Joining

Participating in the Academic Scholars Program is limited to approximately 200 students per year. Students will be invited to ASP who meet both the following criteria:

- Rank in the top 15% of their high school class
- Have an ACT composite score of at least 28 or an SAT score of at least 1240 (critical reading & math only)

After being notified of eligibility, students who respond will be admitted on a first-come basis. Limited housing for Scholars in Holden Hall will also be coordinated on a first-come basis. Academic Scholars housing is optional, so membership in the program does not conflict with other Living-Learning programs at MSU, such as Lyman Briggs College, James Madison College, the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, and similar residential programs.

Advising

A special Academic Scholars adviser and the orientation advisers for your major will assist with your initial schedule planning at your summer Academic Orientation Program. After you arrive at MSU, subsequent academic advising and enrollment will be done in collaboration with the academic advisers for your major and the Academic Scholars coordinator. Should you be invited and join the Honors College after your first year, you will then have access to Honors advisers in the Honors College and in your major.

Expectations

As an Academic Scholar, you would be expected to complete university, college, and departmental requirements for your prospective major and degree, while taking advantage of unique opportunities to add enrichment to your studies.

To receive the Academic Scholars notation on your MSU transcript and recognition in the commencement program, you need to complete four enhanced classes and have a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA by the end of your second year at MSU. The enhanced class choices must include:

- One Honors Section or course among your Integrative Studies requirement (ISS, IAH, ISP, and ISB)
- One additional Honors course or section in any area (such as WRA, other Integrative Studies, math, a course from your major, or an elective)
- Two additional enhanced courses (Honors courses or sections, Honors options in non-honors MSU courses, or Honors Research Seminars in your second year)

Enhanced Opportunities

The overall goal for the Academic Scholars Program is to provide enhanced academic opportunities for you during the first two years of college. If you are interested in this type of challenge, the Academic Scholars Program provides:

- Recognition of your high school achievements through invitation to this selective academic program
- Access to enriched coursework in your first two years at MSU, including Honors sections of required general education classes and selected Honors courses in other departments
- Opportunities to begin Honors work from the start of your college years, possibly as a prelude to Honors College membership
- Access to smaller classes, taught by faculty who take a personal interest in your intellectual growth
- The option to reside with other Academic Scholars in Holden Hall
- Academic Scholars recognition on your MSU transcript and at graduation for completing the program

"Through the Academic Scholars Program, I was able to complete several very stimulating, discussion-based classes. I recommend the ASP program for a more personalized educational experience that is flexible with your interests."

Katlyn R.
Academic Scholar, Psychology