



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PROGRAM CRITERIA

- **What are the criteria for a school to qualify for the AP Opportunity Program?**

A: To focus the funding on schools with the most unmet student potential and need, the following data-driven criteria was used to develop the list of schools selected for this initiative:

- 1) They are **public high schools** in the U.S.
- 2) They **serve large numbers of low-income students**; 70% or higher of students qualify for free and reduced-price lunch.
- 3) They have **ten or more students with high potential** to be successful in college-level AP courses that were not offered at the high school in the 2012-13 academic year. AP potential is indicated by their scores on the 2012 PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test). For this criterion, high AP potential is defined as a 60 percent or higher likelihood of scoring a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP Exam.

- **How many schools will be eligible to participate in the AP Opportunity Program?**

A: More than 230 schools meet the criteria, and we hope that they all participate in this program, starting in the fall of 2014.

- **Where are these qualifying schools located?**

A: The schools represent a broad range of public high schools across the United States, located in urban and rural areas all across the country.

- **Are schools required to administer the PSAT/NMSQT® to qualify for this program?**

A: Yes. Research indicates that PSAT/NMSQT scores are strong predictors of a student's likelihood of success in AP coursework and exams. When used in conjunction with other criteria such as high school GPA, grades in previous same-discipline course work, and the number of same-discipline courses a student has taken, the PSAT/NMSQT can provide high school educators with reliable guidance in identifying students who may be ready for the rigor of AP.

This program is designed to increase access to AP courses for students who have strong academic potential to be successful in AP. In order to identify schools with populations of these high-potential students, the College Board used historical PSAT/NMSQT data from the 2012-2013 academic year to identify schools that had 10+ students with 60 percent likelihood of earning a score of 3, 4, or 5 on an AP Exam not already offered by their school. The PSAT/NMSQT is administered to 3.5 million students every year and is a consistent measure.



The October 2013 PSAT/NMSQT data is now available: To start their new courses, schools can use AP Potential™, a free, Web-based tool, to identify whether they have 10 or more students who have at least a 60 percent likelihood of success in an AP course not currently offered at the school.

- **What are the enrollment requirements for this program?**

Schools that participate in the program will sign a Memorandum of Understanding committing to start one or more new AP course(s) and maintain these courses for a minimum of three years. This will enable the new course(s) to become an integral part of the school's overall AP course offerings. New AP courses will need to have a minimum of 10 students. Schools will follow their usual enrollment policies, as well as use AP Potential data to identify students with high potential and encourage them to enroll.

FUNDING

- **How will teachers be able to receive their funding?**

A: Between April and August, teachers who sign up for the program will receive packets that include explicit instructions and a suggested materials checklist for their course with their DonorsChoose.org gift card. Participating AP teachers will be asked to create projects on DonorsChoose.org, and then purchase materials through the site using their DonorsChoose.org gift cards. DonorsChoose.org will purchase the necessary textbooks and materials teachers require and deliver them to the schools directly. No money will be exchanged.

- **How will teachers be able to receive their professional development?**

A: Teachers must register for an AP Summer Institute by April 30, 2014. Instructions will be included in the teachers' info packets and in the resource section of collegeboard.org/ap-opportunity.

- **How much funding will a typical school in this program receive?**

A: A typical school will receive \$2,600-\$16,000 throughout the duration of the program to start their new courses, including funding for professional development, classroom materials, textbooks, lab equipment, graphing calculators, and replacement costs for years 2 and 3. The year one classroom resource funding varies by course:

Course	Total
Biology	\$7,840
Calculus AB	\$3,200
Calculus BC	\$3,200
Chemistry	\$9,000
Computer Science A	\$1,200
English Language and Composition	\$1,800
English Literature and Composition	\$1,800
Environmental Science	\$7,100
Macroeconomics	\$3,800
Microeconomics	\$3,800
Physics 1	\$6,100
Physics 2	\$6,100
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	\$6,100
Physics C: Mechanics	\$6,100
Statistics	\$3,200
U.S. Government and Politics	\$1,800
U.S. History	\$3,800

PROGRAM PROCESSES

- **What AP subjects are eligible for the AP Opportunity Program?**

A: The AP subjects included in this initiative are:

- Biology,
- Chemistry,
- Environmental Science,
- Physics 1 and 2,
- Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism,
- Physics C: Mechanics,
- Calculus AB,
- Calculus BC,
- Computer Science A,
- Statistics,
- English Language and Composition,
- English Literature and Composition,
- U.S. Government and Politics,
- Macroeconomics,
- Microeconomics,
- United States History.

- **How do schools use AP Potential?**

A: In December, *AP Potential*TM launched with 2013 PSAT/NMSQT® results. Access codes were emailed in early December to principals and AP Coordinators at 2013-14 participating AP schools, and also appear on the PSAT/NMSQT Roster of Scores. After logging in and entering your access code, you will be able to choose whether to generate reports based on the 2011, 2012, or 2013 PSAT/NMSQT administration. District- and State-level AP Potential access codes are also available; contact your College Board State and District Partnership office for more information.

For this program, it is recommended that schools use the 2013 results to identify 10 or more students who have at least a 60 percent likelihood of success in an AP course not currently offered at the school.

- **What documentation do participating schools need to keep and/or report?**

A: Schools are expected to run their new courses for three years. Teachers will be asked to provide feedback on the program by responding to a survey annually for five years.