

# FACT SHEET

## A+ College Ready – A National Math and Science Initiative

### WHAT?

A+ College Ready will strengthen Advanced Placement (AP) courses in math, science and English through professional development and mentoring for teachers, identification of lead teachers, additional time for student learning, and financial incentives based on academic results.

The Advanced Placement Program provides motivated high school students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. Students who participate in the Program not only gain college-level skills, but in many cases they also earn college credit while they are still in high school. AP courses are taught following course guidelines developed and published by the College Board.

### WHY?

Research shows that students who take rigorous Advanced Placement (AP) classes are better prepared to do college-level work in math, science and engineering.

Alabama needs a well-qualified workforce to continue the state's economic success. And America needs more people choosing careers in math and science to maintain its position as a leader in technology and innovation.

### HOW?

The National Math and Science Initiative awarded up to \$13.2 million over six years to start A+ College Ready. This is the largest private grant on record for K-12 public education in Alabama.

NMSI will also provide technical assistance to help Alabama successfully replicate a model program that significantly increased the numbers of students scoring three to five on AP exams.

### WHO?

A+ College Ready is a program of the A+ Education Foundation and the following partners: Governor Bob Riley, State Superintendent of Education Joe Morton, the Alabama Power Foundation and the Alabama Mathematics, Science and Technology Education Coalition.

Since 1991, the A+ Education Foundation has advanced policies, programs and initiatives that result in high achievement by every child in Alabama's K-12 public education system. A+, which is largely funded by Alabama businesses, is also home of the Alabama Best Practices Center. The center works directly with teachers and other school leaders to promote promising teaching practices, and it receives major funding from the Wachovia Foundation and Microsoft Corp.

### LEARN MORE

National Math and Science Initiative [www.nationalmathandscience.org](http://www.nationalmathandscience.org)

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