

# Advanced Placement Power Scholars (APPS) Application Information and Instructions 2023-2024

## The APPS application will consist of

- 1. Student information
- 2. Student essay response
- 3. Teacher Recommendations
- 4. Counselor Documentation (MAP-R RIT Score & Cumulative GPA)

Students are responsible for completing the information component and essay component of the application. They are also responsible for communicating with teachers in order to organize recommendations and communicating with their counselor to request testing and GPA information.

## **Step One: Student Essay**

Draft a response to **one** of the two prompts on the next page.

## **Step Two: Student Information**

Complete the demographic questions about yourself and upload your written response. Be prepared to include the names of the three teachers you will ask for recommendations.

### **Step Three: Teacher Recommendation**

Contact three teachers asking them to complete a recommendation to the program on your behalf. Once they have accepted, send them the link for the google form.

### **Step Four: Counselor Verification**

Contact your current school counselor and request they complete the google form to include your MAP-R RIT score and cumulative GPA.

# **Important dates to remember**

September 27th - the APPS application opens
November 4th- the APPS application closes
December 15th- teacher recommendations and counseling information is due
January 26th- decision letters mailed home



# **Step One: Essay Prompts**

Students need to choose either prompt from below and create an organized and well thought out written response. Students will need to copy and paste their response into the appropriate section of the application.

## Prompt #1

"When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

"... The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world....

"He has refused to pass . . . Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only. . . .

"He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people. . . .

"He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures."

United States Declaration of Independence, 1776

In your response, be sure to address all parts of the question. Use complete sentences; an outline or bulleted list alone is not acceptable.

Using the excerpt, answer (a), (b), and (c).

- A. Briefly describe the historical situation in which the Declaration of Independence was written.
- B. Briefly describe the purpose of the Declaration of Independence.
- C. Briefly describe ONE piece of evidence used in the Declaration of Independence to support its argument.



#### Prompt #2

"One of the first strikes of cotton-factory operatives that ever took place in this country was that in Lowell, in October 1836. When it was announced that the wages were to be cut down, great indignation was felt, and it was decided to strike, *en masse* [as a whole]. This was done. The mills were shut down, and the girls went in procession from their several corporations . . . and listened to 'incendiary' [radical] speeches from early labor reformers.

"One of the girls stood on a pump, and gave vent to the feelings of her companions in a neat speech, declaring that it was their duty to resist all attempts at cutting down the wages. This was the first time a woman had spoken in public in Lowell, and the event caused surprise and consternation among her audience."

Harriet Hanson Robinson, later recollections of a strike in Lowell, Massachusetts, in 1836, published in *Loom and Spindle or Life*Among the Early Mill Girls

In your response, be sure to address all parts of the question. Use complete sentences; an outline or bulleted list alone is not acceptable.

Using the excerpt, answer (a), (b), and (c).

- A. Briefly describe ONE point of view of the excerpt.
- A. Briefly explain ONE purpose of the excerpt.

B. Briefly explain ONE historical development illustrated by the excerpt.



## **Step 2: Student Application**

Students need to complete this google form with basic demographic information and their written response. Please prepare a response before submitting to streamline this process.

**Student Application Link** 

## **Step 3: Recommendations**

Students need to get recommendations from **three** different teachers. Students can choose current teachers or teachers from last year. Students should email their teachers the following link and ask for the form to be completed. Please ask teachers to complete the form using their MCPS email address so we can verify information. Students should ask core content teachers such as English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Some other courses that may be considered are world languages and technology.

Teacher Recommendation Link

## **Step 4: Counseling Information**

Your MAP-R score and cumulative GPA are considered in your application packet. Please send the link below to your current guidance counselor to capture this information.

Counseling Information Link