

**MDHSA DIPLOMA PROGRAM**  
**Diploma with Distinction Application:**  
**Academic Achievement**

*“With Distinction” 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 Distinction in Academic Achievement** is presented to the student who has a passion for and **excels in a *specific* academic field and pursues it beyond the “classroom” but who would not necessarily qualify for an Academic Honors diploma.**

**Example:** A student may receive Distinction in: Debate - having participated in and placed high in competitions; English / Writing - having extensively written novels or poetry (published or unpublished); Math - placed high in math competitions or other events; Botany, Archaeology, Astronomy, History and other such topics - exceeding the classroom experience by working with a professional in that field or doing extensive research on a specific historical era (*i.e. Civil War, etc.*). Examples may include students who participate as historical re-enactors; those who have done extensive and complete science laboratory research and reports (published or unpublished) outside of the normal textbook/lesson plans, either independently or under the guidance and supervision of a professional in a specific scientific field, and other high-level experiences and work in their selected academic area.

While it is expected that an Academic Achievement student will have above average grades, the Distinction is NOT awarded to the student SIMPLY for receiving above-average or perfect grades in a subject area, nor is the Distinction awarded to the student whose learning path is SIMPLY within a normal or reasonable realm of expected high school coursework. A parent MAY NOT provide a recommendation.

**A student may NOT receive an Academic Achievement Distinction AND an Academic Honors Diploma.**

All requirements for an MDHSA standard diploma must be met to be eligible for a Diploma with Distinction. **All requirements must be completed BEFORE submitting the Diploma Request Form. Attachments must be submitted with the Application.**

- Academic Specialty: (list subject / topic) \_\_\_\_\_
- Briefly describe the student's achievements in the specific academic area in which the student has excelled:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Signed recommendation attached. Scanned copy of original signed recommendation also permitted. Recommendation must be given by an evaluator or other individual/professional who has interaction with the student in the specified academic area.

**SIGNATURES REQUIRED**

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

Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

**MDHSA OFFICE USE ONLY**

APPROVED BY: (MDHSA SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_