

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
ADVANCED PLACEMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

EIG
(REGULATION)

ADVANCED
PLACEMENT
INCENTIVES

The 74th Texas Legislature adopted the Advanced Placement (AP) Incentive Program in 1995; it intended to reward students, teachers, and campuses for high achievement. Campuses are awarded \$100 for each student who scored three or above on an AP examination. The law specifically states that these are "school awards." Further, Chapter 28.055 (a) states, "A school shall give priority to academic enhancement purposes in using an award received under the program. The award may not be used for any purpose related to athletics."

Although the awards are deposited into District accounts, the funds generated for these awards are directed to the campus that earned them. Also, while that campus would determine the uses for the academic enhancement funds, it is not required that all funds be spent at that specific campus. The District has determined that high school funds will be utilized to support the high school program and that of their feeder middle schools according to the following guidelines:

1. Connally High School will support Westview Middle School and alternate with Hendrickson High School to support Dessau Middle School.
2. Hendrickson High School will support Kelly Lane Middle School and will alternate with Connally High School to support Dessau Middle School.
3. Pflugerville High School will support Pflugerville and Parkcrest Middle Schools.

DETERMINING
EXPENDITURE OF
FUNDS

Each high school shall use the following process to determine the expenditure of AP funds

1. Select a committee composed of
 - a. Principal or designee
 - b. Counselor
 - c. One AP teacher
 - d. One Pre AP teacher
 - e. One middle school Pre-AP teacher
2. Inform all AP and pre-AP teachers (including feeder middle schools) of the opportunity to utilize the AP award funds
3. Develop a process to gather requests for funding items that are not included in current District or campus budgets.

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4. Principal or designee should consider all requests to determine if AP award funds or alternate funding sources are most appropriate
5. Review all requests (see allowable and not allowable expenses below)
6. Hold an open meeting of all committee members to determine campus AP award budget. All interested staff should be invited, however only committee members will determine actual budget.
7. Prepare a campus AP award budget and submit to Executive Director of Curriculum and Professional Development prior to the expenditure of any funds and not later than the end of the first semester.
8. After approval, finance will set up appropriate budget codes and campuses may expend money using standard District policies and procedures.
9. Encumber all AP incentive award funds prior to spring break annually.

AP CAMPUS AWARDS

AP campus awards may be used for the following:

1. Any Pre-AP or AP teacher training.
2. Any AP vertical team training.
3. Any College Board Pre-AP or AP workshops.
4. AP administrator/coordinator training.
5. Resource materials.
6. Field experiences.
7. Ancillary materials.
8. Development of new AP courses.
9. Equipment for AP courses.

AP campus awards may not be used for the following:

1. Student bonuses, awards, scholarships, or any payment that could be considered financial gain for the student.
2. Teacher bonuses, awards, scholarships, or any payment that could be considered a financial gain for the teacher.
3. Administrator bonuses, awards, scholarships, or any payment that could be considered a financial gain for the administrator.

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4. Payment of any portion of student examinations, including re-test fees.
5. T-shirts or any other such novelty items.
6. All other items or payments that could be considered inappropriate.

EXAMPLES

The following examples may be of assistance in determining how funds may be used:

EXAMPLE ONE

High school A was awarded \$2,000. A committee composed of both AP and non-AP teachers reviewed student data and decided that the best use of the money was to assure that the mathematics curriculum was articulated in grades 6-12 and prepared students for the AP Calculus course. The committee decides to hold a three-day workshop session for a vertical team of math teachers from both the feeder middle schools and the high school that received the awards to review and articulate the mathematics curriculum. The funds will be used to pay for room rentals, stipends, printing, and other related expenses.

EXAMPLE TWO

The AP Incentive Program reimburses Districts that send their AP teachers to College Board approved summer institutes. However, no state funds are available for pre-AP teacher training. High School B, which received \$1,200, was disappointed with the results on the AP English Language Composition examination.

High School B decides to send the middle school language arts teachers to a pre-AP summer institute so they have a better understanding of goals, objectives, and standards required for AP. They also arrange a meeting of all language arts teachers before school starts so they can begin planning for greater student participation in AP.

EXAMPLE THREE

Middle School C received \$3,000 for the performance of its students on the AP Spanish Language examination. The middle school Spanish language teachers want to use the funds for a retreat during the summer so they can work with high school teachers on developing an advanced language strand at the high school level.

Pflugerville ISD
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