

## How you can become part of the Global Scholars Program

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1. Contact your school's Global Scholar Advisor to apply to participate in the Global Scholars Program.
2. Each year that you are in high school, complete approximately one fourth of the Global Scholars requirements and submit documentation to the Global Scholars Advisor.
3. In March of your senior year, verify with the Global Scholars Advisor that you have completed all of the requirements and apply for your Global Scholars certificate, seal, and/or graduation cord.
4. Your school's Global Scholars Advisor is:  

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# Global Scholars Program

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*Administered in  
Pennsylvania High Schools  
in affiliation with the  
Pennsylvania State Modern  
Language Association (PSMLA)  
[www.psmla.org](http://www.psmla.org)*



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Association (PSMLA)**  
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## What is a Global Scholars Program?

A Global Scholars Program provides the opportunity all high school students to

- meaningfully select interdisciplinary studies and activities
- that will lead them to develop global awareness or competency and
- better prepare themselves for personal and professional success in an increasingly global society.

While many Global Scholars Programs exist on the university level, there are currently relatively few such programs for high school students. PSMLA would like to assist high schools in Pennsylvania

- to establish Global Scholars Programs in their schools,
- utilizing existing curricula (no new courses are necessary),
- encouraging students and faculty to focus on the global aspects of the existing curricula, and subsequently,
- honoring students for their success in committing to and completing global studies.

After completing all of the criteria, the students would be honored with one or more of the following:

1. Global Scholars Certificate
2. Global Scholars Seal on the diploma
3. Global Scholars Honor Cord to wear at graduation

The Global Scholars Program is inclusive of all students. It is different from and may work in concert with other programs such as an International Baccalaureate Programme or Biliteracy Seal.

The Global Scholars Program is intended to be adapted to individual schools' curricula and is able to be implemented at little or no cost to the school.

## What must a student do to earn a Global Scholars designation?

During grades 9-12, the following 4 components, each of which has a global focus, must be achieved and approved:

- 1. Academic courses - successful completion of the following (average grade of B or better):**
  - 4 years of the same world language and
  - 4 additional credits toward graduation that are already part of the school's course of study and for which a primary component is global in nature
- 2. Active participation as confirmed by a sponsor in extra-curricular activities (minimum of 4) such as:**
  - World Language or Cultural Club
  - World Language Honor Society
  - School-sponsored field trips or activities that explore global aspects (international restaurant, involvement in a play or musical production that is international in nature, Pitt Nationality Rooms, foreign film, foreign travel, etc.)
  - Other community activity that includes a global component, is verified by the adult in the community in charge, and accepted by the school's criteria including mission trips abroad, foreign travel, etc .
- 3. Service (20 hours), such as:**
  - Tutoring in the target language
  - Volunteering to teach a world language to elementary or middle school students
  - Working with a middle school or elementary world language activity
  - An approved original project
- 4. Literature/media review (minimum of 8, at least 4 of which are books)**
  - Approved and reviewed by a school's Global Scholar mentor/designee/advisor
  - Reviews are in a consistent format which are standards-based and reflect higher-level thinking skills.

## Why participate in a Global Scholars Program?

- Students will enhance their chances of
  - employment (since nearly all enterprises have global interests).
  - being accepted to university and other post-secondary programs.
  - professional and personal success in the global community and marketplace.
- To prepare today's students for "an increasingly pluralistic and interdependent world, global education in K-12 schooling is essential" ([www.joci.ecu.edu/index.php/JoCI/article/download/12/18](http://www.joci.ecu.edu/index.php/JoCI/article/download/12/18)).
- "America's STEM industries depend on the language enterprise: The work of traditional STEM businesses is now inevitably global; advances hardly occur in one country or market. Multilingual communication is intrinsic to today's scientific collaboration and progress, which means the language industry is fundamental to furthering every aspect of STEM professions and business." (<http://languagepolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/LSTEM.pdf>)
- To gain "a conceptual understanding of global and cultural perspectives with social, political, economic, cultural and environmental components. Global awareness is key to the understanding of commonalities and differences among people" (<http://www.ask.com/science/meaning-global-awareness-6fd3fe64a10279a5>).
- Every child in the U.S. needs 21st century knowledge and skills to succeed as effective citizens, workers and leaders. This can be accomplished by fusing the 3Rs and 4Cs. The 3Rs include: English, reading or language arts; mathematics; science; **foreign languages; civics; government; economics**; arts; history; and geography. (<http://www.p21.org/about-us/our-mission>)

