



A+ Algebra I EOC Requirement Status Update

Issued January 9, 2023

Beginning with the 2020 senior class, DHEWD has waived the Algebra I End-of-Course exam eligibility requirement for the A+ Scholarship. Over the past several months, DHEWD has reviewed the current status of that requirement to determine the need for a waiver for the 2023 senior class. After considerable research as well as collaboration with other state agencies and policymakers, the department has reached the decision to not seek a waiver of this requirement for the 2022-2023 academic year (2023 high school seniors).

With the end of the pandemic-related state of emergency by Governor Parson and the return to more normal school operations over the last several years, the justification for extending the waiver has largely disappeared. Because the previous waivers were granted on a year by year basis, there was no guarantee of additional waivers and students wanting to qualify for the A+ Scholarship should have been working to meet this requirement. The 2023 high school senior class has had and continues to have opportunities to meet this requirement, either by taking the Algebra I EOC exam and achieving a qualifying score or by taking the ACT exam and scoring at the required level on the mathematics subtest.

Students may achieve the qualifying ACT score as a postsecondary student as long as they met the other A+ high school eligibility requirements at the time of high school graduation. These students may be eligible for an A+ award in the same term that they took the test and achieved the qualifying ACT score.

DHEWD continues to believe that demonstrating postsecondary readiness should be an eligibility criterion for this merit-based scholarship program. We are committed to continuing to review the appropriate measures of that readiness and to making program adjustments to ensure the program encourages preparation for study after high school while also ensuring equitable program outcomes.

If you have any questions about the A+ Scholarship program, please contact us at mdhestudentportal@dhewd.mo.gov or (800) 473-6757, option 4.

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