

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 229

Board of Trustees

Douglas County School District

PROGRAM

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES

Advanced Placement Access:

All high school students in the District shall have access to Advanced Placement (AP) classes at their home high school. Students will be actively encouraged to challenge themselves by enrolling in Advanced Placement classes.

At a minimum, AP Calculus, at least one AP English class, at least one AP social studies class, and at least one AP science class will be taught at every comprehensive high school. High schools will be encouraged to offer a wide range of AP courses in all content areas. Exceptions to offering Advanced Placement courses in each of the four core curriculum areas could only be permissible under extraordinary circumstances and must be approved by the Assistant Superintendent for Education Services.

Combining Advanced Placement and Non-Advanced Placement students in one class is discouraged. In extreme instances this may be necessary and will require approval from the Assistant Superintendent for Education Services. When a course is designated as Advanced Placement, no Honors section may be offered in the same course at that school.

Advanced Placement Examinations:

Each student enrolled in an Advanced Placement class is required to take the Advanced Placement examination in that subject at the end of the year. Each school site shall inform students and parents of this requirement at the time of course selection. Students wishing to opt out of taking the exam must contact their principal or his/her designee to complete the required forms. (Parent permission is required.)

1. Students will be encouraged to take the AP exam in all of their AP classes. However, students taking more than 2 AP classes will be required to take at least 2 AP exams. Appeal forms must be completed and approved prior to testing dates to retain AP status on transcripts.
2. Extreme, verifiable, family emergency. (Provide written explanation)

If the student does not apply for and gain approval for an exemption, AP designation will not appear on his/her transcript for either semester credit and the grade will not be weighted.

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Students are expected to pay for their own AP examinations. High schools and the District will make every effort to provide funding for an AP test fee reduction for students who meet the requirement for Free and Reduced Lunch.

A student not enrolled in an Advanced Placement class may elect to take an Advanced Placement examination in any subject at the end of the year.

Case managers of Special Education and 504 students enrolled in AP classes will review required testing accommodations. (May require a meeting of the IEP team or request of accommodations from AP Board.)

Advanced Placement Guidelines:

- Students will be actively encouraged to challenge themselves by enrolling in Advanced Placement classes.
- Teachers teaching Advanced Placement must teach the prescribed curriculum.
- The prescribed national curriculum will be taught by a teacher specifically trained in the identified curriculum and accompanying instructional methods.
- The development of rigorous lower-level classes to prepare students for Advanced Placement work will be encouraged.
- Professional development for counselors and teachers with the express purpose of encouraging student participation in Advanced Placement classes will be provided.
- Professional development for teachers with the express purpose of improving quality of instruction and student success in AP classes will be provided.
- Grades in Advanced Placement classes will be weighted for the computation of a student's grade point average and for the Millennium Scholarship.

Reporting to the Board of Trustees:

Annual reports on enrollment and performance of students in Advanced Placement classes shall be provided to the Board of Trustees.

[Application for Exemption Form](#)

[See Policy related to this Administrative Regulation](#)

Adopted: 06/13/06
Revised: 1/19/17