

FREDERICKTOWN R-1 HIGH SCHOOL



A+

Program

Parent/Student Handbook

2025-2026

History of A+ Program

The A+ Schools Program was created in 1993 by state law as an incentive for improving Missouri's high schools. The primary goal of the A+ Schools Program is to ensure that all students who graduate from Missouri high schools are well prepared to pursue advanced education and or employment.

The A+ Schools Program was designed to accomplish that objective. The Program is a merit-based scholarship that provides scholarship funds to eligible graduates of A+ designated high schools who attend participating public community colleges or vocational/technical schools, or certain private two-year vocational/technical schools. The information on this page is effective for the 2024-2025 academic year, unless otherwise noted.

Introduction

Fredericktown R-1 High School is pleased to provide this A+ Student Handbook to you. We are excited that our school was designated as an A+ school in March 2003. The purpose of this manual is to provide parents, students, faculty and interested patrons with the guidelines and policies of the A+ Schools Program.

It is important that the students and parents become familiar with the guidelines and regulations. If you have any questions concerning the details of the regulations and how they may apply to you, please call the school at 783-3628 and ask for the A+ Coordinator.

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A+ Criteria

As an A+ school, Fredericktown R-1 graduates who meet specific A+ criteria will be eligible to receive tuition to attend any A+ approved junior college or career technical institution in the state of Missouri within forty eight (48) months after the graduation date documented on the high school transcript. *Reimbursement is based on the amount appropriated by the General Assembly.*

To be eligible for assistance a student must meet the following requirements:

- Be a United States citizen or permanent resident.
- Enter into a written agreement with the A+ designated high school prior to graduation.
- Attend a designated A+ high school for 80% of 2 years prior to graduation.
 - o 2020 High School Seniors and Forward who attended an A+ designated high school for any 2 years of the 4 years prior to high school graduation have met this requirement.
 - o In addition, regardless of graduation year, if one of the parents is a member of the military on active duty or has retired from the military and relocated to Missouri

within one year of their retirement, the student is exempt from this requirement. However, they must attend an A+ designated high school in the school year immediately preceding graduation and meet all of the other high school eligibility requirements.

- Graduate from an A+ designated high school with an overall unweighted grade point average of at least 6.875 on an 11.0 scale.
- Have at least a ninety-five, (95%) cumulative attendance record in grades 9-12 (all 4 years of high school).
- Students must attend school in-person and be in-seat learning full-time for 3 years and at least part-time status their senior year to qualify.
- **ALL absences count against A+ attendance regardless of excused or unexcused.**
- Perform at least 50 (fifty) hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring, of which up to 25% may include job shadowing prior to graduation.
- Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and/or alcohol while in grades 9-12.
- Make a good faith effort to secure all available, non-loan federal financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each academic year.
- The A+ tuition incentives will only be made available to help with the unpaid balance of the cost of tuition after available federal financial assistance funds have been applied.
- Have achieved a score of proficient or advanced on the Algebra I end of course exam or a higher level DESE approved end-of-course exam in the field of mathematics.
 - o **2018 High School Seniors and Forward** - If a student meets all of the eligibility requirements for their high school graduating class except the end of course exam requirement, they may establish eligibility by achieving a combined PRE-ACT or ACT math subscore and high school GPA in accordance with the following scale

<u>ACT Math Sub-Score</u>		<u>High School GPA</u>
17	and	6.875 or greater
16	and	7.675 or greater
15	and	8.225 or greater

*Some students may qualify for a fee waiver to take the ACT. Students may check with their counselor to see if they qualify.

A student may achieve the qualifying score as a high school or postsecondary student. If the student achieves the score as a postsecondary student, they may be eligible for an award in the same term that they take the test provided that they established eligibility before the institution's reimbursement request is submitted.

Absences / Attendance

Attendance by a student seeking A+ certification does not adhere to the same standards as other students. For students seeking A+ certification all absences count against the 95% criteria. However, if a student becomes ill or requires hospitalization for an extended amount of time, a

homebound application may be requested from the school. If a doctor certifies that the student will miss school for an extended amount of time because of a medical reason, the school will provide a homebound tutor and these days will not count against the student.

The A+ Coordinator and A+ Secretary review attendance records periodically. Students and parents are informed concerning attendance. If a student feels that the attendance information is incorrect, they should contact the A+ office as soon as possible. All students participating in the A+ program will receive a status report at least twice per school year. Parents or students may also check status at any time with the A+ Secretary.

Grade Point Requirement

A student must graduate from high school with a minimum **un-weighted** grade point average of 6.875 on an 11 point scale. The cumulative grade point average includes all courses taken during all four years of high school. The official high school transcript will document and certify that the grade point requirement has been met. Students and parents are kept informed of the cumulative grade point average on each semester report card. Furthermore, students enrolled in the A+ program will receive a printout of their status at least twice per school year. Their current cumulative grade point average will be part of the status report.

Parents and or students may request a status report at any time.

Tutoring

To qualify for the A+ incentive, students must perform (50) hours of unpaid tutoring. Students in the A+ program must meet the following qualifications prior to beginning a tutoring experience:

- Have a 6.875 grade point average, 95% attendance, good citizenship status, and a signed A+ participation agreement. GPA is not rounded.
- Commit to (50) hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring to academically younger students.
- Complete the tutor-training course coordinated by the A+ Coordinator's office.
- Complete the tutoring log form, making sure that all required signatures are present.
- Turn in the completed tutoring log forms to the A+ Secretary.

The following guidelines concerning tutoring are followed to ensure the criteria for tutoring is satisfied.

- **Tutoring must be school sponsored.**
- Tutoring may take place in most subjects offered by the school, preferably in core subject areas.
- Tutoring is not allowed for clubs, organizations, or athletic activities.
- In order for tutoring time to count, it must be active one-on-one or small group tutoring. Time spent on other activities may not count for tutoring time (Example: Grading papers, working at the copy machine, or creating posters may not count as tutor time).
- The school must train students before beginning tutoring.
- An official tutoring log must be kept by the student and signed by the school official in charge of the tutor.
- The log must be filled out in its entirety including all the requested information.

- The tutoring log must contain the date, time and signature of the school official and must be turned in to the A+ office when the log has been completed. New logs may be obtained from the A+ secretary.
- Tutoring may take place during the school year or during summer school and under the direct supervision of a school official. See the A+ Secretary to set up tutoring.
- Scheduled times and assignments for tutoring are important and absences should occur only in case of emergency. Notification of absence should be made to the appropriate supervisors in a timely manner.
- Failure to follow the tutoring procedures may result in dismissal from the A+ program.
- To meet the requirement as an A+ student, (50) hours of tutoring must be completed and **student documentation turned in.**

Citizenship

Participation in the A+ Schools Program is a privilege for Fredericktown R-1 High School Students. All A+ students must maintain a record of good school and community citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol. Certification of good citizenship will be based on the official discipline record maintained in the high school office. The high school principal or assistant principal will review the discipline record of each student in the A+ Program and based on the review the principal could designate the student as eligible, probationary, or remove the student from the A+ program.

THE FOLLOWING OFFENSES WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE A+ PROGRAM. (These offenses may be community or school related).

- Possession, use, sale or transfer of alcohol drugs or narcotics.
- Possession of drug paraphernalia
- Criminal activity as defined by the Safe Schools Act

First and second-degree murder
Kidnapping\First and second-degree
assault
First and second-degree burglary /
robbery
Distribution of drugs / alcohol
First-degree arson

Property Damage
Possession of a weapon
Assault on a student
Intimidation of staff
Vandalism / theft
False fire alarm / bomb threats
Possession of dangerous items

A+ Citizenship Scope & Sequence		ISS	OSS
WARNING	Letter/e-mail to student	Accumulation of 1-15 days	Accumulation of 1-3 days
PROBATION	- Letter/e-mail to student - Letter/e-mail to parent/guardian	Accumulation of 16+ days	Accumulation of 4-9 days
OUT OF COMPLIANCE	- Letter/e-mail to student - Letter/e-mail to parent/guardian - Student may appeal at the district level	Accumulation of 17 or more days	Accumulation of 10 or more days
Days of ISS/OSS refers to the original day(s) assigned and NOT the amount of days served. A WARNING does not have to occur for a student to be placed on PROBATION. A PROBATION does not have to occur for a student to be OUT OF COMPLIANCE.			

Monitoring and Notification of A+ Status

At least once per school year, students participating in the A+ Program will receive an updated status paper. Any questions or concerns about the information reported are directed to the A+ secretary or A+ Coordinator. The A+ office will also periodically review the records of the A+ students and notify them of their status. Prior to graduation, the A+ students are notified of any deficiencies or concerns that may jeopardize their eligibility. Students who do not qualify for the math requirements before graduation will not be included in the graduation program as A+ Scholarship recipients. However, A student may achieve the qualifying score as a high school or postsecondary student. If the student achieves the score as a postsecondary student, they may be eligible for an award in the same term that they take the test provided that they established eligibility before the institution's reimbursement request is submitted. It is the students responsibility to contact the school after graduation to ensure qualification for the program with a post-graduate math score.

Due Process

In accordance with school policy, students are entitled to due process. Students may appeal the A+ decision to the High School Principal. The High School Principal will convene with a review committee composed of: the High School Principal, A+ Coordinator, High School Guidance Counselor and one of the student's high school teachers. The committee will render a decision on the appeal. Any additional appeals are conducted following policies set forth by the Board of Education.

How do I apply for A+ at college?

Check with your community college or vocational /technical school to see what material they require in order to confirm your A+ eligibility. In most cases, your school will require an A+ seal /stamp on your final high school transcript. You will need to request the high school office to send your final transcript to the college of your choice.

While in college:

- Students must enroll and attend full-time (at least 12 college credit hours per semester) at a participating public community college or vocational/technical school.
- Students must be seeking a degree or certificate at the school in which they are enrolled.

- A+ funding assistance cannot be used to enroll in a course of study for a degree in theology or divinity.
- Not have a criminal record preventing receipt of federal Title IV student financial aid.
- Make a good faith effort to secure all available federal aid by *completing the FAFSA each year*.
- Maintain a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and otherwise maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the school.
- Complete 12 semester credit hours or the equivalent (6 hours during the summer term) each term in which you receive an A+ award in order to maintain eligibility for the next term.

How long can I receive an award?

Your eligibility expires when the earliest of the following occurs:

- 48 months after the graduation date documented on your high school transcript.
 - * Students providing service to any branch of the U.S. armed forces can defer their eligibility.
 - * Receipt of an associate's degree
- Completion of 105% of the hours required for the program in which you are currently enrolled.

For more information about the A+ Scholarship Program, visit:

<https://dhewd.mo.gov/ppc/grants/aplusscholarship.php>

A+ will not pay for repeated, withdrawn or dropped courses, or coursework completed prior to High School graduation (dual credit, dual enrollment, AP classes, etc).

Eligible A+ Community Colleges and Vocational Technical School

- Arcadia Valley Career Technical Center (Ironton, MO)
- Boonslick Technical Education Center (Boonville, MO)
- Brookfield Area Career Center (Brookfield, MO)
- Cape Girardeau Career & Technology Center (Cape Girardeau, MO)
- Career & Technology Center At Ft. Osage (Independence, MO)
- Carrollton Area Career Center (Carrollton, MO)
- Carthage Technical Center (Carthage, MO)
- Cass Career Center (Harrisonville, MO)
- Clinton Technical School (Clinton, MO)
- Columbia Area Career Center (Columbia, MO)
- Crowder College (Neosho, MO)
- Current River Career Center (Doniphan, MO)
- Dallas County Career Center (Louisburg, MO)
- Davis H. Hart Career Center (Mexico, MO)
- East Central College (Union, MO)
- Eldon Career Center (Eldon, MO)
- Excelsior Springs Area Career Center (Excelsior Springs, MO)
- Four Rivers Career Center (Washington, MO)
- Franklin Technology Center (Joplin, MO)
- Gibson Technical Center (Reeds Spring, MO)
- Grand River Technical School (Chillicothe, MO)
- Hannibal Career & Technical Center (Hannibal, MO)
- Herndon Career Center (Raytown, MO)
- Hillyard Technical Center (Saint Joseph, MO)
- Kennett Career & Technology Center (Kennett, MO)
- Kirksville Area Tech. Center (Kirksville, MO)
- Jefferson College (Hillsboro, MO)
- Lake Career & Technical Center (Camdenton, MO)
- Lamar Area Vocational/Technical School (Lamar, MO)
- Lebanon Technology & Career Center (Lebanon, MO)
- Lewis & Clark Career Center (Saint Charles, MO)
- Lex La-Ray Technical Center (Lexington, MO)
- Linn State Technical College (Linn, MO)
- Macon Area Career and Technical Education Center (Macon, MO)
- Metropolitan Community College (Kansas City, MO)
- Mineral Area College (Park Hills, MO)
- Missouri State University-West Plains (West Plains, MO)
- Moberly Area Community College (Moberly, MO)
- Moberly Area Technical Center (Moberly, MO)
- Nevada Regional Technical Center (Nevada, MO)
- New Madrid R-I Technical Skills Center (New Madrid, MO)
- Nichols Career Center (Jefferson, MO)

- North Central Career Center (Bethany, MO)
- North Central Missouri College (Trenton, MO)
- North Technical (Florissant, MO)
- Northland Career Center (Platte City, MO)
- Northwest Technical School (Maryville, MO)
- Ozark Mountain Technical Center (Mountain Grove, MO)
- Ozarks Technical Community College (Springfield, MO)
- Pemiscot County Career & Technology Center (Hayti, MO)
- Perryville Area Career and Technology Center (Perryville, MO)
- Pike/Lincoln Technical Center (Eolia, MO)
- Poplar Bluff Technical Career Center (Poplar Bluff, MO)
- Ranken Technical College (St. Louis, MO)
- Rolla Technical Institute (Rolla, MO)
- Saline Co. Career Center (Marshall, MO)
- Sikeston Career & Tech. Center (Sikeston, MO)
- South Central Career Center (West Plains, MO)
- South Technical (St. Louis, MO)
- Southwest Area Career Center (Monett, MO)
- St. Charles Community College (Cottleville, MO)
- St. Louis Community College (St. Louis, MO)
- State Fair Community College (Sedalia, MO)
- Three Rivers Community College (Poplar Bluff, MO)
- Unitec Career Center (Bonne Terre, MO)
- Warrensburg Area Career Center (Warrensburg, MO)
- Waynesville Technical Academy (Waynesville, MO)

A+ Recognition Scholarships

Missouri Four-Year Colleges and Universities

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The A+ Schools Program is funded through the State of Missouri for Missouri public community colleges and vocational / technical schools ONLY.

However, some 4-year colleges in Missouri offer their own A+ recognition scholarships. The colleges determine these scholarships themselves and may or may not be offered at any time. CHECK WITH THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE AT 4-YEAR COLLEGES AND ASK IF THEY OFFER ANY INCENTIVES.

School	Amount	Type of Scholarship	Other Information	Full info:
Avila University	\$250	Freshmen	Awarded to full-time, first-year students who successfully complete the A+ Program	Avila Univ. A+ Scholarship
Columbia College	\$1500	Renewable	Tuition-only grant for students who completed the Missouri A+ Program	Columbia College A+ Scholarship
Culver-Stockton	\$1500	Freshman	Students who participate in the Missouri A+ Program	Culver-Stockton A+ Scholarship
Evangel University	\$1000	Freshman / Renewable	Not automatic – eligibility is determined from answers on the Evangel admission application. Renewable with a 2.0 GPA	Evangel Univ. A+ Scholarship
Fontbonne University	\$1000	Freshman / Renewable	Fontbonne A+ Scholarship Application form due by March 1 st .	Fontbonne University A+ Scholarship
Missouri Baptist University	\$1000	Renewable	Eligible students who qualify for the Missouri A+ Program	MO Bap A+ Scholarship
Missouri Southern State University	\$1000	Freshman, renewable up to 8 semesters (\$500/semester)	Must complete 24 credit hours for fall and spring semesters with a 2.5 GPA to renew.	MO Southern Univ. A+ Scholarship
Missouri State University - Springfield	\$500	Freshman/Renewable	Must submit MO State A+ Scholarship Application by June 1 st .	MO State Univ. A+ Scholarship
Missouri Western State University	1 free credit of service learning	Freshmen	Complete additional hours at MO Western through the Center for Service to earn 2 additional free credits while attending	MO Western Univ. A+ Award for Service

	(approx.. \$333)			
Northwest Missouri State	\$1500	Freshman	Apply for Admission by April 1, ACT 18+, GPA 2.5+, limited number available, renewable with a 3.3 Northwest GPA for 24 credit hours per year	Northwest A+ Scholarship
Park University	\$5,000	Freshman/Renewable	Letter of eligibility from high school counselor required 3.25 or higher cumulative GPA Awardees Must Maintain Full-Time Enrollment/GPA requirements for renewal. Number of awards varies.	Park University A+ Recognition Scholarship
Southeast Missouri State University	\$1000 for residence hall fees	Renewable for Residence hall fees	Residence Life Leadership Scholarship--- A+ completion, 18 ACT, 3.0 GPA, involved in school activities; renewable with a 3.25 college3 GPA To apply for this award, complete the section on your Admissions application by March 1st	SEMO Residence Life Leadership Award
Truman State University	\$500	Renewable	A+ verification on high school transcript	Truman Univ. A+ Recognition Scholarship
University of Central Missouri	\$500	Renewable for 1 year	18+ on ACT, 2.5+ GPA. Renewable with a 3.0 GPA for 24 credit hours completed	UCM A+ recognition Scholarship

A+ Award for Private Two-Year Schools

School	Award	Guidelines	Phone Number
Cotley College	\$1000/renewable	The A+ designation must be included on your final high school transcript.	Cotley A+ Scholarship
Ranken Technical College	Total award = approx. \$5500	Award amount is equivalent to attending two years of public community college	Ranken A+ Scholarship

Community College/4-year University Co-enrollment Programs

These programs offer students the opportunity to save on their tuition costs by using A+ to earn community college credits for the first two years, while also having a four-year college experience starting in their first year.

A+ only covers the community college tuition and fees.

All other costs at the 4-year university including tuition and fees, dorms, meals, etc. is the responsibility of the students to pay out of pocket or through other financial aid.

School	Award	Guidelines	Full info:
University of Missouri-Columbia/MACC	Use A+ to take 12+ hours per semester through MACC on Columbia campus for first two years	Student financially responsible for cost of tuition/fees to take 1-6 hours on Mizzou campus, living expenses (Mizzou dorms if space available). May access resources on both campuses. After first two years, transfer to Mizzou full-time complete degree Apply early - check website for deadlines and forms	Mizzou MACC Program
Columbia College/MACC	Use A+ to take 12+ hours per semester through MACC on Columbia campus for first two years	Student financially responsible for cost of tuition/fees to take 1-6 hours on Columbia College campus, living expenses (dorms if space is available). May access resources on both campuses. After first two years, transfer to Columbia College full-time to complete degree. Apply early – check website for deadlines and forms.	CC MACC Program
Missouri S&T Campus Connections	Use A+ to take 12+ hours per semester through ECC Rolla Campus for first two years	Student financially responsible for cost of tuition/fees to take 1-6 hours on Missouri S&T campus, living expenses (dorms if space available). May access resources on both campuses. After first two years, transfer to MO S&T full-time to complete degree. Apply early – check website for deadlines and forms	Missouri S&T Campus Connections
Missouri State University & Ozarks Technical CC (Springfield, MO)	Use A+ to attend Ozarks Technical CC full-time in Springfield for first two years.	Access to MSU libraries, athletic tickets, advisors and campus events. Student is financially responsible for living expenses first two years (not eligible to live in MSU dorms). After first two years, transfer to MSU full-time to complete degree.	Missouri State and Ozarks Technical CC Partnership
Missouri State University – West Plains Campus	Use A+ to cover full tuition and fees at West Plains campus for Associate's Degree.	Tuition covered by A+ at West Plains campus only (approx. 2 hours away from Springfield). Student responsible for dorms/living expenses. After completing Associate's Degree, student can transfer to MO State – Springfield or any 4-year college to complete degree.	MO St – West Plains
2+ SLU	Use A+ first two years at STLCC	Dual admission to SLU and STLCC. Access to SLU Advisor and campus resources. Student responsible for housing and living expenses. Only eligible for certain degree programs. After first two years, transfer to SLU full-time to complete degree.	2+SLU