Dear A+ Scholarship Student:

This notice contains important information about your A+ Scholarship award for the 2014-2015 academic year. Please read it carefully.

In August the Missouri Department of Higher Education announced that funding for the A+ Scholarship might not be sufficient to fully reimburse A+ students for their tuition and general fees. This announcement was based on program growth and a $2 million spending restriction imposed by Governor Nixon to keep the state budget in balance. At that time, MDHE estimated students might be required to pay tuition and fee costs for up to four credit hours.

MDHE has re-evaluated the program’s funding and continues to project that it will be insufficient to fully reimburse eligible students for the spring 2015 term. Based on updated projections, the department has imposed a one credit hour hold-back for the spring 2015 term. This means that in the spring 2015 term students in credit hour programs will be required to pay for one credit hour, and students in clock hour programs will be required to pay for 37.5 clock hours.

The re-evaluation was based on several factors. In November, the governor lifted the $2 million expenditure restriction that had been in place for the A+ Scholarship program, which eased the impact of the projected shortfall. Although the lifted restriction plays a significant role in the program’s funding, the most recent data available indicates growth in the program still will exceed the amount of funding available for eligible students.

MDHE will continue to monitor the status of the program funding during the next several months. We will notify your institution if sufficient funding becomes available later in the spring semester to reimburse students for the additional credit hour.

Your institution’s financial aid office has also been informed of this one credit hour hold-back. Additional information about A+ reimbursement for the spring 2015 term is available on the A+ Scholarship page of MDHE’s website, www.dhe.mo.gov.

If you have questions, please contact the Missouri Department of Higher Education at (800) 473-6757, option 4, or info@dhe.mo.gov.