

# Advanced Placement FAQs

## 1. What is an Advanced Placement class?

*AP classes are college-level classes that are offered in high school and taught by high school teachers. These classes are meant to be similarly rigorous to introductory level college classes. At the end of the AP class, students may sit for an AP exam, which will measure the extent that the student mastered the content and skills. Students who show mastery may be eligible to receive college credit for the class.*

## 2. Who should take AP classes?

*Any student who is willing to work hard and engage in the learning process can take AP classes. Students do not have to be straight A students or at the top of the class to be successful in AP coursework—they just have to be willing to make the time commitment and work hard.*

## 3. How many AP classes should a student take?

*This is a personal decision that parents/ guardians and students should make together. It varies from student to student. AP classes do require more time outside of class to study, read, and work on assignments, so it is important to consider other time commitments that students have. A student who is over committed may find themselves overwhelmed or falling behind.*

## 4. How do students decide which AP classes to take?

*Again, this is a personal decision, but students should consider the classes that they enjoy and tend to be successful in. Additionally, some AP classes pair well together, and so students may want to consider that as well. An important thing to remember is that students need to WANT to be in the AP classes that they are taking.*

## 5. Who can I talk to to get more information about AP classes?

*Students should talk to their counselor about AP classes. They also might be able to get good information from their grade-level assistant principal, teachers who teach AP classes, and students currently taking AP coursework. Additionally, the district Instructional Facilitator for AP can be contacted at [ncoerver@mid-del.net](mailto:ncoerver@mid-del.net) or 405.737.4461.*

## 6. What are the benefits of taking AP classes?

*There are many benefits to AP coursework. Of course, earning college credit is a huge benefit, but beyond that, students who have AP experiences in high school typically have increased success in college, higher college graduation rates and are more likely to graduate from college on time. AP courses also have additional weight when factored into a student's GPA.*

## **7. When are the AP exams?**

*AP Exams are scheduled during the first two weeks of May. These dates are set by the College Board, and are the same nationwide.*

## **8. How much do AP exams cost?**

*AP exams cost \$96.00. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunches can pay the reduced fee of \$10.00 for AP exams. Additionally, exams are discounted for students who are taking more than one exam. If financial need is a concern, please reach out to your student's counselor, principal, or the district instructional facilitator for AP. We don't ever want financial need to be a barrier to students taking AP coursework and will be able to find a solution.*

## **9. Do students have to take the AP exam if they enroll in an AP class?**

*There is no requirement for students enrolled in AP courses to take the AP exam, however part of the extra weight added to a student's GPA for taking AP classes does come from sitting for the exam. Students who take AP classes and earn a C or higher get .5 added to their GPA for the class. Students who also sit for the AP exam get an additional .5 added to their GPA for the class, meaning that the AP course is weighted by an additional point.*

**If you have any additional questions regarding Advanced Placement courses, please contact your student's grade-level assistant principal, their counselor, or the district instructional facilitator for AP, Nina Coerver.**