| **(State Seal of Civic Engagement) Student Verification Form** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Candidate Name (or Class/Teacher Name) | | School/District | | Date | |
| Email or Phone # | | | | | Grade Level |

On September 10, 2020, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted criteria and guidance to award a State Seal of Civic Engagement (SSCE) to California students who demonstrate excellence in civics education and participation, and an understanding of the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, and the democratic system of government. By adopting these criteria, California joined a small but growing number of states that formally recognize and promote student civic engagement with seals to affix to student transcripts, diplomas, or certificates of completion.

Applicants must have this form signed by an administrator/ counselor and submitted to the [Application](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfv0_25lDGG9oUO0kN3z3_oGKd4Lf_8SOPIXkdyXZXbYPRIQQ/viewform?usp=sf_link) by **April 25, 2025. Visit the** [**KCSOS State Seal of Civic Engagement Website**](https://sites.google.com/kern.org/state-seal-of-civic-engagement/kcsos-criteriarequirements) **for more information.**

If you, the administrator, have any questions or concerns, contact:Zack Safi, Coordinator III- Equity & Inclusion by email [zasafi@kern.org](mailto:zasafi@kern.org) or call (661) 636-4240.*\* (If submitting one form for many students, please attach a list of all students.)*

| **Evidence** | | |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mark the appropriate column that best describes this candidate's skills and abilities. | | |  |  |
| **All sections 1-5 to be verified by school personnel. Students can use this form on the application as evidence of meeting criteria 1 and 2. All other sections (3-5) require evidence in the form of attachments or links.** | **Yes** | **No** | **In Progress/Expected to Complete** | **Initial** |
| 1. Be engaged in academic work in a productive way | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |  |
| 2. Demonstrate a competent understanding of United States and California constitutions; functions and governance of local governments; tribal government structures and organizations; the role of the citizen in a constitutional democracy; and democratic principles, concepts, and processes; | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |  |
| 3. Participate in one or more informed civic engagement project(s) that address real-world problems and require students to identify and inquire into civic needs or problems, consider varied responses, take action, and reflect on efforts; | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |  |
| 4. Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions through self-reflection; and | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |  |
| 5.Exhibit character traits that reflect civic-mindedness and a commitment to positively impact the classroom, school, community and/or society. | ☐ | ☐ | ☐ |  |

☐ Yes, I do recommend this student for the State Seal of Civic Engagement.

☐ Yes, I do recommend this class/group of students for the State Seal of Civic Engagement. (attach list)

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***School Personnel Signature* /Position/ Email** ***Date***

**KCSOS- State Seal of Civic Engagement Requirements**

\*Students must meet all 5 criteria with submitted evidence on the application by March 1st.

| **Criteria** | **Examples** |
| --- | --- |
| 1) Be engaged in academic work in a productive way | **Option 1:** I'm on track for graduation OR  **Option 2:** I'm submitting a letter of recommendation from a current or recent educator |
| 2.) Demonstrate a competent understanding of United States and California constitutions; functions and governance of local governments; tribal government structures and organizations; the role of the citizen in a constitutional democracy | **Option 1:** These content standards are incorporated within a district’s 12th grade Government class. Students who successfully pass their 12th grade Government course with a C or better will meet Criteria 2.  **Option 2:** An equivalent course such as dual enrollment or AP Government with a C or better |
| 3.) Participate in one or more informed civic engagement project(s) that address real-world problems and require students to identify and inquire into civic needs or problems, consider varied responses, take action, and reflect on efforts; | There are a variety of ways to complete a civic engagement project including, but not limited to direct service (volunteering), advocacy (trying to influence decisions at the local, state or Federal level or change policy), education (raising awareness about a pressing issue or training others to implement a solution), and innovation (developing a unique solution to a persistent problem). OR  **\*** Successful completion of a student program such as We the People, Leaders in Life, Mock Trial, SWAT, etc meets criteria 1,3, & 5. |
| 4.) Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions through self-reflection; and | Produce a written (500 words max), digital (5 slides), audio 2-3 mins), or video (2-3 mins) recorded reflection addressing the following questions:  1.) What were the biggest challenges & successes you encountered in your project - why?  2.) How did your action(s) demonstrate the role of the citizen in a democracy?  3.) What did you learn most from the experience?  4.) How would you improve or enhance your civic actions if you had the chance to do it again? |
| 5.) Exhibit character traits that reflect civic-mindedness and a commitment to positively impact the classroom, school, community and/or society. | An ink-signed letter of recommendation from counselor/teacher, community member, or mentor who has observed or supported your civic work. **\*** Successful completion of a student program such as We the People, etc. meets criteria 1, 3, & 5. |

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