

MERIT AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Together, the American Simmental Association and the American Simmental/Simbrah Foundation support this Merit Award Scholarship Program each year. The four award levels are outlined below:

1. **ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (Certificate)**

- For ASA juniors and non-members
- Recognizes achievement in 4-H or FFA beef projects (Simmental/Simbrah)
- No application required
- Selected by 4-H and FFA leaders
- Presented at local programs
- Unlimited number of awards

Contact the ASA office with the number of awards to be presented and we will mail the achievement certificates to you. **ASA Junior members do not need to be an Achievement Award winner in order to apply for the Bronze Merit Award.**

2. **BRONZE (Certificate and Bronze Lapel Pin)**

- For ASA junior members
- Recognizes achievement in Association sponsored Simmental/Simbrah activities
- Application and two (2) letters of recommendation required
- Selected by state association (state association sets the deadline date)
- Presented at annual state association meeting or appropriate event
- Unlimited number of awards/state/year
- One-time award per individual

Completed application and recommendation letters should be sent to your State Association President. If there is not a state association, send all information to the ASA office at 1 Simmental Way, Bozeman, MT 59718. **The state selection committee should provide ASA with the following information for all award recipients: Name of individual(s) (correct spelling please), ASA Membership Number and Date the award will be presented.** The achievement certificates will be printed with the above information. Please be sure to notify us well in advance so that the certificates can be printed in time for your awards ceremony.

3. **SILVER (Certificate and \$750 Scholarship)**

- For ASA junior members who are at least 16 years of age by January 1 of year of application
- Recognizes achievement in Association sponsored Simmental/Simbrah activities
- Application and two (2) letters of recommendation required
- Selected from among previous Bronze Award winners by a committee
- Presented at National Classic
- Maximum of 10 awards per year
- One-time award per individual

Completed application, recommendation letters and recent photo (head & shoulders) must be submitted (post-marked) to the ASA office **NO LATER THAN JUNE 1.**

4. **GOLD (Certificate and \$1,500 Scholarship)**

- For ASA junior members who are at least 16 years of age by January 1 of year of application
- Recognizes achievement in Association sponsored Simmental/Simbrah activities
- Application and three (3) letters of recommendation required [including one from a State (senior) Association Officer]
- Selected from among previous Silver Award winners by a committee
- Presented at National Classic
- Maximum of five awards per year
- One-time award per individual

Completed application, recommendation letters and recent photo (head & shoulders) must be submitted (post-marked) to the ASA office **NO LATER THAN JUNE 1.**

Silver and Gold Award Certificates are presented to the winners at the National Classic each year. However, the actual scholarship money is not awarded until the recipient has registered and paid tuition to attend a post-secondary institution. At that time, the recipient must send proof of enrollment to the Chief Financial Officer at ASA. A check will then be forwarded to the recipient.

ASA MERIT AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR AWARDS

SUBJECT AREA	BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
ASA Junior Member	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
Age		16 year old minimum	16 year old minimum
Cattle registered with ASA (as member or authorized representative)*	1 Head	2 Head	3 Head
State Junior Association Member	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
State Junior Association Leadership Activities (officer, director, committee work, etc.)		1 Year	2 Year
State Junior Association Leadership Activities (officer, director, committee work, etc.)	2 X Within Year	Total of 5 X	Total of 7 X
Participate in <i>Local</i> Field Day, <i>County</i> or <i>State</i> Fair, or <i>State</i> Association Event (livestock judging, carcass evaluation, heifer or market beef competition, showmanship, public speaking, herdsman or sire summary quiz or beef bowl competition)	3 X Within Year	Total of 7 X	Total of 15 X
Participate in ASA Regional or National Event (National Classic, Annual Convention, or leadership workshop)		2 X	3 X

* Exceptions may be made in cases of personal or financial hardship.