

A+ Schools Program Requirements

A student who qualifies according to the following criteria and continues an education at a Missouri public community college or vocational-technical school may be eligible for state reimbursed tuition **dependant on state legislature funding approval** for up to 48 months after high school graduation. **The A+ Schools Program may provide these educational incentives subject to state funding approval.** Each student must meet the following requirements:

Requirement 1: Enter into a written agreement with the high school to participate in the A+ Schools Financial Incentives Program.

A student may enter into the agreement at any time during his/her four years of high school. Due to the requirement to accumulate tutoring/mentoring hours, it is recommended that the agreement be signed as early as possible.

Requirement 2: Attend a designated A+ School for three consecutive years prior to high school graduation.

A student must attend North Shelby High School or another designated A+ high school during his/her sophomore, junior, and senior years. The student financial incentive is dependent upon North Shelby maintaining A+ designation each year and the availability of state appropriations from the Missouri General Assembly.

Requirement 3: Graduate from high school with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale (6.875 or higher on an 11.0 scale).

This average will represent the applicant's cumulative GPA that includes the freshman through senior years.

Requirement 4: Have at least a 95 percent attendance record for the four-year period.

The applicant must have a 95 percent average attendance record or better for the four-year period, freshman through senior years. A student with a 94.9 percent or lower average will not be eligible. Please see the A+ attendance page. The only absences that do not count against A+ attendance are school excused activities. **Doctor appointments, funerals, dental appointments, etc. will count against A+ attendance.**

Requirement 5: Perform and document 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring
(of which up to 25% may include job shadowing).

The following guidelines should be followed in the completion of this requirement:

1. All tutoring and mentoring activities will be designed to involve the A+ applicant with students in the school district.
2. Tutoring and mentoring activities will provide encouragement to students to set goals, stay cool in school, and strive for good grades.
3. Tutoring and mentoring activities will be school-based, academic in nature, and under the sponsorship of school.
4. The tutoring and mentoring activities may occur before, during, or after the school day.
5. All tutoring and mentoring must be supervised and verified by a teacher, principal, counselor, or the A+ Coordinator.
6. The A+ Coordinator will maintain records on tutoring/mentoring hours that each applicant accumulates. Only activities that have been verified with a time sheet signature by the tutoring supervisor will be counted toward the 50-hour requirement. (See Tutoring Log Sheet.)

Requirement 6: Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoidance of the unlawful use of drugs/alcohol.

In the effort to set forth the parameters of “good citizenship,” North Shelby High School A+ Program participants should understand that the citizenship guidelines will be followed in establishing good standing.

Requirement 7: Make a documented, good-faith effort to secure all available federal post-secondary student financial assistance funds that do not require repayment by filing the FAFSA.

Requirement 8: Register for Selective Services (if applicable).

Students may simply register for Selective Services when they file the FAFSA.

Requirement 9: Beginning with the high school senior class of 2015, a student must achieve a score of proficient or advanced on the official Algebra I End of Course Exam (EOC). If the student fails this requirement, a student must complete the first semester at a postsecondary institution with a minimum of 12 hours and a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale prior to receiving tuition reimbursement for the next semester.

After successful completion of the first semester, the student would be eligible for the A+ reimbursement the next semester. A+ will not retroactively reimburse the student for the first semester.