

## Missouri's 2020 Nomination of National Blue Ribbon School Criteria

Throughout the 37 year history of the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program, the award has affirmed the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The award flag gracing a school's building or entryway has been widely recognized by everyone from parents to policymakers in thousands of communities as a symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

### Criteria for Blue Ribbon Nominees

Missouri can nominate up to eight schools for the national Blue Ribbon Award. One third of the schools must be identified as disadvantaged schools.

Public schools must meet their performance targets in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics in each of the two years prior to nomination (2017-2018 and 2018-2019) and must do the same for the year in which they are nominated (2019-2020) or the last full battery of tests.

### Missouri's Plan for Nominating Exemplary High Performing Schools

- A. The school must be in the top 15 percent of all public schools in the state based on the performance of all students who participated in the most recently administered state assessment in ELA and mathematics.

#### **ELA and Mathematics Administered Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) Grade Level and End-of-Course (EOC) assessments.**

##### **English Language Arts**

Grade Level Assessment grades 3-8  
MAP Alternate grades 3-8 and 11  
End-of-Course English II

##### **Mathematics**

Grade Level Assessment grades 3-8  
MAP Alternate grades 3-8 and 11  
End-of-Course Algebra I

- Schools are ranked based on the percentage of students who received proficient and advanced in ELA and mathematics on the MAP.
  - Student achievement in both ELA and mathematics are combined and schools will be ranked on the total/average composite score.
  - All schools are ranked together regardless of grade configuration.
  - Nominated schools must enroll at least 100 students, have state assessment results in ELA and mathematics for at least 10 students in each tested grade, meet the state's performance target requirements for 2016-2017, and have assessment participation rates of at least 95 percent, using the most recent accountability results available, for all students.
- B. Missouri uses a super subgroup. Missouri identifies the five historically lowest performing subgroups; students eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch, Black students, Hispanic students, students with disabilities and English language learners. A student who is included in one or more of the five subgroups is included as a single count in the super subgroup calculation.

- Nominated schools must be in the top 40 percent of schools ranked by the performance of the super subgroup.
  - The school super subgroup has a minimum of 30 students.
- C. High schools must be in the top 15 percent based on the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate for 2018.
- D. Nominated schools must meet all nine eligibility requirements:
- The school configuration includes one or more of grades K-12. Schools on the same campus with one principal, even a K-12 school, must apply as an entire school.
  - The school has been in existence for five full years, that is, from at least September 2014 and grades participating in statewide assessments must have been part of the school for at least the past three years.
  - The nominated school has not received the National Blue Ribbon Schools award in the past five years: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, or 2019.
  - The nominated school has no history of testing irregularities, nor have charges of irregularities been brought against the school at the time of nomination. If irregularities are later discovered and proven by the state, the U.S. Department of Education reserves the right to disqualify a school's application and/or rescind a school's award.
  - The nominated school has not been identified by the state as "persistently dangerous" within the last two years.
  - The nominated school or district is not refusing Office of Civil Rights (OCR) access to information necessary to investigate a civil rights complaint or to conduct a district-wide compliance review.
  - The OCR has not issued a violation letter of findings to the school district concluding that the nominated school or the district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes. A violation letter of findings will not be considered outstanding if OCR has accepted a corrective action plan from the district to remedy the violation.
  - The U.S. Department of Justice does not have a pending suit alleging that the nominated school or the school district as a whole has violated one or more of the civil rights statutes or the Constitution's equal protection clause.
  - There are no findings of violations of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in a U.S. Department of Education monitoring report that apply to the school or school district in question; or if there are such findings, the state or district has corrected, or agreed to correct, the findings.