



## OUTSTANDING GRADUATE HONOR FACT SHEET

The Outstanding Graduate honor is a district academic competition for students enrolled in associate degree programs at MATC. The program is intended to recognize and reward students for not only their academic excellence, but also their professionalism and leadership, both in the classroom and in the community.

The Scholastic Recognition Committee, in conjunction with the Office of the Registrar, coordinates and conducts this semi-annual recognition held each fall and spring prior to graduation.

To be considered for the Outstanding Graduate honors, a student must fulfill the following eligibility requirements. He/she must:

- not have been chosen for another MATC sponsored honors award
- be enrolled in an associate degree program
- be eligible to graduate from that program during the same semester he/she is being considered, with a 3.5 or better cumulative grade-point average (honors graduate) and has applied for graduation
- have been nominated to receive a Lamp of Knowledge award
- have submitted an “Outstanding Graduate Application/Profile Form and Essay” by the special application deadline and
- if selected as a finalist, be willing to participate in a personal interview before a district interview committee.

Lamp of Knowledge or other special recognition award nominees who meet the eligibility requirements will be offered the opportunity to compete for the Outstanding Graduate honor. Nominees who choose to participate will be evaluated through interview, application/profile and essay, and grade-point average. The name of the district associate degree Outstanding Graduate winner will be announced at the Honors Award Ceremony held in December for fall graduates, and May for spring and summer graduates.

Benefits to the winner of the college’s Outstanding Graduate honor include:

- an invitation to the Honors Award Ceremony for them and their guests
- gifts and medallion presented at the banquet and
- recognition in the *Times* newspaper.

In addition, the benefits for associate degree students selected as Outstanding Graduate honorees include:

- a commemorative plaque
- seating on the stage for the commencement ceremonies and
- preferred parking and seating for their guests at the commencement ceremonies.

Again, honor graduates must complete and submit the “Outstanding Graduate Application/Profile Form and Essay” that follows in addition to fulfilling the other eligibility requirements.

**Note: Honor graduates who choose to complete the application/profile and essay without a Lamp of Knowledge award nomination are encouraged to do so if they believe that they may be nominated. But they will not be considered for the award, nor will they be contacted regarding the status of their application, unless they are officially nominated for their program’s award.**