



Kara Libby, Ed.D.
Chief Academic Officer

August 26, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: High School Principals
FROM: Kara Libby, Ed.D. *Kara Libby*
Chief Academic Officer
RE: Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Fees

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) aims to provide all students with an opportunity to engage in rigorous instruction through Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Taking AP courses allow students to engage in classes that are taught on a college level and designed to prepare them for the rigors of college work.

Beginning in the 2019-2020 School Year, College Board will implement some key changes to the Advanced Placement Program. The changes being implemented include new resources for teachers and students to support student success in the AP class. The most significant change relates to when students will have to commit to taking the AP Exam. This year students will have to commit to taking their AP Exams no later than **October 31, 2019**. This deadline has been set to provide AP Coordinators with time to finalize exam orders and meet the order deadline. These changes will impact our AP Exam Fee Policy.

As part of the new process, this year, all students must register at the following website: <https://myap.collegeboard.org> and join each AP Class they are taking using a join code to be provided by their teacher. This process will be conducted once the school year begins with the assistance of the AP Teachers. All students must join the class via this website to have access to the new resources and to **register** for the AP Exams.

PGCPS will continue to support and encourage students to take AP classes; however, taking the AP exam is not mandatory. To support students in taking the AP Exam, we will pay for the exams taken by students who meet the following criteria:

1. Free and Reduced-Price Meals Program Students: PGCPS will pay for those exams a student elects to take and registers for by **October 31, 2019**.
2. Non-Free and Reduced-Price Meals Program Students with Four or More AP Classes: PGCPS will pay for any exams in excess of three based on the exams a student elects to take and registers for by **October 31, 2019**. This will be assessed per family.
3. Parents of Non-Free and Reduced-Price Meals Program students taking three or fewer AP courses will be responsible for paying their own exam fees for exams students elect to take. All exam payments must be made by **October 31, 2019**.

Student Category	Number of Exams	Family Pays for Exams	PGCPS Pays for Exams
FARMS	N/A	No	Yes
Non-FARMS	4 or more	Yes The first three exams.	Yes Any exam in excess of the first three exams per family.
Non-FARMS	3 or fewer	Yes	No

Students who are not enrolled in an AP Course, but wish to take the exam, must register by **October 31, 2019**. These students must register at the following website: <https://myap.collegeboard.org> and join an Exam Only section for the exam they wish to take. These students will have to submit payment before an exam is ordered.

Any student, FARMS and Non-FARMS, who registers to take an exam after November 15, 2019, will be responsible for the full exam fee along with the \$40.00 late fee. The cost of each exam is \$94.00, except for the Capstone Seminar and Research courses, which are \$142.00. FARMS students eligible for the College Board waiver pay \$53.00 for each exam. Payment must be received prior to the exam being ordered for the student. The only exception is if the course is a Second Semester course **only**. Second semester courses are those that begin after November 15, 2019. For second semester courses, the process for joining the AP Class and registering for the exam will be the same as previously mentioned. The deadline to register for an AP exam for a second semester course is March 13, 2020. **All payments must be made using an active MySchoolBucks account.**

Teachers will continue to provide students with rigorous instructional opportunities in the classroom that serve to prepare them for the AP exams they may elect to take at the end of the year. Teachers will also have access to exciting new resources that will provide them with personalized feedback on student performance.

Students can connect to online preparation for the AP exams by going to the following link:

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/takingtheexam/preparing-for-exams>

Students can also gain valuable insight on the AP courses and exams at the following link:

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home>

Please see the attached Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for additional information.

The attached parent letter, FAQs and Acknowledgement Form have been translated into Spanish and French and should be distributed to all students enrolled in Advanced Placement classes during the first week of school. The letter should be given directly to the students or mailed home, but schools need to ensure that ALL students and parents receive these important documents related to the changes with the AP Program.

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If you have any additional questions regarding AP exams, please contact Ms. Edrika Hall, Instructional Supervisor for Advanced Programs, at academic.advancedp@pgcps.org.

Thank you for your continued support!

Attachments

c: Wesley Watts, Ed.D.
Helen Coley, Ed.D.
Gwendolyn J. Mason, Ed.D.
Douglas Strader, Ed.D.
Carletta Marrow, Ed.D.
Instructional Directors
Judith J. White, Ed.D.
Ms. Elizabeth Faison

Leon Washington, Ph.D.
Kia McDaniel, Ed.D.
Ms. Edrika Hall
AP Coordinators
School Counselors
Ms. Natasha White-Jones
Ms. Ronlyn Dandy



Kara Libby, Ed.D.
Chief Academic Officer

September 5, 2019

Dear Parent or Guardian:

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Please see the attached Frequently Asked Questions for additional information.

If you have any additional questions regarding AP exams, please contact Ms. Edrika Hall, Instructional Supervisor for Advanced Programs, at academic.advancedp@pgcps.org.

Thank you for partnering with us in your child's education!

Sincerely,



Kara Libby, Ed.D.
Chief Academic Officer