A+ FAQs

1. What is the A+ Program?

The A+ Program is a scholarship program through the Missouri Department of Higher Education. You can find complete information from the Missouri Department of Higher Education at http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/aplusscholarship.php

2. What are the eligibility requirements?

- Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or lawfully present in the U.S.
- Attend a designated A+ high school(s) for three (3) consecutive years (grades 10, 11, 12) immediately prior to high school graduation.
- Graduate from a designated A+ high school with an un-weighted cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- Graduate with a minimum cumulative 95% ADA (Average Daily Attendance) record over a four year period.
- Beginning with the class of 2015 students must score proficient or advanced on the Algebra I End of Course Exam.
- Perform and document fifty (50) hours of unpaid district tutoring or mentoring. This is coordinated through the A+ Office in your school, 25% of those hours (12.5 hours) may be documented job shadowing.
- Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol.
- Apply for non-payback scholarships by completing a FAFSA (free application for federal student aid).

3. What if my child's weighted GPA is a 2.5 or above?

The state requires that your <u>un-weighted</u> GPA is 2.5 or higher. The state will **not** review your weighted GPA as part of the A+ Program.

4. What if my child's Average Daily Attendance is not 95% over the course of four years of high school?

Your child will need to go through an appeal process that will include providing documentation for all missed days of school. A district committee will review those documents and determine if an exception will be made.

5. For A+ purposes, does my child only have one opportunity to score proficient/advanced on the Algebra I End of Course Exam (EOC)?

No. Please also refer to question 6.

6. What if my child does not score proficient or advanced on the Algebra I End of Course Exam (EOC)?

The high school your child attends will notify you/your child of Algebra I End of Course Exam scores after they are released. If your child does not score proficient or advanced, the opportunity to retake the Algebra I End of Course Exam will be given again after successful completion of Intermediate Algebra or Algebra II.

- 7. If my 8th grade child is in Algebra I and does not score proficient or advanced on the Algebra I End of Course (EOC) exam, should he/she retake Algebra I in high school? This is a decision that should be made by the family. If you feel that your child has truly not grasped key Algebra I concepts, then he/she should re-enroll in the course in high school. However, if you feel it is in the best interest of your student to keep moving forward in math, then he/she will still be allowed to enroll in geometry as a 9th grader.
- 8. If my child does not initially score proficient or advanced on the Algebra I EOC, should I sign an A+ letter of intent? Should he/she still participate in providing A+ tutoring?

 If you and your child are still interested in the A+ scholarship, then you and your child should still sign the letter of intent. Your child may score proficient or advanced on the Algebra I EOC at a later date. Also, please refer to question 9 for additional clarification. Likewise, a student should still participate in tutoring.
- 9. If my child never scores proficient or advanced on the Algebra I EOC, does that mean he/she will never receive the A+ scholarship?

No. If you have met ALL requirements in high school except the Algebra I EOC requirement, this will be indicated on your child's official transcript. In order to be eligible students will need to complete the first semester at a postsecondary institution with a minimum of twelve (12) hours or the equivalent with a 2.5 grade point average prior to receiving A+ tuition reimbursement. Students will need to work with the community/technical college they are attending to then receive their A+ scholarship benefits.

10. <u>Does my child need to complete tutoring/mentoring AND job shadowing?</u>
No. Up to 12.5 hours of the 50 hours may be job shadowing. The tutoring/mentoring combined with job shadowing must equal at least 50 hours.





Independence School District

Dr. Brad MacLaughlin District A+ Coordinator 816-521-5300 Truman High School Van Horn High School William Chrisman High School

Student Name: Last	FirstMiddle Initial	
Parent/Guardian Name		
Parent/Guardian Email	Home Phone	
Date of Birth//	Anticipated Graduation Year	

High school students who graduate with A+ status may be eligible to receive tuition reimbursement for 105% of the hours required for the program in which the student is currently enrolled at an A+ designated community college or vocational/technical (state funded) school in Missouri. The A+ program may provide these educational incentives provided state funds are appropriated by the legislature.

Eligible A+ students must meet ALL of the requirements below to graduate with A+ Certification:

- 1. Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or lawfully present in the U.S.
- 2. Attend a designated A+ high school (s) for three (3) consecutive years (grades 10, 11, 12) immediately prior to high school graduation.
- 3. Graduate from a designated A+ high school with an un-weighted cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- 4. Graduate with a minimum cumulative 95% ADA (Average Daily Attendance) record over a four year period.
- 5. Beginning with the class of 2015 students must meet one of the following requirements: 1) score proficient or advanced on the Algebra I End of Course Exam, 2) earn an ACT Math Subscore of 17, 3) earn a COMPASS Pre-Algebra score of 43, OR 4) earn a COMPASS Algebra score of 1. (This requirement may be waived after paying for and completing one full time semester of post-secondary education with a 2.5 GPA or better).
- 6. Perform and document fifty (50) hours of unpaid district tutoring or mentoring, coordinated through the A+ Office. Up to 25% of those hours (12.5 hours) may be documented job shadowing.
- 7. Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol.
- 8. Apply for non-payback scholarships by completing a FAFSA (free application for federal student aid).

To maintain post secondary eligibility participants must:

- Attend an A+ designated Missouri public community college or vocational-technical school.
- Maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

The Independence 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.

considered for participation in the A+ Program. By signing this agreement the student and parent/guardian certify that they have read, understand and agree to the A+ Guidelines list above.					
Student Signature	Date	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date		

The student and parent/guardian must sign this A+ Letter of Intent before the student will be

Please keep a copy of this form for your records as well as semester grade cards, tutoring hours, and other documents relevant to A+ requirements. Do not ever hesitate to contact the A+ office with questions or concerns regarding A+ requirements or current A+ status of your child.

Your Next Step: Pi	k up a Tutoring Application

A+Guidelines

- Keep track of your tutoring time each day on your log sheet. Each entry requires your supervisor's signature. Turn in your logs to your A+ Office if your assignment has ended, your sheet is full, or it is the end of the semester. Do NOT leave your sheets at your assignment location! Do not leave them even if asked, point out this message to the person asking you to do so!
- You MUST wear comfortable, appropriate clothing. Do not wear any clothing
 with profanity, promoting drug/alcohol, or too revealing. The same dress code
 applies at your assignment as it does here at your school. Refrain from using inappropriate language and/or slang. REMEMBER, you are in the buildings representing your High School and are a role model for every child that sees or hears
 you. You CAN be removed from your location and placed on A+ probation.
- Communicate with your supervisor regularly to ensure you are satisfying their requests to their standards. If you encounter a problem, please speak to your supervisor. If the problem continues please contact the A+ Coordinator or Secretary at your High School as soon as possible.
- An A+ assignment is a privilege. You are there to help your supervisor and his/ her students. There is no texting or using cell phones. This is not a time for socializing with friends or former teachers. You can be asked to not return if you are not acting appropriately or to the satisfaction of the supervisor.
- Assignments are made according to days and times you stated you were available. It is your responsibility to notify your supervising teacher/building location if you're unable to attend one day or you will be arriving late. Your supervisor and the children you work with are counting on your help. Phone numbers are listed below.
- If you are unable to keep your commitment you MUST notify your supervisor/ assigned building immediately. Do NOT stop going without notification. Immediately turn in your log sheet to the A+ Office and inform them of cancellation..

School Phone Numbers

Hanthorn 521-5485 Sunshine Ctr. 521-5526

Abraham Mallinson 521-5530 Benton 521-5390 Blackburn 521-5395 Bryant 521-5400 Fairmount 521-5405 Glendale 521-5510 Korte 521-5430 Little Blue 521-5480 Luff 521-5415 Mill Creek 521-5420 Ott 521-5435 Procter 521-5440 Randall 521-5445 Santa Fe 521-5450 Spring Branch 521-5455 Sugar Creek 521-5460 Sycamore Hills 521-5465 Three Trails 521-5470 Wm. Southern 521-5475

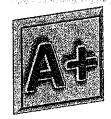
Bingham MS 521-5490 Bridger MS 521-5375 Nowlin MS 521-5380 Pioneer Ridge MS 521-5385

Assignment Information

Location:

Day	Time	Teacher/Kids Safari/Other
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		

Hours Log Sheet



Independence School District Dr. Brad MacLaughlin District A+ Coordinator 816-521-5300

Truman High School Van Horn High School William Chrisman High School

Student Na	me 🙎			Graduation y	ear	Current Grade
Date	Time In	Time Out	Hours/ Minutes	Activity	School/Location	Supervisor's Signature
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The A+ office MUST fill this section and the back section out before hours can be logged.

Assignment Location Information: see back page Date Log Issued By