

Update on AP Exams

Dear Colleague,

We're following up to an email sent to you earlier in the week with additional information on AP® coursework and testing.

In the wake of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, we are working to support schools and students as they navigate this complex situation. Students remain eager to take AP Exams and have a chance to earn credit and placement. We surveyed 18,000 students, and 91% told us they want to complete this important step on the path to college. So we are investing heavily to make AP learning and assessments available to students despite widespread school closures.

To honor the efforts of AP students, we're providing free, optional remote learning and at-home AP testing. We have been consulting closely with our members and the faculty who serve on our AP Curriculum and Exam development committees to design these solutions:

- For the 2019-20 exam administration only, students can take a 45-minute online exam at home. Educator-led development committees are currently selecting the exam questions that will be administered.
- We will conduct standard-setting processes to set appropriately rigorous cut scores for AP scores of 3, 4, and 5. We ask that colleges continue to recognize such scores, just as they have done in prior years when we have provided a shortened exam for students in emergency situations.
- AP curricula are locally developed, and we defer to local decisions on how best to help students complete coursework. To be fair to all

students, some of whom have lost more instructional time than others, the exam will only include topics and skills most AP teachers and students have already covered in class by early March.

- Students will be able to take these streamlined exams on any device they have access to—computer, tablet, or smartphone.
- We recognize that the digital divide could prevent some low-income and rural students from participating. Working with partners, we will invest so that these students have the tools and connectivity they need to review AP content online and take the exam.
- The exam questions are designed in ways that prevent cheating; we use a range of digital security tools and techniques, including plagiarism detection software, to protect the integrity of the exams. Scoring at-home work for an AP Exam is not new to the AP Program. For years the AP Program has received and scored at-home student work as part of the exams for the AP Computer Science Principles and AP Capstone™ courses.

In addition, beginning on Wednesday, March 25, students and teachers can attend free, optional live AP review courses, delivered by AP teachers from across the country. They'll also be recorded and available on-demand. These mobile-friendly classes are designed to be used alongside work schools may continue to assign.

We're grateful for your continued partnership during this time, and we appreciate all you are doing to support students.

We will continue to provide updates and information as it's available.

Sincerely,

Jim Montoya
Chief of Membership, Governance, and Global Higher Education and
Secretary of the Corporation



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