



Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) 2009 Fee Reduction Policy

Purpose: The College Board provides a \$22 fee reduction per exam for students with acute financial need. For each exam taken with a fee reduction, the school forgoes its \$8 rebate, resulting in a cost of \$56 per exam for the student.

Additionally, more than 40 U.S. states and territories use federal and/or state funds to supplement the College Board’s fee reduction. State-specific fee reduction information will be sent to each AP Coordinator in the spring of 2009 and will be available on collegeboard.com.

Criteria: **Students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches at your school (under the National School Lunch Act), qualify for the \$22 College Board fee reduction on all AP Exams that they take in a given year.**

A student qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches if he or she is a member of a family whose taxable income for the preceding year did not exceed 185 percent of the poverty level as established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The table below lists annual family incomes, by family size, at 185 percent of the poverty level. If the AP student’s family income did not exceed the amount listed in the appropriate row and column, he or she qualifies for a College Board fee reduction.

Size of Family Unit	Annual Family Income*	Annual Family Income* for Alaska	Annual Family Income* for Hawaii
1	\$19,240	\$24,050	\$22,126
2	\$25,900	\$32,375	\$29,785
3	\$32,560	\$40,700	\$37,444
4	\$39,220	\$49,025	\$45,103
5	\$45,880	\$57,350	\$52,762
6	\$52,540	\$65,675	\$60,421
7	\$59,200	\$74,000	\$68,080
8	\$65,680	\$82,325	\$75,739

*The figures shown under family income represent amounts equal to 185 percent of the family income levels established by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for determining poverty status. These levels were published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 73, No. 69, April 9, 2008, pp. 19186-19187.

For family units with more than eight members, add the following dollar amount for each additional family member: \$6,660 for the 48 contiguous U.S. States, the District of Columbia, Guam and Territories; \$8,325 for Alaska; and \$7,659 for Hawaii.

Alternative

Criteria:

If your school would prefer to use another method for determining which students qualify for AP Exam fee reductions, **any** of the following criteria are allowed by the U.S. Department of Education:

- The student's family income is at or below the Census Bureau's "poverty threshold." The Census "poverty threshold" varies by family size and the ages of family members, but it is not adjusted for differences in the cost of living, including the higher costs of living in Alaska and Hawaii. If your school chooses to use the Census Bureau's "poverty threshold" to determine a student's low-income status and eligibility, it should use the 2007 "poverty threshold" information available at:
<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/threshld/thresh07.html>.
- The student's family receives assistance under part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act.
- The student is eligible to receive medical assistance under the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act.

Procedure:

AP Coordinators need to follow the two steps below to obtain fee reductions for qualified students. AP Coordinators should keep a list of the students who qualify for fee reductions and the titles of the AP Exams they will be taking. Coordinators may use the Fee Reduction Worksheet that appears in the back of the *AP Coordinator's Manual* for this purpose.

Step 1: On the qualifying student's registration answer sheet, AP Coordinators must fill in the "Option 1" or "Option 2" fee reduction oval. The *AP Coordinator's Manual* contains instructions for properly marking the answer sheet so that your school will be billed at the reduced rate.

Step 2: Coordinators must indicate the total number of exams with fee reductions when generating their invoice online and return this invoice by mail to the AP Program.

The counts you supply in steps 1 and 2 must match in order for your school to be billed accurately. Inconsistencies in these counts will result in billing problems for your school that often stretch across the summer and into the following fall.

Contact

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