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A+ Schools Program Benefits 314 District Seniors Now Eligible for Reimbursed College Tuition

KANSAS CITY—NORTH ... When 314 of this year's seniors crossed the stage during district graduation ceremonies, they walked off with approximately **\$1.57 million in A+ Schools Program benefits** that many plan to use this fall when attending college or vocational school. A+ Schools reimbursement for tuition continues to be one of a student's best means for financial support in postsecondary education.

The statewide A+ Schools program offers high school students an opportunity to earn reimbursed college tuition and general fees at any Missouri community college or vocational/technical school. In the recent past, the program has covered tuition, fees and books but has been modified due to state budget difficulties to currently include only partial book reimbursement. Students may receive this incentive for a maximum of six (6) semesters and are able to use the incentive for up to four years following high school graduation.

To be eligible for state funds, students first must attend a designated A+ school at least three consecutive years prior to high school graduation. Each of the district's three

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high schools – North Kansas City, Oak Park and Winnetonka – has an A+ Schools program. In fact, North Kansas City Schools was the first district in the state to have had multiple high schools earn A+ Schools certification.

To qualify for benefits, students must achieve a grade point average of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale during their entire high school career, maintain at least a 95% attendance rate, complete at least 50 hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring of young students, maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol, as well as avoid commission of acts of violence while in high school. Students who utilize the A+ Schools program benefits are required to be a full-time student and maintain a 2.5 GPA at the post secondary institution in which they enroll.

Recently, four-year colleges have begun creating financial incentives for A+ Schools students to come to them – either as freshmen or later as transferring juniors. Other colleges such as Missouri Western State College and Southeast Missouri State University have collaborated with area vocational/technical schools to allow A+ Schools students to enroll in a limited number of programs offered at the four-year institutions.

Class of 2005 students who earned status as A+ Schools graduates include the following, listed by high school in alphabetical order:



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North Kansas City High School

Mahado Ali
Raqiya Ali
Elizabeth Allen
Chad Anderson
Sabrina Austain
Gina Barker
John Begley
Jovo Bencun
Dwight Bowlin
Alice Brown
Juan Cisneros
Stephanie Comer
Melissa Crain
Kyle Crouse
Trent Dalton
Anne Dickey
Phuong Do
LaVance Dotson
Marietta Eiken
Kendra Elliott
David Engel
Yaima Fiallo
Henedine Figueroa
Whittney Findley
Havalee Fitzpatrick

Tabitha Fowler
Samantha Fox
Kelley Freeman
Amanda Gates
Brittany Gill
Amanda Greenwood
Pamela Harmon
Addison Hawkins
Jeremie Henry
Shealyn Holland
Samantha Hubbard
Whitney Johnson
Brent B. Jones
Amber Jordan
Andrew Kapp
Andrew Killen
Kristin Kraut
Blair Lancaster
Derrick Lane
Jonathan Langston
Dung Le
ToLoan Ly
Kathryn McNabb
Jessica Milligan
Brian M. Moore

Clayton Morlan
Jonathan Nelson
Vu Phi Nguyen
Vy Nguyen
Bobby Perry
Hung Pham
Linda Quach
Brandy Rich
Jacob Russell
Dashne Saeed
Kyle Sandrock
William Grant Scarfino
Kevin Smith
Samath Sok
Sarah Sprague
Jeff Talley
Laura Timm
Thuy Tran
Josh Velasquez
Sauphia Vorngsam
Christopher Welker
Angela Williams
Chris Williams
Robert Williams

Oak Park High School

Melissa Alfors
Tess Allman
Rachel Allsbury
Eric Anderson
Chelsea Appel
Camille Aton
Mark Atwell
Sean Aubrey
Jessica Austin

Christopher Barlow
Mandela Barrolle
Emily Bent
Aaron Bentley
Amy Besette
Katy Bird
Matthew Bond
Landon Brack
Adam Brown

Shauna Buffington
Shaina Burriss
Michael Bussinger
Matthew Cagle
Michelle Canovi
Bianca Cavallaro
Megan Chafen
Zara Childress
Danna Claytor

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Oak Park High School (continued)

Hannah Claytor
Lauren Coffey
Heather Colwell
Autumn Conard
Ashley Cook
Ashley Cooley
Laura Crumley
Jonathan Dalman
Jessie Danner
Jonathan Davey
Preston DeWalt
Bradley Donnell
Michelle Donovan
Mallory Dotson
Krystal Dreher
Katie Dugan
Laquita Eubanks
James Evans
Taylor Evans
Mitchell Falls
Krystan Fields
Jessica Finley
Heather Fleener
Kathryn Fowler
Britni Frame
Kassandra Francisco
Nicholas Franklin
Kaitlyn Fritz
Jason Fulks
Amanda Goff
Annette Granillo
Andrew Green
Mindi Green
Samantha Greer
Kristin Gudmundsson
Devin Haddix
Cody Hall

Jessica Hamilton
Megan Harrington
Deirdre Hart
Amy Jo Hasstedt
Charity Heese
Alex Hensley
Michael Hentges
Whitney Holden
Valerie Holmes
Ebony House
Meagan Hudson
Andrea Hutchinson
Jared Hyneman
Trisha James
Maciej Jedruszewski
Ashley Johnson
Micah Jones
Brian Josserand
Brian Kantor
Michael Kilkenny
Joseph Kinate
Abbey King
Loyd King
Sarah Kirby
Karissa Kirk
Rachel Kirkey
Heather Kitchel
Jason Lacy
Charles Lavigne
Crystal Law
Andrew Leatherman
Robert Lemons
Erik Lopez
Kristen Lovato
Matthew Ludden
Kayla Luna
Ashley Mahanke

Cory Mahin
Lauren McClure
Matthew McCombs
Jennifer McCray
Brittnee McElroy
Stephanie McKinney
Ashley Meeker
Danielle Miller
Heather Milligan
Hannah Misner
Tyler Moody
Antonio Mora Jr.
Lauren Murphy
Justin Nichols
Blair Nightingale
Ceara Nordyke
Kyle Norwood
Christopher Parrott
Sarah Parson
Stephanie Peak
Joshua Pilgrim
Rosemarie Pisciotta
Alan Poehlman
Erin Quador
Kyle Ramsey
Emily Ray
Sarah Ray
Britney Reese
Savana Ricker
Sean Robinett
Kyle Sanford
Danielle Schirmer
Codie Schumann-
Moerschel
Tanya Scott
Derek Seevers
Whitney Sharitz

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Oak Park High School (continued)

Lucas Slayton
Barry Smith
Elizabeth Smith
Erin Smith
Kimberly Snow
Jessica Snyder
Maribel Solis
Kristina Spurgeon
Jessica Stanley

Matthew Stine
Lindsey Stratton
Erika Takeyama
Taharah Tarver
Jessica Thornton
Lisa Tiesing
Michelle Trester
Derek Vaughan
Tracey Watson

Brandon Weir
Matthew Wheeler
Kelly Whelchel
Andrew Wilkens
Octavia Williams
Daniel Winchester
Shunta Winston
Crystal Youngberg

Winnetonka High School

Tyler Adcock
Rachael Anthony
Lindsay Arnold
Jemanesh Assefa
Jared Bailey
Debra Barnes
Bethany Bayer
Caleb Beeghly
Anthony Belcher
Jonathan Bellinghausen
Candys Betsworth
Aaron Biddle
Brandon Blaylock
Stephen Boniello
Leah Bradshaw
Mark Branstetter
Amanda Brown
Geoffrey Browning
Daniel Burch
Courtney Byrne
Chelsea Cain
Shane Carter
Amanda Chaney
Blaine Clark
Jennifer Czech
Ashley Davis

Kasie Dunham
Clayton Feurer
Danyelle Filbrandt
Jeremy Finn
Andrew Fleener
Andres Fonseca
Roxana Fu
Audra Glotfelty
Amanda Gonterman
Scott Gould
Ashlee Hays
Christopher Headrick
Lorriel Heiman
Joel Herndon
Kurt Hixson
Brett Hughes
Nicki Jefferson
Kenton Jordan
Kathy Kennedy
James King
Kara Kramme
Jared Lainhart
Christopher Lakin
Staci Layne
Brant Linch
Daniel Lindgren

Amanda Long
Heather Marriott
Benjamin Marx
Jessica McVay-Gehring
Cassie Odor
Pete Peters
Jennifer Phan
Lindsey Pollock
Whitney Riney
Megan Robertson
Robert Rocha
Clinton Schasteen
Samuel Schmidt
Jeremy Schroeder
Sean Shaver
Jessica Shell
Michelle Ann Smith
Stefan Tapp
Chelsey Todd
Sarah Torres
Karrie Trager
Mathew Vetter
Francisco Villegas
Spencer Wood
Jeniffer Wrzesinski

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For more information about the A+ Schools program in North Kansas City Schools, contact the A+ Schools coordinators: **Carol Smith**, North Kansas City High School, at (816) 413-5900; **Sharlaine Hemmingsen**, Oak Park High School, at (816) 413-5300; and **Zoe Whaley**, Winnetonka High School, at (816) 413-5500.

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