

NC Advanced Placement Partnership Bonus Pay, Exam and Registration Fees Guidance

In summer 2014, with SL2013-360 section 8.27, the General Assembly modified 115C.83.4A to enhance access and encourage participation in Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses by appropriating funds to pay for all AP and IB exams for public school or charter school students who are enrolled in the corresponding AP/IB courses.

In the summer of 2017, with SL2017-57 section 7.28, the General Assembly modified 115C-174.26A and SL2013-360 section 8.27 to include Cambridge International Education (CIE) AS-Level and A-Level courses as eligible advanced courses. *This funding continues in the recurring budget.* Below is guidance regarding payment of 2018-19 AP/IB/CIE exam fees by NCDPI.

Teacher bonuses for advanced courses remain in place. Please see the Summary of Bonuses provided by the Division of School Business at NCDPI.

Are AP/IB/CIE exams mandated by NCDPI?

NO. AP, IB, and CIE exams are not mandated for students by this legislation or SBE policy.

Do all AP/IB/CIE students have their test fees covered?

YES. All public school students, in traditional and charter schools, enrolled in AP, IB, and CIE courses who decide to take the appropriate AP/IB/CIE exams will have their exam and, if applicable, registration fees covered for the 2018-19 school year.

Can a student have more than one test fee covered?

YES. If one student takes four courses, then that student may have all four test fees covered. There is no limit to the number of test fees a student may have covered. The only condition is that the student must be enrolled in the corresponding course.

Which fees will be covered by NCDPI?

For Advanced Placement exams:

- NCDPI will cover the Used Exam Fees for each student.
- NCDPI will not cover College Board ancillary fees, such as late-testing fees and the unused exam fees.
- College Board will provide rebates to each school to help with implementation.

For International Baccalaureate exams:

- NCDPI will cover the following:
 - Subject Test and Core Test Fees (for the initial ordering window)
 - Diploma Programme Candidate Registration Fees
- NCDPI will not cover any other International Baccalaureate Organization fees, such as the late subject, retest, or appeal fees.

For Cambridge International Education exams:

- NCDPI will cover Test fees.
- NCDPI will cover Diploma fees.
- NCDPI will not cover any other Cambridge International Education fees, such as late-testing fees or appeal fees.

How will billing be handled?

For AP exam fees:

- College Board will bill NCDPI directly for the portion of the bill that NCDPI is responsible for paying. Any remaining costs will be billed to the school.
- AP testing coordinators at the school level must indicate the low-income reductions, generate, and submit their invoices through the AP exam ordering website by **May 31, 2019**. This will ensure that NCDPI can pay College Board effectively in this fiscal year.
- Pay close attention to recognizing low-income students. We want to take full advantage of the reduced rate for these students from College Board.
- College Board has released a training video to review the process. Visit the NC AP Partnership website to view the video: <https://youtu.be/mRtUYK7VrC4>. This video will be updated in early 2019.
- **All schools MUST submit the invoices by the required date or payment by NCDPI is not guaranteed.**

For IB exam and registration fees:

- The International Baccalaureate Organization will bill NCDPI directly for IB Registration and Test Fees. NCDPI will pay IBO directly on your behalf for the covered test fees. Do not send invoices through your Finance Department for payment.
- NOTE: Additional fees that are not covered by NCDPI will remain the responsibility LEAs and Charter Schools.

For CIE exam fees:

- The individual North Carolina high school offering CIE courses will forward the bill from Cambridge International Education to NCDPI. NCDPI will pay CIE for the test fees.

Questions/Issues: Contact Division of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education at ap.ib@dpi.nc.gov or 919-807-3705.