



# Education For Employment

## *Outstanding Senior Awards*

### Frequently Asked Questions

## OVERVIEW

### **What is the EFE Outstanding Senior Awards (OSA's)?**

Since 1986, the EFE Advisory Council hosts a breakfast event in May to honor outstanding EFE seniors for their academic achievements and provides selected students with scholarships. The EFE Council and teaching staff are honoring the outstanding EFE students for their efforts throughout the duration of their EFE programs.

### **Is this award designed only for my students who are going on to college?**

No. In fact there are 2 awards:

Outstanding Senior College Bound Student Award

Outstanding Senior Workforce Bound Award

Teachers will need to answer a question on the electronic application form to indicate if the nominated student is college bound and eligible for the Scholarship or going directly into the workforce and eligible for the Workforce Bound Scholarship. We currently have scholarship donors who support a World of Work stipend and other donors who support college scholarships.

### **Does every student who receives the Outstanding Senior Award also receive a scholarship?**

No. Students receive the OSA award because their program teacher selected them. They may also receive a scholarship but this is based on 1) scholarship availability; 2) specific scholarship criteria; 3) selection by the scholarship committee; and other factors. Over \$65,000 in scholarships are generally awarded each year.

### **What is the Outstanding Senior Award Breakfast?**

The award breakfast is held at the Radisson Hotel ballroom, generally in late April or early May. Our office sends invitations to you as well as the parents of your outstanding senior(s), community leaders, school leaders, advisory committee members, other employers, scholarship donors, and others ~ about 350 or more who attend. Guests are served a sit-down breakfast followed by an awards ceremony. Teachers enjoy sitting with their students and their parents. Teachers arrive before 7:30am and the event generally concludes before 10:30 ~ this may mean a ½ day sub request for you. Teachers need to talk to their students about dressing professionally for the occasion. Teachers do not have a speaking role at the event. The breakfast is meant to honor your efforts as a teacher and teachers will be acknowledged as a group as part of the event. As part of the ceremony, EFE also presents an award to a business who has partnered with EFE in a significant way.

### **How does this award impact EFE? How does the award impact my program?**

Beyond the obvious benefits to the students selected, this award program and the award breakfast impacts EFE and individual programs in many powerful ways. It is by far our most successful marketing tool.

1. The breakfast is attended by well over 350 people (parents, community leaders, superintendents, counselors, principals, families) who hear the name of your program, meet successful students from your program, and learn that students from your program go on to college or into the workplace after completing your program.
2. The award provides recognition of student success in very unique areas; many parents who attend the event tell us that this is the only award ceremony that their student would be a part of because of their success in a technical class.
3. The program compliments the scholarships program in Kalamazoo County such as Excellence in Education, KAMSC, and others, which puts EFE on an even par with academic programs.
4. The program and award ceremony is heavily publicized in the community.
5. Community members who attend the event are impressed by the event itself as well as the scope of EFE program offerings and the success of our students.