

Cole R-I High School

A+ Schools Citizenship Policy

Participation in the A+ School Program is an honor and unique privilege for Cole Co. R-I High School Students. Students pursuing the A+ incentives must maintain a record of good citizenship and avoid the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol. Certification of good citizenship will be based on official discipline records maintained by the high school and/or official records from city, county or state officials.

Activities within the school setting are an important part of determining good citizenship. Students are expected to demonstrate patterns of good behavior that include, but are not limited to; cooperation, respect for oneself and others, responsibility and leadership. Poor school citizenship resulting probation or loss of A+ eligibility include:

Level I Infraction - 1st Offense - Not Eligible / Removal from the A+ Program

Expulsion - 1st Offense – Not Eligible / Removal from the A+ Program

OSS/ISS (Excluding tardies) – 1st Offense - Conference with Principal/A+ Coordinator

OSS/ISS (Excluding tardies) – 2nd Offense - Probation

OSS/ISS (Excluding tardies) – 3rd Offense - Not Eligible / Removal from the A+ Program

Good citizenship outside of the school setting is of equal importance. Therefore, any actions for which legal information is available to the school district will be used in evaluating the citizenship of the applicant as follows:

Misdemeanor – 1st Offense – Not Eligible / Removal from the A+ Program

Felony – 1st Offense – Not Eligible / Removal from the A+ Program

Probation

Any disciplinary offense (other than an offense that causes immediate removal from the program) may result in the student being placed on probation. A second disciplinary offense would remove the student from the A+ Program.

Disciplinary probation is used with the understanding that even the best student makes mistakes. Probation is designed to recognize this characteristic in young people. However, receiving the A+ incentive is an honor and should be treated as such. Students who are designated A+ Students should demonstrate distinctive qualities and be role models for other students. Their character and ethics should be of the highest standards.

Disciplinary Probation Appeal Process

In the event that an applicant is not able to meet the “good citizenship” requirements and becomes ineligible for the A+ financial incentive, the student/parents or guardians have the right to appeal. The following process may be used by to appeal a disciplinary decision:

- Students and parents/guardians have 15 days to appeal a decision that is made dealing with discipline or probation. Anyone making an appeal must use the “A+ Appeal of Citizenship Form” located in the A+ Student and Parent Handbook Appendix.
- The basis of the appeal must be submitted in writing to the A+ Coordinator.
- Upon receiving a written appeal, the A+ Coordinator will convene the A+ Appeals Committee composed of the following:
 - High School Principal
 - High School Teacher
 - High School Teacher
- The A+ Coordinator will act as facilitator and non-voting member of the A+ Appeal Committee. After the Appeal Committee reaches a decision, the principal and A+ Coordinator will notify the parents/guardians of the appeal decision by letter. Upon review of each individual case, by the Appeal Committee, one of the following actions will be taken:
 1. A warning statement will be issued to the student’s parents/guardians notifying them that the student may be placed on probation if another infraction occurs during the semester.
 2. A letter of notification will be issued to the student’s parents/guardian placing the student on probation. Students are only allowed ONE probationary period within the A+ Program.
 3. The student’s parents/guardians will be notified that the student has been removed from the A+ Schools Program and his/her A+ Contractual Agreement is no longer in effect.
- To appeal the citizenship committee’s decision, the parents/guardians have **10 school days to file a written appeal** with the superintendent of Cole Co. R-I School District. The superintendent will contact the parents/guardians of his/her decision.
- To appeal the superintendent’s decision, the parents/guardians have **10 school days to file a written appeal** with the Cole Co. R-I Board of Education. The two previous appeals will also be submitted to the Board of Education. The appeal will be reviewed at the next board meeting. The Board of Education will notify the parents/guardians of their decision. The decision of the Board will be final with no further appeal being permitted.

Level I Infractions

Alcohol and Drug Policy - The use and or possession of alcohol and unauthorized prescription or nonprescription drugs, narcotic substances, counterfeit drugs, or drug paraphernalia, is not permitted in school buildings, on school grounds, on school transportation, or at school sponsored events.

Arson - Starting a fire or causing an explosion with the intent to damage property.

Physical Assault on Staff Member—Felony offense

Weapon—A weapon is defined as, a firearm (loaded or unloaded), or any device designed as a weapon and

We have read all of the above information and understand that violation of the Cole R-I High School A+ Schools Program Citizenship Policy could result in removal from the A+ Schools Program.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

A+ Schools Coordinator's Signature _____ Date _____