

**SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE****SUBJECT: Academic Honors and Awards****EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2000; Revised: March 14, 2013**

Southwest Tennessee Community College is dedicated to excellence in teaching and learning. To promote excellence among its students, the college has established a number of academic honors and awards recognizing those who have distinguished themselves by outstanding academic achievement.

**A. Dean's List**

At the end of each term, a Dean's List is compiled recognizing those students who have distinguished themselves by an outstanding record of academic achievement for the semester just ended. To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must have completed at least 12 credit hours of college-level courses during the term and earned a GPA of 3.00 or higher with no grade of "F". This accomplishment will be noted on their permanent academic record.

**B. Commencement Academic Honors**

Academic Honors are bestowed on students at graduation who earn the associates degree, in recognition of outstanding academic performance. Three levels of distinction are recognized: Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, and Cum Laude. In order to graduate with the distinction of Summa Cum Laude, the student must have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.90 to 4.00. The degree is conferred Magna Cum Laude on students who have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.60 to 3.89. Finally, students who earn a cumulative GPA of 3.35 to 3.59 are graduated Cum Laude. Academic honors are engraved on the recipient's diploma, noted in the commencement program, and posted on the student's permanent academic record.

**C. Honors Societies**

Honors societies are national organizations dedicated to the promotion of excellence in academic pursuits, leadership development, and service to the community. In support of these endeavors, Southwest Tennessee Community College maintains an active chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. The chapter requires that students have a 3.5 cumulative grade point average or at least 12 hours to be eligible for induction, have demonstrated leadership ability, and have a record of service to community and neighbors. A student must maintain a GPA of 3.25 to maintain membership.

Southwest Tennessee Community College also maintains an active chapter of Alpha Beta Gamma. The Chapter (Chi Epsilon) requires that students be enrolled full-time, in a business major, or if a part-time student, have completed 15 credit hours. At least 12 hours of the student's work must be courses leading to a business degree. In addition, the student must also be of good moral character, shall possess recognized qualities of citizenship and shall have established academic excellence of a 3.0 GPA or its equivalent in business courses as well as a 3.0 over-all average.

#### D. Honors Program

The College maintains an active Honors Program. Special courses and activities are developed for advanced students. Students who would like to participate in the Honors Program may contact the Director and make application. There are three categories of admission to the honors program: continuing students, part-time students, and graduating high school seniors. All participants must have a 3.00 cumulative GPA. Continuing students must have completed all developmental studies requirements. Part-time students in addition to having completed developmental studies requirements must have completed at least 12 college-level credit hours of study. High school students must have an ACT of 21 or better. All high school valedictorians and salutatorians are eligible to participate in the Honors Program.

To graduate with Honors, a student must complete a minimum of 15 hours with Honors credit, including HONR1110-

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