



## ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

### ACADEMIC RECOGNITION AWARD

5120

Procedure No.

February 1, 2005

Date

- I. **PURPOSE:** To provide uniform procedures for awarding the Prince George's County Public Schools' Academic Recognition Award.
- II. **BACKGROUND:** By Board Resolution on December 15, 1983, students in grades 9-12 who have received a QPA or 3.5 or above, with no final grade lower than a "C," will be awarded the Prince George's County Public Schools' Academic Recognition Award. This award will be presented during October of the school year following the school year in which the student earned the 3.5 QPA. Additionally, on December 15, 1988, the Board directed that recognition be given during graduation for students whose cumulative QPA is 3.5 or above throughout the high school years.

The purpose of these actions is to emphasize, recognize, and reward scholarship and academic achievement.

III. **DEFINITIONS:**

A. Academic Recognition Award:

1. A felt patch awarded to students in grades 9-12 who have received a QPA of 3.5 or above, with no final grade lower than a "C," for the school year prior to the year in which the student earned the 3.5 QPA.
2. A bar (to be attached to the patch) for students who achieve a QPA of 3.5 in subsequent years.

B. Recognition at Graduation:

The names of all graduates with a cumulative 3.5 QPA shall be marked on the program to denote this accomplishment.

- IV. **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** To be eligible to receive an Academic Recognition Award, students must be in grades 9-12, and must have received a QPA of 3.5 or above, with no final grade lower than a "C," for the school year prior to the year in which the student earned the 3.5 QPA. The QPA may have been earned in a Prince George's County Public School or a public or non-public school outside of the school system.

V. **PROCEDURES:**

- A. Grades in all courses, including those courses taken for original credit, as well as those courses which have been repeated, and those courses taken in



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summer school and evening high school will be included in computing the QPA.

- B. At the beginning of October, Information Technology will send each high school a list of students, currently enrolled in their school, who achieved a QPA of 3.5 or above with no grade lower than a “C” during the previous school year. Students new to Prince George’s County Public Schools and students who may become eligible for academic recognition due to grade changes will not be included on this list. Schools will be responsible for identifying students falling into these two groups.
- C. The Principal or designee is responsible for determining which students in that school are eligible to receive the Academic Recognition Award or recognition at graduation.
1. During the first year the student earns the award, the student receives a felt patch. The student receives a bar during each subsequent year he/she earns the award.
  2. Academic Recognition bars and patches should be ordered from the Supply Services Center as soon as an accurate count has been made of the number of students eligible for each award.
  3. The Academic Recognition Award should be presented to students through an awards assembly as early in the first semester as can be appropriately arranged by the school.
  4. The students receiving an award or recognition at graduation will also receive a letter from the Prince George’s County Board of Education acknowledging their achievement.
  5. Expenses for the purchase of patches and bars will be covered by the Division of Academics.
- VI. **RELATED PROCEDURES:** Administrative Procedure 5121, Examinations and Grading for All Elementary and Secondary School Programs.
- VII. **MAINTENANCE AND UPDATE OF THESE PROCEDURES:** The Division of Academics will be responsible for updating these procedures.
- VIII. **CANCELLATIONS AND SUPERSEDES:** This Administrative Procedure 5120 cancels and supersedes Administrative Procedure 5120, dated November 25, 1996.



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IX. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 1, 2005.

Approved by:  
André J. Hornsby  
Chief Executive Officer

Distribution: Lists 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, and 12