



2021-2022
Believers & Achievers Information
Sponsored by U.S. Bank®
A Partner of the Nebraska School Activities Association



The Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) and U.S. Bank® are proud to sponsor Believers & Achievers, a state-wide awards program that recognizes Nebraska's future leaders. Believers & Achievers has been designed to reward high school students in Nebraska for their excellence in academics and participation in NSAA activities. Those students who show a commitment to citizenship, school involvement and community projects will be honored in the Believers & Achievers program.

NSAA member schools will be asked to nominate individuals to be honored. From those nominees submitted, U.S. Bank® and the NSAA will select and honor 48 high school seniors throughout the 2021-22 academic year. The pictures and profiles of six Believers & Achievers will be featured monthly in the *NSAA News* on the NSAA website. A poster will be produced and sent to each member high school for display. The 48 individuals selected will be honored with an award at an NSAA Championship contest during the 2021-22 school year. All 48 Believers & Achievers will be invited to attend an end-of-the-year banquet, celebrating their achievements. During the banquet, U.S. Bank® will announce individual scholarship winners.

Who is eligible?

Seniors to be, who have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.50 (on an unweighted 4.0 scale) and participate in NSAA sponsored activities are eligible for nomination.

How many students can be nominated per school?

Each school may nominate a maximum of **FOUR** (4) students. One (1) nomination of which must be a student of color. In the event that a school does not have a student of color or a student of color who meets the program criteria, a maximum of **THREE** (3) students may be nominated.

To determine its nominee(s), the school should consider the following categories:

Scholastic Achievement, Activity Participation, School & Community Involvement, and Citizenship

Who can submit nominations?

Only nomination forms submitted electronically by the superintendent, high school principal, athletic director or guidance counselor will be accepted for the Believers & Achievers Program. Information on how to properly submit nomination forms will be emailed to the designated NSAA contact at each member school.

Upon what will nominated students be judged?

Scholastic Achievement

- Individuals must have a **3.50** (on an unweighted 4.0 scale) or higher cumulative grade point average.
- All academic classes that the student has taken since entering grade nine, and which count toward fulfillment of the school's graduation requirements are to be used in determining the grade point average. The grade point average will be calculated through the second semester of the nominee's junior year.
- Grade point averages are to be rounded off to the nearest hundredth. (Example – 3.556 = 3.56)

- Academic Honors and Awards

NSAA Activity Participation

- Activities must be those sanctioned by the NSAA. NSAA sanctioned activities include all athletic activities, debate, speech, play production, music, and journalism.
- Achievement or recognition attained by participation in non-NSAA sanctioned activities are prohibited in this category but can be listed in community involvement.
- Outstanding achievement does not have to be the primary factor. For example, an individual who serves as a student manager or member of a stage crew can be judged on his/her commitment and positive contributions to the activity.

School Involvement

- Involvement in school clubs and organizations.
- Support of activities other than those in which s/he participates.
- Show the trait of helping others.

Community Involvement

- Involvement in community youth organizations.
- Volunteerism in community programs.
- Show the trait of helping others.

Citizenship Essay

- The nominated student shall write a 250-300 word essay on a specific topic listed on the application form.

Where is the application form located?

The application form is located on the NSAA AD login page. The application can be printed and given to the student to fill out, but it will need to be submitted online.

When are nominations due?

Nominations must be submitted electronically by **September 15th, 2021.**

Any questions regarding this program can be emailed to NSAA Marketing Manager Ashton Honor at ahonor@nsaahome.org.