



Frequently Asked Questions

General

Q. Is Mount Pisgah Academy an accredited school?

A. Yes, MPA is fully accredited by both the *The Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities*, and by the *National Council for Private Schools*.

Q. Does MPA require students to wear uniforms?

A. All students are required to wear a uniform during classes and anytime they are in the Administration Building. These uniforms consist of docker style pants (no cargo pockets please) and an MPA polo or oxford style school shirt. These shirts come in many different colors and must be purchased from the school. Order forms are sent to new students with their acceptance packet and the shirts can be picked up at registration.

Q. What organizations can I become involved in?

A. We have several performing organizations, including Acrosports, Chorale, Concert Band, Creative Ministries, and Drama. All of these organizations travel and perform around the Southeast. You can also get involved in other organizations like the Student Association, Boys' and Girls' Club, class offices, AV Media, or *Mountain Memories*, our school yearbook, and the student newspaper, *The Skyliner*.

Q. What athletic sports are available at MPA?

A. Intramurals are sports played against other MPA students and any MPA student or staff can participate. Teams compete against each other three nights a week during recreation time. Sports played include softball, volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, soccer, and football. Based on student interest level and staffing, MPA has had both a girls and boys basketball team that played other Christian schools in the area.

Spiritual

Q. Do I have to be a Seventh-day Adventist to attend Mount Pisgah Academy?

A. Membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church is not required to be a student at MPA. Students, however, are required to respect the beliefs of the church and take a Bible class each year while enrolled.

Q. Which religious services am I required to attend?

A. Dorm students are required to attend Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School and Church, and nightly dorm worships. Community students are welcome to attend any campus services they desire.

Q. What other type of spiritual activities are available on campus?

A. Each year we hold a Youth Rally weekend as well as several weeks of spiritual emphasis that feature special guest speakers as well as student speakers. Students can also participate in student-led Bible studies, attend Bible and prayer conferences hosted by the Southern Union and Carolina Conference, and learn about serving others through our regular Service Day and short-term mission trips.

Q. What is Service Day?

A. Once a month students take a day off from classes to serve our local community through a variety of projects, including Adopt-A-Highway, working with local food banks and homeless shelters, and volunteering at nursing homes, the VA Hospital, The Salvation Army, and other service organizations.

Q. How often does the school sponsor short-term mission trips?

A. Like most Adventist academies, MPA sponsors a short-term mission trip each year. What sets Mount Pisgah Academy apart from most Adventist academies is that every other year all students and staff are involved in this short-term mission trip. This past year the entire school went to Mississippi to participate in the hurricane disaster relief after *Hurricane Katrina*. In recent years, other Pisgah groups have gone on mission trips to Africa, Fiji, Mexico, the Caribbean, San Francisco, New York, Kentucky, and Asheville.

Academic

Q. How many diplomas are offered at Mount Pisgah Academy?

A. MPA offers three diplomas for students to choose from: a general high school diploma, a college preparatory diploma, and an advanced honors diploma.

Q. How does a student graduate with the advanced honors diploma?

A. Students who successfully complete the requirements for a college prep diploma and who pass at least one of the honors classes offered at MPA with a minimum GPA of 3.5 can graduate with the honors diploma. Honors classes are college-level courses and students can receive college credit for completing these courses.

Q. What honor classes are available at Pisgah?

A. Currently, Pisgah offers 3 honor classes: AP Biology, English Comp. 101, and Pre-calculus. Other classes that have been offered in the past include a Civil War history course and a CPR class.

Q. What foreign language classes are offered?

A. MPA offers both beginner and intermediate level classes in Spanish.

Q. How many computers are available on campus for student use?

A. Currently, the Academy has more than 30 computers for students to use in the ad building and each dorm. Each computer is connected to the school network and World Wide Web. Students also receive a free email account while enrolled as a student at MPA.

Q. Can students bring their own computer?

A. Yes, students are welcome to bring a personal computer but for safety reasons will not be able to connect their computer to the school's network or Internet in the dormitories. Wireless access Internet access is available to students in the administration building.

Q. What is the schedule for a typical day?

A. Freshmen and Juniors have classes in the morning and work in the afternoon. Sophomores and Seniors have the exact opposite schedule (work in the morning and classes in the afternoon). Organizations meet before supper, which is followed by recreation, and dorm worship and study hall in the dorms.

Financial

- Q. How much does it cost to attend Mount Pisgah Academy?**
A. The cost is \$8,150 for community students and \$13,500 for dorm students, which includes tuition, dorm fees, and cafeteria charges.
- Q. How much is due at registration?**
A. A total of \$2,010 is due at registration for dorm students and \$1,475 for community students. This represents 1/10th of the total yearly fee (\$1,260 for dorm and \$725 for village), a \$500 Entrance Fee, a \$200 book deposit, and either a \$50 Room Key Deposit for dorm students or a \$50 Cafeteria Events Fee for community students.
- Q. How much can a student earn during the school year?**
A. On average, students who work on campus can earn about \$1,500 per school year. Students who work at the Pisgah Valley Retirement Community can earn about \$2,300 - \$2,500 per school year.
- Q. How are student earnings paid?**
A. Students who work on campus are paid once a month and have their earnings applied to their monthly school bill. This amount reduces the total due for that month. Students who work at the Retirement Community are paid every two weeks and receive 10% of their earnings in cash. The remainder is applied to their school bill.
- Q. Is summer employment available?**
A. Yes, there are a limited number of summer positions available at the Retirement Community. Student can earn an estimated \$1,500 during the summer. For more information on how to apply contact our work coordinator, Kevin Worth.

Scholarships

- Q. What merit-based scholarships are available to new MPA students?**
A. Academic scholarships are granted based on a student's combined GPA from the last two school years. MPA organizations grant scholarships based on tryouts held during the Academy Days weekend. And leadership scholarships are available to students who have served as class president, student body president, or newspaper or yearbook editor the year previous to enrolling at MPA.
- Q. Is there a limit to the merit-based scholarships I can receive?**
A. New students can receive up to a maximum of \$1,500 in merit-based scholarships.
- Q. What scholarships are available to students with financial challenges?**
A. MPA offers students a matching-funds scholarship program and grants are available from a private foundation called *Pathways To Success*.
- Q. How does the matching-funds program work?**
A. Students (or their parents) ask for financial assistance from their family, friends, and church members. Sponsor tuition payments are matched at a 2:1 ratio, up to \$1,000 matching (i.e. \$500 contributed, \$1,000 matching for a total of \$1,500). Students who work on campus during the summer can receive additional matching funds at a 1:1 ratio.
- Q. Who is eligible for the matching-funds program?**
A. An application is required to determine financial need and all students must work at the retirement community. Students not living in the dorm or students receiving subsidy are not eligible for matching funds.

Q. What is the *Pathways To Success* grant?

A. *Pathways* is a grant from a private foundation in Maryland for students new to a boarding school environment and face financial challenges. Students who qualify for this program (based on the parents' adjusted gross income from the previous year) can receive a grant up to \$4,745 each year.

Q. Can I receive assistance from both *Pathways* and the matching-funds program?

A. Yes, students who qualify for both programs can receive funds from both. All *Pathways* students automatically qualify for the matching-funds program.

Q. How are merit scholarships and the school's matching funds applied to my account?

A. Merit scholarship are divided evenly over both semesters and applied over the 10 monthly statements. Matching funds are distributed as necessary throughout the year, based on eligible sponsor contributions.

Application Process

Q. What do I have to do if I want to tour the MPA campus?

A. Campus tours are available by appointment Sunday through Friday. Simply call the Academy at 828/667.2535 to schedule your campus visit and a representative will show you around and answer any questions you might have.

Q. Is it possible to meet with an Academy representative even if I can't come to campus?

A. Academy representatives travel around the Carolina Conference from May through August meeting with families of prospective students. To schedule a visit in your home or at Carolina Campmeeting, call the Academy at 828/667.2535.

Q. How do I apply for enrollment at Mount Pisgah Academy?

A. The first step is to fill out an application form and return it to the Academy. The second step is to have a math or English teacher, a pastor, and another teacher or adult fill out a recommendation form. The individuals filling out these forms will return them directly to the school.

Q. When is the deadline to submit my application?

A. There is no deadline, but new students who submit their application by June 30 with a \$100 deposit will receive an additional \$100 off their registration fee. And remember the sooner you submit your application the sooner we can accept you.

Q. Do I have to have to fill out the medical forms before I can be accepted?

A. No, a current physical examination, your medical history, and consent to treat form can be brought with you to registration. Our Admissions Committee will vote on your acceptance once we have received your application form and the recommendation forms. After you have been accepted, you'll receive an acceptance letter with more information about the upcoming year.

Q. When can I move into the dorm?

A. Unless a student is involved with our summer work program, new dorm students should plan to move into the dorm on the Sunday of registration.



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