" on the "Programs" menu dropdown.

The Graduating Seniors Program consists of four level designations awarded within the program. Certificates will be awarded to individuals based upon their highest skating achievement (test or completion) **during high school** as noted on their application.

Questions regarding this program can be directed to Sarah Arnold, School & Alumni Programs Manager, at [sarnold@usfigureskating.org](mailto:sarnold@usfigureskating.org)



## GRADUATING SENIORS PROGRAM CERTIFICATE LEVEL CRITERIA

### PLATINUM LEVEL

International competitor in singles, pairs, ice dancing, synchronized skating.  
U.S. Championships or U.S. Pairs/Dance Final competitor in singles, pairs, ice dancing at the novice, junior, or senior levels.

National High Performance Development Team member at the novice level.  
U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships competitor at the novice, junior, senior levels.

### GOLD LEVEL

U.S. Pairs/Dance Final competitor or U.S. Championships in singles, pairs or ice dancing at the juvenile or intermediate level.

National High Performance Development Team member at the juvenile or intermediate level.

Sectional Singles Final competitor at the novice level or above.  
U.S. Synchronized Championships competitor at the intermediate level.  
Gold medalist in free skate, pairs, ice dancing and/or moves in the field.

### SILVER LEVEL

Nation's Cup, Nations Cup Ballet on Ice Interclub Competition Theatre On Ice competitor  
National Solo Dance Series Final competitor  
Excel Series Final competitor (Plus levels or Novice and above)

Sectional competitor in pairs, ice dancing, synchronized skating at the intermediate level or above  
Regional challenge competitor  
Dance tests passed at the silver through pre-gold levels  
Free skate, pairs, moves-in-the-field tests passed at the juvenile through junior levels

### BRONZE LEVEL

National Showcase competitor  
National Theatre On Ice competitor  
Dance tests passed at the preliminary through pre-silver levels  
Free skate, pairs, moves-in-the-field tests passed at the pre-preliminary through pre-juvenile levels

*Awards are determined based on the athlete's accomplishments during high school. Tests, competitions, and other events prior to high school are not considered, in keeping with the goal of the program to recognize skater's continued hard work and commitment during high school. Skaters need only meet one of the criteria for any given level; they do not need to meet them all.*

### Timeline for Applications

College Application Award applications are due by **October 3**. This deadline is for applicants wishing to list the award on college applications. Applicants will receive email notification of their award by mid-October, and will receive award materials in the spring.

General applications are due by **March 15**. Skaters will be notified of their award in late spring, and awards will be sent to the skater for presentation at graduation, senior awards night, or other school ceremony.

**No applications will be accepted after March 15.**