



AMBASSADOR LEVEL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND TIMELINE 2016-2017

Reaching the Ambassador Level of Students In Action

The SIA Ambassador Level is reached when a particular team of student leaders (SIA Team) achieves a top level of performance in their regional SIA program within a set time frame. This is demonstrated by their achieving the highest score among competing teams during the Spring Competition process at least two years in a row. The Ambassador Level is not necessarily a long-term designation for the associated SIA Team but rather recognition of achievement for the members of the SIA Team who have achieved this level. Upon recommendation of the Regional Director, the SIA Team may be invited to participate at the Ambassador Level the following program year.

Training and Maintaining Ambassador Teams

As SIA Team Members graduate and changes take place within the team, they may remain at the Ambassador Level as long as all requirements are being achieved and maintained. **It is recommended that new members to the team participate fully in receiving the SIA Banner Level training at regional leadership conferences and using online tools, and that those members previously trained should mentor new team members. Experienced Ambassador Team members should also lead the team to meet the requirements of the Ambassador Level.** The Regional Director will consult with the SIA Team and Faculty Advisor to determine the appropriate program level each subsequent year.



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Opting Out of the Ambassador Level

If an SIA Team that qualifies at the Ambassador level chooses not to participate at this level, they will be allowed to participate in the regional competition and earn an appropriate Banner, but will not be eligible to represent the region at the National Ceremonies for one year.

Requirements to Certify Ambassador Level Status:

Ambassador Level SIA Teams are required to demonstrate their accomplishments in Leadership, Engagement, and Impact, building on their success at the Banner Level. Members of Ambassador Level Teams are also required to demonstrate expanded leadership skills as they execute their SIA program.

To that end, they are required to:

1. Track their impact and evidence throughout the program year and record them in their SIA Ambassador online survey form (through SlideRoom link below).
<https://jeffersonawards.slideroom.com/#/login/program/34654>
2. Design and create a video presentation that summarizes their work in SIA to be presented at the Regional Competition and to be used in National selection of Ambassador Level representative to speak at JAF National Ceremony.
3. Put forward 1-2 members to participate in the Jefferson Awards Think Big Team (Advisory Council).
4. Assign 1-2 members to serve as judges for the Regional Competition process (These should be more senior members of the team familiar with the Banner Level Competition process.)



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5. Coordinate with the Regional Director or Program Manager and participate at least once during the year in any of the following:
 - At Fall and/or Midwinter Conferences, plan and run a training session in either the “Working Together as a Team” or “Understanding Leadership” Modules
 - Coordinate and manage a Lead360 Activation event or service project at either of the Fall or Midwinter Conferences, taking full responsibility for organizing, promoting and carrying out the project.

Certification:

At the Ambassador level, Regional Directors will certify that all requirements have been met.

Recognition:

Upon certification, Ambassador Teams will be presented with a Gold Ambassador Level Banner at the end of the program year. One Ambassador Team will be chosen by their peers to speak on behalf of all Ambassador Level Teams at the Jefferson Awards Foundation National Ceremony in Washington, DC. ALL Ambassador Teams will be invited to participate and fulfill a leadership role at JAF National youth events.

SIA Ambassador Hall of Fame:

Each year, in addition to being invited to join the Ambassador Level, SIA Teams that win their second consecutive Regional Competition will be enshrined in the Students In Action Ambassador Hall of Fame on the SIA website. The Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place in Washington, DC as part of the Jefferson Awards National Ceremonies. This ceremony



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provides for recognition of the current student leaders as some members of these teams will be in Washington, DC to represent their region. Hall of Fame induction will include the Name of School, Region, SIA Team Member Names, Team Photo and Year of Achievement.

SIA Teams that have achieved Ambassador Level Status prior to this new initiative will also be enshrined on the Ambassador Hall of Fame on the SIA website. Regional Directors will contact Faculty Advisors to verify the names of Team Members and see to their inclusion.

Time Frames and Submission of Materials:

All required elements must be uploaded through the SIA SlideRoom form <https://jeffersonawards.slideroom.com/#/login/program/34654>. Regional Directors will provide instructions and guidance. Branding guidelines and graphics will also be provided.

Saturday, April 15, 2017:

All materials (online form and video) to be entered online for certification

Tuesday, April 18, 2017:

Video Review Begins by Ambassador Teams

Friday, April 21, 2017:

Judging Completed; Top Ambassador Notified (**Monday, April 24**)

Monday, May 1, 2017:

Top Ambassador Team provides names of three attending National Ceremony to the Jefferson Awards National office

Monday, May 1, 2017:

Top Ambassador Team selected to speak at National Ceremony will be announced

June 21-23, 2017:

Jefferson Awards National Ceremony in Washington, DC