

ACADEMIC MERIT AWARDS POLICY

Policy Category	Academic		
Document Owner	Dean		
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References and Legislation	Tertiary Education Quality and Standards (TEQSA) Act 2011 (Cth); Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2015; Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (Cth); Education Services for Overseas Students Regulations 2001; The National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 (National Code 2018); and the Higher Education Support Act 2003 (Cth).		
Related Documents	Award of Grades Policy		
Version	Change description	Approved	Effective Date
1.1	Previous version “Recognising Academic Excellence Guidelines”	Academic Board 21 June 2016	21 June 2016
2.0	Recognising Academic Excellence Guidelines review and updated to become a policy.	Academic Board 16 August 2018	30 August 2018
2.1	Amending the GPA requirement for APIC Medal to 6.5	Academic Board 16 August 2018	30 August 2018

1. Purpose

This policy describes the awards and prizes for student academic excellence at the Asia Pacific International College (APIC)

Scope

This policy applies to all award courses offered by the College.

2. Definitions

Item	Definition
<i>Award course</i>	A course leading to a qualification that is granted or conferred by the College.
<i>Course</i>	A structured sequence of study leading to the award of an AQF recognised higher education award.
<i>Unit</i>	A component of an award course with specified assessment requirements for which a final grade is awarded upon completion.
<i>Grade Point Average</i>	The average result of all the grades achieved throughout a degree. The GPA is calculated on a 7-point grading scale where grades 5 to 7 are equivalent to graded pass grades of credit, distinction and high distinction respectively.

3. Awards and Prizes

Nominees for APIC academic excellence awards and prizes are recommended by the Board of Examiners and approved by the Academic Board.

For the purposes of determining awards and prizes, the measure of ‘academic excellence’ is the Grade Point Average (see Award of Grades Policy).

Students may be eligible for multiple awards and prizes subject to their meeting the relevant criteria for each award and/or prize as specified below.

3.1 APIC Scholars

APIC Scholars are graduands who have achieved a GPA of ≥ 6.5 during their studies in an APIC undergraduate bachelor degree or an APIC master coursework qualification and are identified from the list of graduands each study period.

To be eligible to graduate as an APIC scholar the graduand must:

- be a graduand of either
 - an APIC undergraduate bachelor degree
 - an APIC postgraduate coursework degree;
- have completed a minimum of 50% of the units required for the qualification from which they are eligible to graduate at APIC; and
- have achieved a Grade Point Average of at least 6.5 across all units of study completed at APIC.

APIC Scholars recipients receive a signed certificate and a pre-paid credit card to the value of \$300 in recognition of their achievement.

3.2 APIC Medal

The APIC Medal is awarded to the graduand who (a) has a GPA of at least 6.5; and (b) has the highest average GPA in their graduating cohort.

To be eligible to graduate as an APIC Medallist the graduand must:

- be a graduand of either
 - an APIC undergraduate bachelor degree
 - an APIC postgraduate coursework degree;
- have achieved a GPA of ≥ 6.5 ; and
- have achieved the highest average GPA in their graduating cohort.

APIC Medal recipients will each receive a medal and a pre-paid credit card to the value of \$500 in recognition of their achievement.

3.3 Academic Merit List

The Academic Merit list recognises academic excellence among undergraduate students in their first or second year of study at APIC. The list is announced once annually.

To be eligible for recognition on the Academic Merit list a student must:

- be enrolled in an APIC undergraduate bachelor degree of at least three years duration;
- have a course progression status of *Satisfactory* (i.e., have no academic or non-academic warnings or penalties);
- have completed a full-time load (at least eight units) at APIC during the year for which the Academic Merit list is being recognised and;
- have achieved an average GPA for the best eight units completed in the year that is in the Distinction range or above ($\text{GPA} \geq 6$).

Academic Merit list recipients each receive a signed certificate and a book voucher to the value of \$100 in recognition of their achievement. The Academic Merit list is announced at the first Academic Board meeting of the following year.