

AP Exams 2020 - Update 4/7/20

Greetings LHS AP Students,

I hope you are all continuing to do well, staying busy, safe, and practicing good social distancing. We are all in this together and I truly cannot wait to get back to school.

Below is the most up to date information on this year's AP Exams. This info was just emailed this afternoon. I know there is a lot to go through, it's all important in order for you to successfully take your AP Exam with the new online format this year.

A few key LHS changes and updates

The April 10th deadlines for AP Exam fee refunds and also for letting me know you need computer or wifi access have now been dropped. If AP students decide not to take their AP Exam they will receive a full refund of their AP Exam Registration fees. However, we currently do not have any means of getting these refunds to you since the school is closed and access at this time is still prohibited. Once we are allowed access or another way becomes available I will be in touch. If you still require a computer or wifi access please let me know and I will direct you on how to acquire those services. Also, check this link from the College Board for more information. <https://apcoronavirusupdates.collegeboard.org/students>

For the 2019-2020 school year, AP students at LHS will not have their AP course dropped from their high school transcript. AP students will not be penalized in any way, whether they decide to take or not take the AP Exam. AP students who decide to cancel their exam need to let me know by email (aribaudo-smith@lowell.k12.ma.us) and those still planning on taking the exam will receive an email from the College Board with exam day info at some point later in April. Again, AP Exams are a strong educational value in helping students earn college credits at a fraction of the real cost of a college course. **We are highly recommending that students still take the AP Exam that they have already registered for.**

AP Teachers have asked that students be checking their Google Classroom pages and emails on a daily basis for any new information that may arise and for material to help support their exam preparation.

College Credit

It is also highly recommended that students contact the colleges they are planning to attend or those possible colleges they might attend to learn if those colleges will indeed be accepting AP Exam scores this year and for what exams.

Any issues or questions about this year's AP Exams please let me know. You can email anytime at aribaudo-smith@lowell.k12.ma.us

Best,
Mr. Smith

INFO FROM THE COLLEGE BOARD:

This email provides key information about the 2020 AP® Exams.

We recently sent you an email about our commitment to provide free, remote learning resources and a new at-home testing option for this year's AP Exams. As promised, additional details are now available, and we'll continue to provide updates in the weeks leading up to the exams.

A great resource for learning about this year's AP Exams is Trevor Packer's presentation. [Trevor Packer's presentation](#)

Exam Dates

Most AP teachers and students we surveyed prefer to test earlier, while the content is still fresh.

- Exams will be given from May 11–22.
- Makeup test dates will be available for each subject from June 1–5.
- Students can take exams at home or in schools, if they reopen.
- Each subject's exam will be taken on the same day at the same time, worldwide.
- View the full testing schedule.

Exam Format

Most exams will have one or two free-response questions, and each question will be timed separately. Students will need to write and submit their responses within the allotted time for each question.

- Students will be able to take exams on any device they have access to—computer, tablet, or smartphone. They'll be able to type and upload their responses or write responses by hand and submit a photo via their cell phones.
- For most subjects, the exams will be 45 minutes long, plus an additional 5 minutes for uploading. Students will need to access the online testing system 30 minutes early to get set up.
- Certain courses—Art and Design: 2D; Art and Design: 3D; Computer Science Principles; Drawing; Research; and Seminar—will use portfolio submissions and will not have a separate online exam. All deadlines for these submissions have been extended to May 26, 2020, 11:59 p.m. ET. Teachers and students may receive separate course-specific communications.
- Students taking world language and culture exams will complete two spoken tasks consistent with free-response questions 3 and 4 on the current AP Exam. Written responses will not be required. We'll provide additional details in the coming weeks to help students prepare.

Tips for testing on specific devices will be available in late April.

Confronting the Digital Divide

We recognize that the digital divide could prevent some low-income and rural students from participating. Working with partners, we're investing so these students have the tools and connectivity they need to review AP content online and take the exam. If your students need mobile tools or connectivity, you can contact us directly to let us know by April 24.

Exam Scores and College Credit

As usual, students' work will be scored by our network of college faculty and AP teachers, and will be reported on a 1–5 scale. We anticipate releasing scores as close to the usual July timeframe as possible.

We're confident that the vast majority of higher ed institutions will award college credit as they have in the past. We've spoken with hundreds of institutions across the country that support our solution for this year's AP Exams.

Special Benefit for Teachers

To help support teachers and schools that are struggling to collect and score student work for course grades, we'll provide every AP teacher with their students' responses from the online exams by May 26. Administrators and teachers can individually determine whether they'd like to use these results locally as part of a course grade or as a final exam.

Exam Security

Like many college-level exams, this year's AP Exams will be open book/open note. The exam format and questions are being designed specifically for an at-home administration, so points will not be earned from content that can be found in textbooks or online. However, students taking the exams may not consult with any other individuals during the testing period. We'll take the necessary steps to protect the integrity of each exam administration, as we do every year.

We're confident that the vast majority of AP students will follow the rules for taking the exams. For the small number of students who may try to gain an unfair advantage, we have a comprehensive and strict set of protocols in place to prevent and detect cheating. While some of these practices are confidential to maximize their effectiveness, students and education professionals can learn more about our security measures.

At a minimum, test takers should understand that those attempting to gain an unfair advantage will either be blocked from testing or their AP scores will be canceled, and their high school will be notified as will colleges or other organizations to which the student has already sent any College Board scores (including SAT® scores). And they may be prohibited from taking a future Advanced Placement® Exam as well as the SAT, SAT Subject Tests™, or CLEP® assessments.

Remote Instruction and Practice

On March 25, we began offering free live AP review courses, delivered by AP teachers from across the country. The courses have been viewed more than 3.2 million times since they became available. On-demand lessons are now available for Art and Design, AP Capstone™, and Computer Science Principles.

In addition to sharing information about these classes with students, teachers who are providing remote instruction can use AP Classroom for most subjects. We've now unlocked secure free-response questions in AP Classroom so teachers can digitally assign relevant practice questions students can take at home. Additional tips for helping your students practice are available.

Additional Information

We've added frequently asked questions to the site so you can find answers to important topics, including information for students with accommodations, details about exam fees and cancellations, credit and placement, calculator policies, and more. We'll continue to make updates on the site and share them with you through email, online educator communities, and social media.

Your support is critical to ensuring students have the opportunity to earn college credit and placement. Thank you for all you're doing during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,
Advanced Placement Program