



# Rock Bridge High School

## A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM APPLICATION

If state funds are available, A+ certified students will receive reimbursement for the cost of tuition and general fees while attending a Missouri public community college or career/technical school on a full-time basis for two years. This financial reimbursement will be for the unpaid balance after federal post-secondary financial assistance funds have been applied. The tuition amount eligible for reimbursement is capped at the published standard per credit hour tuition rate charged by the State Technical College of Missouri. Certified students must meet the following requirements prior to high school graduation (exception: # 6 Math Score may be achieved after graduation but prior to accessing A+ funds).

1. Attend a designated A+ high school for two (2) years prior to high school graduation (Must complete this application no later than Nov. 1 of your senior year).
2. Graduate from high school with a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale (grades 9-12).
3. Have at least 95% attendance record (grades 9-12).
4. Perform and document fifty (50) hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring coordinated by the RBHS A+ Coordinator (up to 12.5 hours can include job shadowing experiences).
5. Maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol (see Citizenship Guidelines on back for more information).
6. Earn a score of Proficient or higher on the Algebra 1 End of Course Assessment (or by alternate assessment determined by the State—see A+ Coordinator for approved alternate assessment scores).

The A+ Schools Program's student financial incentive will be available for up to two (2) years of full-time attendance during the four-year period after graduation from high school. To access the funds, participants must:

- Submit a Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) form (during their senior year),
- Have registered for Selective Service (male U.S. citizen over age 18),
- Attend a Missouri public community college or career/technical school on a full-time basis,
- Maintain a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, and
- Be a U.S. Citizen or legal permanent resident.

- **The A+ Program may provide these educational incentives 1) provided state funds are appropriated by the legislature or 2) subject to state funding approval.**
- The Columbia Public School 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.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipated Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL** high schools attended/attending (check all that apply):

Rock Bridge HS  Hickman HS  Battle HS Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*The student must sign (typed name represents the signature) the A+ Schools Program Application before the student will be considered for participation in the A+ Schools Program. By signing this application the student certifies that they have read, understand and **agree to the A+ Citizenship and Attendance Guidelines listed on the other side of this application.***

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**A+ Applicant Checklist  
(FOR A+ OFFICE USE ONLY)**

_____ Application complete	
_____ Previous schools checked/records requested	_____ Confirmation letter sent
_____ Discipline record checked	_____ Folder created
_____ Attendance checked	_____ Meets Math requirement

# **A+ Schools Program Citizenship and Attendance Guidelines**

## **Citizenship**

Students participating in the A+ Schools Program must maintain a record of “good citizenship” to qualify for post-secondary financial assistance. A student demonstrates good citizenship by showing respect for self, law, property, and the rights of others. Any student who participates in the A+ Schools Program must be a creditable citizen and be judged so by the proper school authority certifying the list of students for participation. A student whose character or conduct reflects credit upon him/herself or his/her school is considered a creditable citizen and is therefore eligible to participate in the A+ Schools Program.

Students have not demonstrated good citizenship if they have any of the following:

***Pled guilty or nolo contendere (no contest) or been convicted or found guilty of a felony or violation of the Safe Schools Act (Safe Schools Act violation are not appealable).***

***Received school discipline for being under the influence, distribution of, or possession of alcohol or drugs.***

***Accumulated a disproportionate number of out-of-school consequences (such as Out of School Suspension, ACE placement, etc.) during their high school career.***

## **Attendance**

Students have the right to appeal attendance disqualification. In most cases, the A+ Coordinator will address this option with the student during 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of their 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. In cases of appeals due to low attendance late in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade year, the student/parent/guardian must notify the A+ Schools Coordinator in writing of his/her intent to appeal within 5 business days of disqualification.

## **Citizenship and Attendance Appeal Process**

If the A+ Coordinator determines that an A+ enrolled student has not met the district policies and/or procedures regarding the attendance and/or citizenship requirements for the A+ Scholarship, the coordinator will notify the student and/or parent in writing of the need to appeal. After requesting an appeal, the student must provide all supporting documentation within 5 business days of the request for appeal. The A+ Schools Coordinator shall then schedule an appeal hearing held during the spring of the student's 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. This committee shall be comprised of the A+ Coordinator and other school personnel (such as the Director of Counseling, an Assistant Principal, school counselor, etc.). The Appeals Committee shall hear the appeal and return its decision to the student within 5 business days. The decision of the Appeals Committee will be final.