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EXPLANATION: A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

MSBA has updated this policy to reflect changes brought about by House Bill 604 (2019). Specifically, § 160.545 RSMo., was amended to allow students to use A+ funds for college credit courses they take while in high school. Students must have earned the required grade point average the semester prior to enrolling in the dual credit or dual enrollment course. The Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development is responsible for creating the appropriate regulations to administer this program.

Please note:

1) The statute directs the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development to disburse funds first to high school graduates who are attending community colleges or vocational or technical schools. The remaining funds are disbursed to high school students enrolled in college credit courses.

2) MSBA interprets the Missouri Constitution to require districts to provide all district-sponsored courses to students free of charge.

MSBA has also revised the language in this policy to reflect the changes in 5 C.S.R. 20-100.200.

MSBA recommends that copies of this document be routed to the following areas because the content is of particular importance to them. The titles on this list may not match those used by the district. Please forward copies to the district equivalent of the title indicated.

X	Board Secretary		Business Office		Coaches/Sponsors
	Facility Maintenance		Food Service	X	Gifted
	Human Resources	X	Principals		Library/Media Center
	Health Services	X	Counselor		Special Education
	Transportation	X	Public Info/Communications		Technology

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A+ SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Platte County R-3 School 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 attend or 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 Program. The district shall employ an A+ Schools Program coordinator, as required by law.

Program Goals

The Platte County R-3 School District has established the following goals and performance standards:

1. All students graduate from high school.
 - ▶ 100% of those students in the A+ Program will graduate from high school.
2. All students complete a selection of high school studies that is challenging and for which there are identified learning expectations.
 - ▶ 100% of those students in the A+ Program will complete a rigorous selection of high school curriculum.
3. All students proceed from high school graduation to a college, postsecondary career-technical school or high-wage job with workplace skill development opportunities.
 - ▶ 100% of those students in the A+ Program will enroll in a college, post-secondary institution or high-paying career in a technical field complete with workplace development.

Citizenship Component

An important component of the A+ Schools Program is the fostering of good citizenship in our district's students. A student 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.

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2. Unlawfully used or possessed drugs, drug paraphernalia or alcohol on or off school property.
3. Had an out-of-school suspension.
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 Program 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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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted: 04/15/2010
Revised: 03/23/2011; 05/18/2017;
Cross Refs: IGBD, At-Risk Students
Legal Refs: § 160.545, RSMo.
5 C.S.R. 20-100.200
6 C.S.R. 10-2.190

Platte County R-3 School District, Platte City, Missouri