



## Distinguished Scholar Diploma – an overview

The Distinguished Scholar Diploma is a diploma that goes above and beyond the traditional diploma that is earned at Peoria Christian High School. While the traditional diploma offers a solid direction to the college and/or career-oriented student, the Distinguished Scholar Diploma (DSD) will allow the student to systematically take rigorous courses that set the stage for a great academic start for college. The DSD will also give students the opportunity to give back to the community through extended service hours and enhance their leadership skills by taking the “Introduction to Life Calling” course.

*A minimum GPA of 3.7 is required to apply and must be maintained throughout high school. If students meet the GPA & academic course study requirements, they will be invited to join DSD during the spring semester of their sophomore year.*

**The academic requirements for earning the DSD are taking the following courses beyond the traditional graduation requirements:**

### Science

Honors Chemistry *and* Honors Physics, AP Chemistry or AP Biology

### Math

Accelerated Algebra II *and* Honors Pre-Calculus

### English

Honors English 11

### Additional requirements

- Fine Arts/Foreign Language: at least 6 semesters
- AP Courses: at least 2
- Online Course: 1 semester\*\*
- Life Calling Leadership course (There is a \$75 fee for this course. There is an additional \$125 if the student wishes to earn 3 college credit hours through Ohio Christian University)
- PSAT/NMSQT - taken in fall of junior year.

*\*\*a student may choose what class/online institution he/she wants to use for the online class requirement. Upon completion of the class, a transcript or course completion report must be submitted for verification. The class will be recorded on the student's PCS transcript, but the class will not count towards GPA or graduation requirements, unless the class taken is an ICC Dual Credit Course.*

### Additional Service Hours Requirement - 60 total

30 hours for junior year\*

30 hours for senior year\*

*\*These hours must be served in our local community and must be completed at a single location per school year (the location does not have to be the same for junior and senior year). Church service activities do not apply. It is recommended that all DSD service hours are completed during the summer prior to the school year.*