



DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHER EDUCATION &
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

A+ Eligibility for Postsecondary Students

In response to multiple school closures as a result of the COVID-19 virus, the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development is issuing the following guidance for A+ eligibility for 2019-2020 postsecondary students and their ability to renew the award for the 2020-2021 academic year. *This guidance is temporary and applies only to the 2019-2020 academic year.* For all other academic years, students will be required to meet the A+ Scholarship requirements outlined in [Section 160.545, RSMo](#) and the A+ administrative rule, [6 CSR 10-2.190](#).

1. **Grade Point Average.** The A+ Scholarship requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 to renew the award. However, to renew the award in the 2020-2021 academic year, students must only meet satisfactory academic progress as defined by the school by the end of the spring 2020 term. Students who meet the school's GPA requirement for satisfactory academic progress will be eligible to renew the A+ Scholarship, even if the school requires less than a 2.5 GPA.
2. **Full-time Enrollment.** Schools may use the All Available Hours exception to full-time enrollment for students impacted by closures and/or alternative delivery methods in the spring 2020 term.
3. Students must continue to meet the 12 hours per semester, or 90% of the clock hours for the payment period, completion requirement for the spring 2020 term to be eligible for reimbursement in the first 2020-2021 term in which they enroll. However, as a reminder, students who are eligible for the spring 2020 term under the All Available Hours exception are considered to have met this requirement if they complete all of the hours that were available to them.

The department will issue additional guidance if it becomes necessary as this situation unfolds. If you have any questions, please contact the following staff. At this time, email is the preferred method of communication.

Connie Bestgen, financial aid specialist

(800) 473-6757, option 4, (573) 751-1722, or connie.bestgen@dhewd.mo.gov

Amy Haller, financial aid specialist

(573) 526-7958 or amy.haller@dhewd.mo.gov

Kelli Reed, senior associate

(573) 751-2444 or kelli.reed@dhewd.mo.gov