

Policy JFCL: A+ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 04/21/2010 | Last Revised Date: 07/15/2020

24C UPDATE EXPLANATION

In House Bill 604 (2019), the Missouri legislature approved the use of A+ funds to reimburse high school students for the costs of dual credit and dual enrollment courses, subject to appropriation. The Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (MDHEWD) has now released regulations to implement the new law. See 6 C.S.R. 10-2.195.

Because there are different eligibility criteria for students seeking tuition reimbursement for dual credit and dual enrollment courses than for courses taken after graduation, the MDHEWD has decided to reserve the A+ moniker for the post-graduation scholarship program to reduce confusion and now refers to the other program as the Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program.

To avoid confusion, MSBA has included dual credit/dual enrollment in policy IGCE and is removing the references to it in this A+ policy.

In addition, MSBA has modified the definition of "good citizenship" to allow students who have not been suspended for more than ten days between grades nine and twelve to qualify. Districts are free to modify this suggestion.

Editor's Note: The district should review the listed program goals (in bullets) to see if they need revision. You can also remove the specific goals from this policy if you wish.

The district encourages its students to further their education and training after they graduate from the district. For that reason, the district will participate in the state A+ Scholarship Program to provide students an opportunity to pursue postsecondary education at a low cost or earn college credit while in high school. The district will follow the requirements as established by state law and regulation for the implementation and administration of its A+ Schools Scholarship Program.

The district shall employ an A+ Schools Program Scholarship coordinator, as required by law. The coordinator will be responsible for implementing this policy and the Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program.

Program Goals

The district has established the following goals and performance standards is committed to ensuring that:

1. All students graduate from high school.
 - The graduation rate will increase or be maintained at a level of 90 percent or higher.
2. All students complete a selection of high school studies that is challenging and for which there are identified learning expectations.
 - Fifty percent or more of the district's junior and seniors will enroll in advanced courses and/or vocational courses.
3. All students proceed from high school graduation to a college, postsecondary career-technical school, or high-wage job with workplace skill development opportunities.
 - Smithville High School will maintain the percentage of students enrolling in all types of postsecondary education at or above 80 percent.

Citizenship Component

An important component of the A+ Schools Scholarship Program is the fostering of good citizenship in our district's students. As students demonstrates good citizenship by showing respect for self, law, property, and the rights of others. Students have not demonstrated good citizenship if, while in grades nine through twelve, they have:

1. Pled guilty or *nolo contendere* (no contest) to, received a suspended imposition of sentence or suspended execution of sentence for, agreed to a deferred prosecution for, or been convicted or found guilty of a misdemeanor or felony.
2. Unlawfully used or possessed drugs, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol on or off school property.
3. Had an out-of-school suspension Been suspended for more than ten days.
4. Violated the district's rules governing academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.).

Participation Agreement, Discipline, and Appeal

All students wishing to participate in the A+ Schools Scholarship Program for postsecondary education after high school must submit a completed A+ Participation Agreement. If the coordinator determines that a student who has submitted a participation agreement has violated the terms of that agreement or district policies or procedures regarding A+ participation, the coordinator will notify the student in writing and may put the student on probation or expel the student from the program. The student or the student's parents/guardians may appeal expulsions from this program, in accordance with written district procedures, to the board of education or to a committee of board members appointed by the president of the board and given the authority to act for the board. The board or the board's committee will hear the student's appeal in closed session and will notify the student of its decision.

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Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

§ 160.545, RSMo.
5 C.S.R. 20-100.200
6 C.S.R. 10-2.190, .195

Description

[State Statute](#)
[State Regulation](#)
[State Regulation](#)

Cross References

IGBD
IGCE-1

Description

[AT-RISK STUDENTS](#)
[NONTRADITIONAL INSTRUCTION OPTIONS](#)