

The Advanced Placement Program

Source: The College Board

The goal of the Advanced Placement Program is to enable students to rise to college-level challenges in high school, receive both high school and college credit for their accomplishments, and enter higher education well prepared for its demands (and often reducing tuition costs).

AP opens a world of possibility and opportunity for students realizing that succeeding in this time of rapid change and global complexity means expecting more of themselves, intellectually and personally. AP offers high school students a singular opportunity to develop their strengths by experiencing the academic rigors of college, fostering self-motivation, confidence, responsibility, and self-reliance.

A longitudinal study of AP students' performance is underway at the University of California. Early results reaffirm the findings of other surveys conducted over the Program's lifetime: *college students who took AP courses in high school consistently outperformed non-AP college students academically both in the next course and over the long term.*

Advanced Placement exams are administered to registered students in AP courses, and the results of those AP exams are sent to the colleges of the students' choice. Participating colleges, in turn, grant credit or advanced curricular placement, or both, to students who have performed at a certain level on the AP Examinations. The AP Exams cost approximately \$80 each and are given each May at participating high schools throughout the world.

Over 1,400 colleges and universities currently offer up to one year's college credit for qualifying AP scores. In addition, many colleges give special consideration in the admission process to students having AP courses listed on the student transcript.

Advanced Placement Awards

Students receive national, state or local recognition from the College Board based upon the total number of AP Exams completed with scores of 3, 4 or 5 (AP score range = 1 - 5). Of the more than 1,000,000 students who took AP Examinations in May 2003, approximately 15% performed at a sufficiently high level to merit such recognition.

AP State Scholars (Top male/female scholars (105) in each state/D.C. taking the greatest number of AP exams with grades of 3 or higher; AP exam average grade of 3.5+ on all AP exams taken)

AP National Scholars (2,157 scholars passing 8+ AP exams with grades of 4 or higher; AP exam average grade of 4+ on all AP exams taken)

AP Scholar with Distinction (33,435 scholars passing 5+ AP exams with grades of 3 or higher; AP exam average grade of 3.5+ on all AP exams taken)

AP Scholar with Honors (32,438 scholars passing 4+ AP exams with grades of 3 or higher; AP exam average grade of 3.25+ on all AP exams taken)

AP Scholar (77,456 scholars passing 3+ AP exams with scores of 3, 4 or 5)

Four Year Summary - College Board Advanced Placement Scholars

	AP Scholar				AP Scholar with Honors				AP Scholar with Distinction				National AP Scholar			
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2000	2001	2002	2003	2000	2001	2002	2003	2000	2001	2002	2003
EHS	20	15	18	28	12	8	8	10	11	9	9	9	-	-	-	-
FVHS	76	77	75	89	27	35	31	49	36	39	39	42	7	8	6	2
HBHS	16	28	31	28	6	1	7	9	12	10	3	13	2	1	-	-
MHS	40	43	52	40	16	18	27	20	27	40	39	35	3	5	7	5
OVHS	20	24	20	20	7	7	11	5	8	13	11	5	2	-	1	-
WHS	17	23	19	20	1	5	-	-	2	3	10	2	-	-	2	-
HBUHSD	189	210	215	225	69	74	84	93	96	114	111	106	14	14	16	7