

The Pre-AP™ and Advanced Placement Program®

It's not just an Examination.

It's not just a Course.

It's a Program.

Why Pre-AP?

The purpose of the Pre-AP Initiatives is to equip all middle and high school teachers with the strategies and tools they need to engage their students in active, high-level learning, thereby ensuring that every middle and high school student develops the skills, habits of mind, and concepts they need to succeed in college.

The Advanced Placement Program

- **Allows students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school.**
- **More than 1,691,905 public school students in the United States took AP exams in 37 AP Courses in 2009.**
- **37 courses offered in multiple subject areas. FISD offers 27 of these courses.**

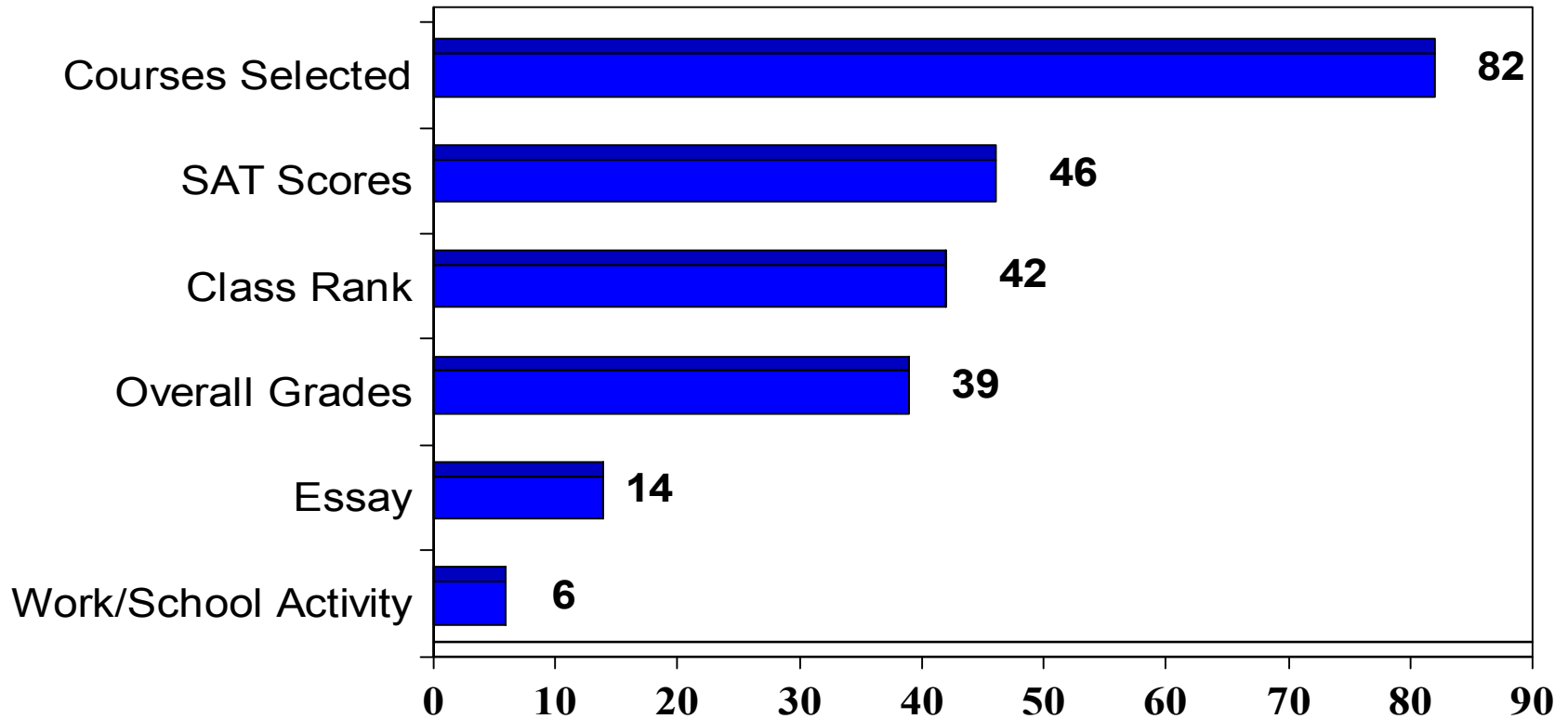
Benefits of the AP Program

- Students can get a head start on the work they will confront in college by earning college credit and/or placement at over 3600 colleges and universities, if they successfully complete an AP Examination.
- Students gain college-level analytical and study skills.
- Students gain academic confidence.

Benefits of the AP Program

- Colleges admit students prepared to tackle rigorous coursework. Students who have taken AP courses have higher bachelor's degree completion rates according to a 1999 U.S. Department of Education study.

WHAT COUNTS IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS



% citing “considerably important”

AP and the Cost of College

- A 2008 study found that AP students had better four-year graduation rates than those who did not take AP. For example, graduation rates for AP English Literature students were 62 percent higher than graduation rates for those who took other English courses in high school.
- The typical college cost per year for a four-year public institution is \$7,662 for in-state students and \$18,629 for out-of-state students. (tuition, fees, and books only)

Source: The College Board, 2008

Benefits of AP Program for Students

Students who complete AP courses:

- Are placed in challenging courses thus better prepared academically.
- Develop the academic skills and expectations needed for college.
- Are more likely to choose challenging majors.
- Are likely to maintain a high grade point average and graduate from college with honors than their college classmates of similar ability.

Benefits of AP Program for Students

Students who complete AP courses:

- Are prepared for college classes.
- Score doesn't compute into GPA
- No Risk for taking the test
- The student determines which colleges receive the grade, if any.

Benefits of AP Program for Students

Students who complete AP courses are:

- likely to complete more college level work
- More likely to take additional college courses within the discipline of their AP coursework
- more likely to graduate with a double major
- twice as likely to go into advanced study

Benefits of AP Program for Students

- You do not have to take the “weed out” classes.....Freshman classes are typically very large.
- Teaching Assistants teach entry level classes.
- Rigorous coursework prepares you for college and time requirements.

According to an AP Student..

“AP has given me skills I need to succeed in college.”

Dana Batista

AP Calculus, AP Physics, AP Spanish

The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas

Students who participate in AP are ultimately given the responsibility to reason, analyze, and understand for themselves. Such intellectual training inevitably helps them succeed in college, where these skills are essential.

Benefits of AP Program for Schools

- Provides a challenging academic program for motivated students.
- Provides a rewarding professional development opportunity for teachers.
- Demonstrates a school's strong commitment to high academic standards.
- Enhances a school's overall academic reputation.

According to an AP[®] Teacher and Administrator...

“AP pushes me to discover new ways to improve as a teacher.”

Michael Hicks

AP U.S. History Teacher

Abraham Lincoln High School, San Jose, California

“AP is by far the best college preparatory program available. As the principal of a small school [of about 225 students], I especially value the teacher training, curricular materials, and data analysis AP offers. These systems of support ensure schools have the capacity to build successful AP programs.”

Mike Brown

Principal

Prosper High School, Prosper, TX

Benefits of AP Program for Colleges

- Prepares students for college by providing rigorous courses in high school
- Identifies academically prepared students in school where the percentage of college-bound graduates is historically lower than the national average
- Places students in appropriate courses
- Reduces enrollment in chronically overcrowded first year courses

According to a College Professor...

“Students who have taken AP French are consistently the best students in my classes. Whatever grade the students may receive on the examination, they have received excellent preparation for advanced, college-level study.”

John Lambeth

Associate Professor of French

Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA

Responsibilities of AP Students

- A willingness to actively engage with sophisticated concepts.
- A willingness to be judged by rigorous, college-level standards.
- A willingness to complete longer and more complex nightly assignments.
- A willingness to complete the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Building a Successful Advanced Placement Program

Build a team of outstanding AP teachers by:

- Recruiting
- Training
- Supporting
- Evaluating

Building a Successful Advanced Placement Program

Build strong **vertical teams** through:

- Leadership of strong AP teachers
- Recruiting and training
- Developing pre-AP curriculum
- Providing time
- More inclusive enrollment

Reasons for Vertical Teaming

- To establish pre-AP courses
- To provide AP opportunities for more students
- To provide uniformity and continuity for 6-12 curriculum
- To elevate academic standards and expectations
- To improve communication between middle and high school teachers
- To share resources, ideas, and strategies

Building a Successful Advanced Placement Program

Build a pre-AP program that:

- Provides for the development of the skills and concepts necessary to a student to be successful in AP
- Provides more students the opportunity to prepare for more challenging courses while there is still time to make a difference
- Has a positive impact on teaching and learning for all students

Building a Successful Advanced Placement Program

Build an AP support system with:

- Leadership and commitment of principal
- Training for administrators and counselors
- Parent and community support
- Media
- The College Board

Test Fees

- \$56 exam fee. If you're in financial need, contact your counselor concerning a fee reduction.
- FISD refunds the exam fee for students that score a 3, 4, or 5.
- Cost of a 3 hr. course at TWU is \$643.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS

- **Administered in May**
- **Approximately three hours long**
- **Composed of multiple choice and free-response questions**
- **Free-response questions scored by college professors and AP teachers in June**

AP[®] Examinations

Interpretation of Grades

- AP examination scores are graded on a scale of 1 to 5, with 3 considered a "qualifying" score by most colleges.

AP[®] Examinations

Interpretation of Grades

5 — Extremely Well Qualified

4 — Well Qualified

3 — Qualified

2 — Possibly Qualified

1 — No Recommendation

A pupil from
whom nothing
is ever
demanded
which he
cannot do,
never does all
that he can.

John Stuart Mill



The Advanced Placement Program[®] and Pre-AP[™]

It's not just an Examination.

It's not just a Course.

**It's An Opportunity to Write Your
Own Scholarship!**



For Additional Information About the AP[®] Program Visit

www.collegeboard.com/ap/students

- Understanding how AP works
- Benefits gained through involvement in AP
- Expanding student access to AP
- AP Preparation
- FAQs

RESOURCES

The Advanced Placement Program and Pre-AP

College Board

From Potential to Performance

Linda Foster
Lewisville ISD

Building a Successful Advanced Placement Program

Linda Foster
Lewisville ISD