Criteria and Process for Selection of Student Speaker

Selection Guidelines*

- Academically talented with a 3.5 GPA minimum
- An August or December first baccalaureate or associate graduate for Winter Commencement or May first baccalaureate or associate graduate for Spring Commencement
- Articulate and capable public speaker
- Positive role model and representative of Boise State
- A minimum of 64 credits at Boise State University

*Note: If a dean or ASBSU feels that there is an individual who does not meet the guidelines, but is extraordinary in his/her accomplishments, they have the right to nominate this individual with a written explanation/rationale for waiver of one or more of the guidelines.

Selection Committee

The composition of the Selection Committee will include:

- Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, who serves as chair;
- Dean of Honors College;
- Two faculty representatives recommended by Faculty Senate President; and
- Four student representatives recommended by ASBSU

Process for Selection

1. Three weeks after the deadline for application for graduation, the Registrar’s Office will forward:
   (1) a list of graduates to the deans’ offices who meet the credits in residence and have qualified for honors (3.5 GPA or above) and (2) will notify qualified students of their eligibility for self-nomination as commencement student speaker.
2. Nominations will be accepted from each college dean and ASBSU through a faculty or ASBSU nomination or student self-nominated process. In addition, the ASBSU President will be an automatic nomination if he/she is graduating during his/her term.
3. To allow for equal representation of the student body, each college/ASBSU must forward a minimum of one nomination or a maximum of three.
4. College/ASBSU nomination packets should include: (1) a completed nomination form; (2) a letter of recommendation that encompasses how the student is known with the college or ASBSU, student’s ability to be a positive role model and your assessment of his/her articulation and public speaking abilities; (3) student’s resume; (4) unofficial transcript; and (5) applicant video (See guidelines below)
5. Student self-nomination packets should include: (1) a completed nomination form; (2) a letter that encompasses the student’s ability to be a positive role model, public speaking experience and what they will address in their speech; (3) resume; (4) an unofficial transcript; and (5) applicant video (See guidelines below)
6. Completed nomination packets will be sent electronically to Provost@boisestate.edu
7. After each college/ASBSU has forwarded their nomination packet(s), the Provost’s Office will send electronic copies of the nominations to the Selection Committee. The Chair of the committee will set a meeting, within a one-week period, for the committee to review and pick the student speaker. The Office of the Provost will notify the candidate of the selection as well as thank the other candidates that were not selected.

8. The student speaker will be recognized with a short bio during the commencement ceremony and in the commencement program.

**Applicant Video Guidelines**

**Purpose:**
The purpose of this segment of your application is to help the committee understand what you intend to deliver to the diverse commencement audience. Pitch us your speech. What is the story you want to share with your graduates? This should be a sampling or excerpt about what your speech will be. You may imagine that you are speaking to the folks in the arena (graduates, faculty, families…)

**Guidelines for applicants:**
1. No more than 2 minutes (attempt to stay between 1 minute 45 seconds and 2 minutes)

2. You may use any electronic means provided the committee can open on various computers (PC, MAC)

3. Utilize a podium style delivery – you may read off prepared materials

Tip: in the arena you’ll be establishing eye contact out into the audience – show us what this looks like in this 2 min excerpt. Humor is welcome. Energy, passion, and commitment are desired.

**How we will evaluate your video application:**
Content (relevant, unique point of view, thoughtful)
Presentation (eye contact, gestures, physical presence, posture)
Delivery (phrasing and pacing, articulation, clarity of speech)