

## Updates on A+ Requirements Due to Covid-19

Hey KickA+Poo Students & Parents,

You all should have received messages from the Kickapoo Counseling Center and Dr. Powers—my sentiments are the same and I am here for you as well!

This is your Covid-19 update from the A+ side of things. First off, my hope is that you all are staying healthy and staying positive 😊 We have all found ourselves during an uncertain time and rest assured, you are on the hearts of each and every KHS staff member. We are here for you during this time and we are available to help with any questions or needs you might have. Please don't hesitate to reach out! A+ Tutors, I know many of you will be missing the students you tutor...especially those that were at the elementary level. Trust me, those kiddos are missing you too. Keep them in mind as they navigate their new style of learning at home and any uncertainties they may face.

Below, I will try to outline the adjustments that are being made to the statewide A+ Program and how they pertain to each graduating class.

### **Seniors, Class of 2020**

1. **Grade Point Average.** To be eligible for the A+ Scholarship, students must graduate from high school with a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. ***Since school closures may negatively impact seniors' spring 2020 GPA and thus the cumulative GPA at graduation, 2020 seniors who have a 2.5 cumulative grade point average at the end of either the fall 2019 or spring 2020 semesters will be eligible.***
2. **50 Hours of Unpaid Tutoring/Mentoring.** The A+ Scholarship requires students to complete 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring. ***For the 2020 seniors, the number of tutoring/mentoring hours has been reduced temporarily to 25 to accommodate those students who are unable to complete 50 hours prior to high school graduation.*** I will be in direct contact over the next week with any seniors who are not currently meeting the new 25 hour requirement. I will provide options for those seniors to earn their 25 total hours.
3. **Algebra I EOC.** The Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (those in charge of A+) has waived College Readiness Indicator for 2020 Seniors. This means that seniors do not need to worry about what they scored on their Algebra I EOC or the ACT for A+ Scholarship requirements.

There are no deviations from standard policy for the following eligibility criteria:

- **95% Attendance.** Students must have 95% attendance overall for grades 9-12 as calculated per the high school's A+ policy. Some students might be going through an appeal process due to unique medical situations. I have been and will continue to be in contact with these students.
- **Attend an A+-designated high school for two years prior to graduation.**

An updated A+ Status report will be mailed home to seniors sometime in April!

### **Juniors, Class of 2021**

Currently, there have not been any adjustments to the A+ requirements for the Class of 2021. However, I have outlined some items below that will help you continue to meet your A+ requirements prior to graduation.

- If you were enrolled in Tutoring during 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the 2019/2020 school year, and have not yet reached your 50 tutoring hours, you will need another option to complete your hours. Below are the options you have for completing your tutoring hours prior to graduation:
  - Enroll in Explore 2020 and take Tutoring 3020 during summer school – This can be done now by registering on the Explore website <https://explorereg.sps.org/> -- Please know, the status of Explore 2020 could change.
  - Enroll in Tutoring 3020 during the 2020-2021 school year for a quarter or a semester. Schedule changes cannot be made until the beginning of next school year if you choose this route, but should not be a problem to accommodate.
  - Complete and submit a maximum of 12.5 job shadow hours to our office. We have a form that you may request from the A+ office via email at [ahopke@spsmail.org](mailto:ahopke@spsmail.org) . This form can be turned in via email or in person at Kickapoo once the building is open again.
- College Readiness Indicator

- Score Proficient or Advanced on your Algebra I EOC or meet the sliding scale requirements with your GPA and ACT math score (3.0 GPA & 15 or higher, 2.8 GPA & a 16 or higher, 2.5 GPA and a 17 or higher).

§ Please note, with the State of Missouri canceling all of the Spring 2020 EOCs, we are aware you might be affected. Please plan on utilizing your GPA and the math part of your ACT score at this time. If further changes come out from the state, I will pass those along.

§ Per the counselors newsletter, the April 4<sup>th</sup> ACT date has been moved to June 13<sup>th</sup>. You can read more about that here:

<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/covid-19.html>

- Updated A+ status reports will be mailed to your home in April so you know how many tutoring hours you have completed, as well as, where you stand with the rest of your A+ requirements.

### **Freshmen & Sophomores, Classes of 2022 & 2023**

- The following A+ Requirements are still in place for your grade levels and must be met prior to graduation:

- 2.5 GPA (non-weighted)
- 50 Tutoring Hours
- 95% cumulative attendance
- College Readiness Indicator

§ Score Proficient or Advanced on your Algebra I EOC or meet the sliding scale requirements with your GPA and ACT math score (3.0 GPA & 15 or higher, 2.8 GPA & a 16 or higher, 2.5 GPA and a 17 or higher).

- Please note, with the State of Missouri canceling all of the Spring 2020 EOCs, we are aware you might be affected. I ask that you plan on utilizing your GPA and the math part of your ACT score at this time. If further changes come out from the state, I will pass those along.

- Attend an A+ designated high school for 2 years prior to graduation.