

Here are the markers for success as an Honors Biology student:

- Has time management skills and is willing to commit 2-4 hours per week to homework and studying for Biology
- Is confident and willing to explore on his/her own; Honors Biology students are expected to design their own experiments (with help in the beginning) and work through the scientific process with little assistance
- Is mature enough to allow for much-needed safety in the science laboratory
- Has proficiency in reading, writing and math; Honors Biology students are trained to write lab reports and should be able to translate scientific information from lab activities into an organized lab report by second semester
- Is willing to seek help during and outside of class; Honors Biology students often come for help during SRT or before/after school
- Has some ability to apply concepts to problem solving and is an independent thinker; We will develop this skill throughout the year, but students who look for the teacher to supply all answers will struggle and be frustrated
- Scores should be deeply PROFICIENT (green) or ABOVE PROFICIENT (blue) on ISTEP Math & ELA testing.

Here are many of the markers for the typical success of an Honors 9 English student:

- Qualifies for High Ability services and/or has taken HA courses at SMS.
- Reads well and willingly when assigned. Reading comprehension is a strength.
- Scores should be deeply PROFICIENT (green) or ABOVE PROFICIENT (blue) on ISTEP ELA testing. Students whose scores are APPROACHING PROFICIENCY (yellow). Students who are reading BELOW PROFICIENT should take English 9. The reading expectations will be too much.
- Attends school regularly (at or above 95%.)
- Completes ALL work in a timely manner (late work has a penalty).
- Does work consistently outside of class. (Honors classes have little work time built in during the day.)
- Is or will become comfortable speaking in front of the class.
- Expects to attend a four-year college after high school.
- Enrolls in an additional Honors class as a freshman: Geometry and/or Biology
- Works very hard in his/her studies and enjoys school.

- Writes well and understands the basics of grammar and writing.
- Works well with others and independently.
- Values academic integrity (knows copying homework is cheating.)
- Maturity is improving.

Here are the markers for success as an Honors Geometry student:

- Took Algebra 1 in 8th grade and earned an A or B+
- Had proficient (GREEN) or above proficient (BLUE) on iLearn Math in 8th grade

Here are the markers for success as regular Geometry student:

- Took Algebra 1 in 8th grade and earned an B or B-
- Had approaching proficiency (YELLOW) on iLearn Math in 8th grade

Who should retake Algebra 1?

- Took Algebra 1 in 8th grade and earned a C or lower.