



ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



The IHSA governs the equitable participation in interscholastic athletics and activities that enrich the educational experience.

To Principal/Official Representative Addressed:

This year's IHSA All-State Academic Team nomination forms can be found online in the School Center in mid-December. This will be the 33rd year the IHSA has named an All-State Academic Team. Since the program's inception, over \$650,000 in scholarship money has been awarded to outstanding seniors from IHSA member schools.

Each school may nominate one female **and** one male student. Each student nominated with a fully completed application and all required pieces received on time; will receive a Certificate of Nomination. **All nomination forms must be completed and received in the IHSA office on or before February 13, 2026.** To be eligible for nomination a student must meet the following criteria:

1. *The student must have a minimum GPA of 3.50 on a 4.0 scale after the 7th semester.*
2. *The student must have participated in at least two IHSA sponsored activities during each of the last two years.*
3. *The student must have demonstrated outstanding citizenship during her/his high school career.*
4. *If selected the student must be willing to travel to Bloomington for an interview (typically held during the last two weeks of March)*

As stated above the nomination forms will be found through the IHSA website (www.ihsa.org) in School Center or under Resources on the public side. The forms are interactive, meaning that the students can type directly on to them; however, they cannot be saved, so the student will have to know what they are typing before they get the forms. The forms can also be downloaded and emailed to the selected students but again the students would not be able to save the typed information. Since the file cannot be saved, I would advise that the information be printed as soon as completed.

Submit the completed application with the principal or athletic director's signature along with the student's essay, transcripts (include 7th semester grades), ACT/SAT score and two (2) letters of recommendation to the IHSA either by mailing to the address below, faxing (309)663-7479 or emailing to Brock Hopp at bhopp@ihsa.org. **Submit one copy only.** Please address the envelope as follows:

Illinois High School Association
c/o All-State Academic Team
2715 McGraw Drive
Bloomington, IL 61704

The IHSA will not contact schools if pieces of the application are missing. Please send all documents together.

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PLAY SMART. PLAY HARD.®

The nominations will be evaluated by a committee made up of IHSA principals, representatives of the Illinois Activities Directors Association, and representatives of the Illinois Athletic Directors Association. The committee will evaluate each nomination based on the following information:

1. *Official transcripts (includes 7th semester grades) with ACT label denoting composite score.*
2. *Principal's signature or Athletic Director's signature.*
3. *The student's academic performance.*
4. *The student's IHSA activity participation record.*
5. *An essay submitted by the nominee.*
6. *Two letters of recommendation submitted by school officials (principal, coach, teacher, sponsor, etc.).*
7. *Additional involvement in school and community activities.*

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered, and students will not receive a certificate of recognition.

On Sunday, April 12, 2026, an awards dinner, be held for the twenty-six students selected to the IHSA All-State Academic Team. At the awards dinner, each All-State Academic Team member will be honored. All-State Academic Team members may bring two guests to the awards dinner, as well as two official representatives from their school. Those attending the dinner will be guests of the IHSA. Additional tickets may be purchased through the IHSA Office by contacting Brock Hopp at 309-663-6377.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the IHSA office. We encourage you to nominate two students from your school for this prestigious award. Regardless of the final outcome, the nomination itself is quite an honor.

Sincerely,



Stacey Lambert
Assistant Executive Director