

MDHSA DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Academic Honors Diploma Application

"Academic Honors" will be printed on the Diploma and Transcript

For: (Print student's name) _____

Please submit this application **with** the Diploma Request Form

The **Diploma with Academic Honors** recognizes the student who has gone beyond the minimal academic requirements or has distinguished himself academically through additional course work. The Academic Honors Diploma is recommended for students taking college preparatory courses; with this in mind, the following criteria have been established and are **in addition to the general diploma criteria**: (*See the MDHSA Diploma Guide and the MDHSA Annual Summary Form and Transcript for general diploma requirements*).

For Academic Honors consideration, ALL REQUIREMENTS BELOW MUST BE MET AND CHECKED (unless otherwise noted) by the end of the senior year. Honors Application AND required attachments are due with the Diploma Request Form and should not be submitted separately.

GRADING REQUIREMENTS

- Students applying for Academic Honors must use letter grades or percentages on academic courses, not Pass/Fail.
- Students should have an 'A' average (90% or better) in all academic courses. Difficulty of subject matter will be taken into consideration if there are any 'B's' on the Transcript.

SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

1. English - ALL REQUIRED

- The student who desires an Academic Honors diploma will demonstrate that his reading selections have challenged him in some way. Reading selections for the honors diploma should include a majority of high school or college level selections. With that in mind, the student should have had an extensive reading list, with selections from more than three of the following categories, in his portfolio for each evaluation: FICTION, NON-FICTION, BIBLE, ESSAYS, POETRY, MAGAZINE ARTICLES, CLASSICS, TECHNICAL
- The student has had instruction in literary analysis. Much of this information is found in literature texts or programs, or other materials. This includes learning terms such as: SIMILE, METAPHOR, PLOT, FORESHADOWING; RHYME, RHYTHM, AND METER IN POETRY
- The student has completed at least one research paper that is a minimum of five pages, and includes at least two separate types of resources, such as internet articles (excluding Wikipedia), published books or texts, interviews, or any other type of academic media where the student obtains significant knowledge in the topic. The report should include: (*See English textbooks for examples of research papers.*) COVER PAGE, OUTLINE, FOOTNOTES OR ENDNOTES, BIBLIOGRAPHY

Do not send the research paper to MDHSA. The evaluator should verify that the research paper for the Honors Diploma is well written and meets the above guidelines.

- The student has completed at least two years of foreign language study in a single language.

2. Science

MARK THE COURSES TAKEN; LAB COMPONENT REQUIRED. The student has studied:

Biology and Chemistry

OR

Biology and Physics

- One science course (from above) was accompanied by a lab and a lab report. (*See science texts, Internet for resources for lab reports*). **Indicate Course (from above) that include Lab** _____

Application continued on the next page.... SIGNATURES REQUIRED

Academic Honors Application Continued for: (Student's Name) _____

3. Mathematics

Two tracks are given to satisfy the criteria of the Academic Honors program. **Please Note: "Keys To..." (Algebra, Geometry, etc.) may not be used in pursuit of an Academic Honors diploma. Courses MUST be a college prep level high school course.**

Choose one of the following tracks, and mark the courses taken:

TRACK 1 – Enriched Math Program

AT LEAST 3 CREDITS OF MATH FROM THE FOLLOWING:

Algebra I
 Geometry
 Algebra II

Trigonometry
 Pre-calculus
 Calculus
 Other college-preparatory course (list)

TRACK 2 – Math with an Enriched Language Arts Program

AT LEAST 3 CREDITS OF MATH that must include:

One credit in Algebra and one credit in Geometry
OR
 Two credits of Algebra and Geometry integrated
AND
 One credit of Consumer / Business Math or Accounting
PLUS (one of the following)

5 English credits
 4 Social Studies credits
 3 credits of the same foreign language

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- A recommendation **written by the Evaluator or other person who has worked with the student in an academic setting explaining why s/he is recommending the student for this honor. A parent may not write an academic honors recommendation.**
- One sample (one-page) of the student's writing, either from the current year's work, or written specifically for the honors program application.

SIGNATURES REQUIRED

We certify that the all information given above and attached is not exaggerated, but is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge. (Signatures required below).

Evaluator _____
Student _____

Date _____
Supervisor _____

Office Use Only:

All course requirements met: English ____; Foreign Language ____; Science ____; Math ____ (Track: 1 2)
Academic courses letter or percent: ____ Acceptable grade point average ____
Evidence of challenging coursework ____ Evidence of coursework **in addition** to the minimal requirements ____
Writing Sample: well written, typed, grammatically correct; few or no spelling errors ____
Evaluator or Instructor recommendation ____

Approved by: _____ **Denied by:** _____ **Date:** _____

Reason for Denial: _____