

A+ Citizenship Policy

Participation in the A+ Program is considered an honor and privilege for the students of Marshfield High School. Marshfield A+ students are expected to maintain a record of good citizenship during their high school tenure. Students who participate in the program are expected to conform to a higher standard of conduct than is applicable to non-participants.

A student's "Serious Offense" will automatically result in either probation or removal from the A+ Program, and if removal from the program occurs, the student will incur the irrevocable loss of A+ Schools incentives. Those "Serious Offenses" include (but are not limited to):

- Arson
- Attendance at school or school function while under the influence of drugs or alcohol (as those terms are defined below)
- Use, sale, purchase, possession, or distribution of drugs, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol. An A+ student will not use, sell, purchase, possess, or distribute any drug on school property or elsewhere. For purposes of this rule, the term "drug" includes any illegal drug, alcoholic beverage, illegally possessed prescription drug, controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, or item, which, by markings or by representations made, is represented to be a drug.
- Extortion
- False alarms
- First-degree assault
- Physical assault of school staff member
- Possession of an instrument intended for use to attack
- Use or possession of firearms or other weapons
- In accordance with the Safe Schools Act, notification to the District that a criminal Petition has been filed against the student pursuant to Section 167.115 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. A student may only be reinstated to the program if the student produces proof that the relevant criminal action has been expunged or dismissed without any consequence to the student. A student will not be reinstated if he/she receives probation, suspended imposition of sentence, a plea bargain, court supervision and/or monitoring in lieu of further prosecution, or a dismissal based upon another type of agreement with juvenile, prosecution, probation, or judicial authorities or officials.
- In accordance with the Safe Schools Act, notification to the District that a student has been the subject of a criminal charge, indictment or information, petition, adjudication, or conviction of a crime (which, if committed by an adult, would be a crime) that is listed in Section 167.171.3 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. A student may only be reinstated to the program if the student produces proof that the relevant criminal action has been expunged or dismissed without any consequence to the student. A student will not be reinstated if he/she receives probation, suspended imposition of sentence, a plea bargain, court supervision and/or monitoring in lieu of further prosecution, or a dismissal based upon another type of agreement with juvenile, prosecution, probation, or judicial authorities or officials.
- Insubordination to staff
- Fighting
- Verbal abuse to staff or students
- Theft
- Vandalism
- Truancy
- Harassment
- Disruptive Conduct

Serious Offenses include those that occur on school property, and/or at any school event whether on or off school property. Serious Offenses will also include those that occur outside of school during the school year, such as in the community, if such conduct would otherwise be characterized as one of the Serious Offenses set forth above. The definition of each Serious Offense, unless otherwise set forth above, will be interpreted in a manner consistent with the District's student discipline policies/code. The Assistant Principal will review the A+ Student's citizenship record annually and report to the A+ Advisory Board. Citizenship certification will be based on the cumulative discipline record of the student at school and in the community. For seniors, administrators will make a final citizenship determination during the second semester.

Consequences of Violation

A student who violates the Citizenship requirement will be notified in writing that they have been 1) placed on citizenship probation until graduation, or 2) removed from the A+ Program. In most cases, the commission of a Serious Offense will result in removal from the A+ Program. Probation shall be the exception rather than the expected consequence. The student then has the option to appeal.

Appeals

If a student chooses to appeal a decision made regarding participation in the A+ Program, the student will have an opportunity to be heard before the A+ Appeals Committee. The hearing before the A+ Appeals Committee will be conducted as determined by the Committee. A date for an appearance before the Committee will be set and the student and parent or guardian notified. The appeals committee will include the Assistant Principal, A+ Coordinator, one teacher, and two A+ Advisory Board Members. The student being referred will be allowed to select an additional teacher to sit on the committee as a non-voting representative.

The committee will hear the case and make a decision as to whether the student will receive:

- Probationary Period
- Removal from the A+ Program

The decision of the A+ Appeals Committee will be provided in writing within five (5) school days. The student will have the right to appeal any decision of the A+ Appeals Committee to the Marshfield Board of Education. All A+ appeals must be made no later than the June board meeting of the year of graduation. The appeal to the Board of Education shall be conducted in a manner determined by the Board of Education at its discretion. There shall be no entitlement to a Contested Case or other formal hearing.

Students and parents should note that this appeal process is not intended to allow participants to avoid removal for actual violation of the program standards or to seek leniency when an appropriate consequence has been imposed for conduct that has actually occurred. The appeal process is simply designed to prevent probation or removals from being based upon inaccurate or incomplete information.