



A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL INCENTIVE

If state funds are available, A+ certified students will receive reimbursement for the cost of tuition and general fees while attending a Missouri public community college or vocational/technical school on a full-time basis for two years. This scholarship will be for the unpaid balance after federal post-secondary financial assistance funds (that do not require repayment) have been applied.* **This is also on the condition that the student meets ALL of the requirements below:**

1. Attend a designated A+ School for three (3) consecutive years prior to high school graduation (apply **no later** than 11/1 of your senior year).(must enter an A+ School of their sophomore year before September 15th.)
2. Graduate from high school with a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale (grades 9-12).
3. Have at least 95% attendance record (grades 9-12). (Absences of less than 8 days per year average or about 32 days absent grades 9-12).
4. Perform and document fifty (50) hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring during your high school career (Coordinated by HHS A+ Officer).
5. Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol (not be suspended five days or more and no Safe Schools Act violations, grades 9-12)
6. Produce evidence that they have submitted a Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) form (second semester of their senior year).
7. Have registered for Selective Service (male U.S. citizen over age 18)

The A+ Schools Program's student financial incentive will be available for up to two (2) years of attendance during the four-year period after graduation from high school. To maintain eligibility, participants must:

1. Attend a Missouri public community college or vocational-technical school, and
2. Maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

***The Student Financial Incentive program is dependent on state appropriations from the Missouri General Assembly.** The Columbia Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or disability. This policy regards admission/access to treatment/employment in its programs and activities.

A+ Site Coordinator _____ Laurie Hoff, Coordinator

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle Initial _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____ Home Phone _____

Social Security Number _____ -- _____ -- _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____ Age _____

Student Number _____ Current Grade Level _____ Anticipated Graduation Year _____

Are you on an IEP? Yes or No Are you on an "504" plan? Yes or No

Junior High School Attended/Attending (circle all that apply): West Junior HS Jefferson Junior HS Oakland Junior HS Other: _____

High Schools Attended/Attending (circle all that apply):
Hickman HS Rock Bridge HS Other: _____ Date of transfer: _____

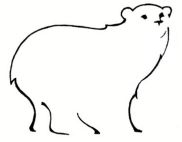
*The student and parent/guardian must sign this A+ Schools Program Application before the student will be considered for participation in the A+ Schools Program. By signing this application the student and parent/guardian certify that they have read, understand and **agree to the A+ Citizenship Guidelines listed on the other side of this application.***

Student Signature _____ Date _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

A+ Applicant Checklist (FOR A+ OFFICE USE ONLY)	A+ Graduate Checklist (FOR A+ OFFICE USE ONLY)
_____ Application complete?	_____ Tutor hours
_____ Previous schools checked/records requested	_____ GPA
_____ Discipline record checked (AS400)	_____ Attendance
_____ IEP status checked _____ Attendance checked	_____ Citizenship
_____ 504 status checked _____ Folder created	_____ FAFSA
_____ Confirmation letter sent	_____ Selective Service



A+ Schools Program Citizenship Guidelines



Citizenship

Students participating in the A+ Schools Program must maintain a record of “good citizenship” to qualify for post-secondary financial assistance. Good citizenship is demonstrated by respect for school, community, and self. Any student who participates in the A+ Schools Program must be a creditable citizen and be judged so by the proper school authority certifying the list of students for participation.

A student whose character or conduct reflects credit upon him/herself or his/her school is considered a creditable citizen and is therefore eligible to participate in the A+ Schools Program. His/her conduct shall be satisfactory in accord with the standards of good discipline. **Students who participate in the A+ Schools Program should remember the financial rewards of the Student Financial Incentive, and the individual discipline and responsibilities that come with it. The rewards are great: The A+ Program provides grant money to help qualified students pay for tuition and general fees at a public two-year community college or vocational/technical school in Missouri.** The A+ program may provide these educational incentives 1) provided state funds are appropriated by the legislature or 2) subject to state funding approval.

INELIGIBILITY WILL OCCUR FROM ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- I. **Violations of the Safe Schools Act:** Students who are disciplined in accordance to the Safe Schools Act will be removed from the A+ Schools Program. These violations include threats, weapons possessions, and violence.
- II. **Criminal Activity:** A student who is convicted of a felony/misdemeanor, or receives a suspended sentence, or receives an adverse disposition will not qualify.
- III. **Drugs/Alcohol:** Students who are disciplined for being under the influence, distribution of, or possession of drugs/alcohol will not qualify.
- IV. **Suspensions:** Students who are suspended from school for 5 days or more will not qualify.

Attendance

DUE PROCESS:

Students have the right to appeal attendance disqualification. In cases of appeals, the student/parent/guardian must notify the A+ Schools Coordinator in writing of his/her intent to appeal within 5 business days of disqualification. Students must provide all supporting documentation within 5 business days of the request for appeal. The A+ Schools Coordinator shall schedule the appeal hearing held during the spring of each year and then inform the necessary participants in writing. The committee shall hear the appeal and return its decision to the student within 5 business days. The decision of the A+ Appeals Committee will be final. The A+ Appeals Committee will consist of the following individuals:

- High School Administrator
- Student's Counselor or counseling representative
- Representatives from the A+ Advisory Board
- A+ Coordinator
- Special Education case worker if applicable