

## Academic Honors Diploma – Application

*“Academic Honors” will be printed on the Diploma and Transcript*

For: (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*). If a student has not exactly met the criteria for Academic Honors, but has demonstrated academic excellence, the parent may write a letter defending the request and it will be considered. However, be advised, that a requirement will not be entirely waived; there must be some coursework that takes its place. For Academic Honors consideration, all requirements below must be met / fulfilled 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.

➡ This is an **APPLICATION** for an Honor. The award is subject to the review of the diploma program committee and many factors will be considered. **The required courses are necessary but not a guarantee that the honor will be awarded.** When awarding this honor, MDHSA considers the factors noted at the end of this application. If the honor is awarded, the honor will be designated on the diploma and transcript. If the honor has been denied, the application checklist/explanation will be included with the diploma.

*Many students have other excellent gifts that may better be recognized with one of the other 3 honors diplomas that MDHSA has available. Be sure to read the latest applications available on the website, as various changes and additions have been made in recent years.*

- Students applying for Academic Honors must use letter grades or percentages on academic courses, not Pass/Fail.

### English Requirements – ALL REQUIRED

- The student who desires an Academic Honors diploma will demonstrate that his **reading selections** have challenged him in some way. 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

*Reading selections for the honors diploma should include a majority of high school or college level selections.*

- The student has had instruction in **literary analysis**. This includes learning terms such as:  
SIMILE METAPHOR PLOT FORESHADOWING POETRY: RHYME, RHYTHM, METER  
*Much of this information is found in literature texts or programs, or other materials.*

- The student has completed at least **one research paper** that is a minimum of five pages. The report should include: (*See English textbooks for examples of research papers.*)

THREE NON-ENCYCLOPEDIA RESOURCES (may include interviews)			
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.

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

