

AP FAQs

What are AP Courses?

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are courses that meet a prescribed syllabus developed by the College Board. According to the College Board, which developed the AP Program, AP "enables students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school." These courses represent college level study and prepare students for May testing. The AP exam is scored on the following scale of 1-5:

- 1=no recommendation
- 2=possibly qualified
- 3=qualified
- 4=well qualified
- 5=extremely well qualified

Colleges typically consider AP courses favorably when making admissions decisions. In addition, based on each college's policy, students can earn:

- Actual college credit for high AP scores -- increasingly, colleges require a score of "4" or "5" to receive full credit.
- Elective college credit for high AP scores -- such courses cannot fulfill specific college requirements, but can be used to fulfill elective requirements.
- Advanced Placement -- allowing students to skip the introductory level of a course
- Permission to take the college's own placement test for credit and/or placement.

Check with individual colleges for their policies or with the [College Board credit policy information list](#), as credit/exam recognition policies differ from school to school.

Which AP exams does CFHS offer?

CFHS offers the following AP exams:

Math

- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Statistics

Science

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
- Physics C: Mechanics

Social Studies

- European History
- Macroeconomics
- US Government
- US History
- World History

Language

- Chinese Language and Culture
- English Language and Composition
- English Literature and Composition
- Spanish Language and Culture

Other

- Music Theory
- Seminar

What if I want to take a test that CFHS does not offer?

Students wishing to take an AP exam not offered at CFHS should contact AP Services for Students to find out which area school(s) offer the exam, as well as information for the AP Coordinator(s) they will need to contact.

How do I register for an AP exam?

Starting in 2017, there will be a TWO-STEP registration process.

- Step 1: Students will register ONLINE at www.TotalRegistration.net/AP/030476.
- Step 2: Once the online portion of the registration is complete, students will print their confirmation page and take it with payment to the CFHS Bursar's Office **by the end of the next business day**. Checks should be made out to CFHS. Please check your confirmation page to make sure you have registered for the correct exam(s)!

-If you do not have a printer at home, email your PDF to Ms. Petrillo

(jpetrillo@cfsd16.org). She will print it and leave it in Counseling Office's pick-up for you.

***For more information on the registration process, please see the registration Powerpoint on the AP Page.**

When is the registration window?

AP Exam registration opens January 9 and runs through February 28.

Why is the registration window so early and short?

The early window ensures we receive our materials in a timely manner and have sufficient time to have the pre-exam bubbling completed by testing day. Remember: as per the CFHS course guide, students who sign up for an AP class are expected to test. If you are unsure about whether or not you should test, please speak with your AP teacher.

What should I bring to the exam room?

Several No. 2 pencils and pens with blue or black ink, a calculator (if applicable), an eraser, and a ruler (only for the AP Physics exam). Please see [AP Exam Central](#) for more information on the calculator regulations for your exam. It is YOUR responsibility to know what materials are required for your exam.

What is prohibited from the exam room?

No cell phones/smartphones, smartwatches, electronic devices (other than approved calculators), highlighters, or books are allowed in the testing rooms.

How do I know where to report for my exam?

An AP exam testing schedule with assigned rooms will be posted inside/outside of teacher classrooms. Please ask your AP teacher if you are confused as to where to report for testing.

When do I need to report to the testing room?

•**Morning exams:** 7:30 am

•**Afternoon exams:** 12:00 pm

**Students must report ON TIME to their testing rooms. Students testing in the afternoon should report to first lunch on testing day.*

What if I am late to the test session?

Due to test security reasons, students will not be permitted to the testing room once the demographics section is complete. Late arrivals who are not admitted to the testing rooms are considered "no shows" and **are not eligible** for refunds or make up exams.

How do I know which day my exam is?

The AP exam calendar can be found on the College Board website, on your information flyer, on the registration Powerpoint, and in the Bulletin for AP Students and Parents.

How long do the exams last?

On average, exam administrations last between 4-4.5 hours. Students taking afternoon tests will need to arrange for other forms of transportation, as busses will be gone by the time testing is done. Students approved for extended time accommodations will have longer testing sessions.

What if I have more than one exam scheduled for the same day and same time?

College Board makes provisions for students who wish to register to take two exams that are scheduled at the same time and date. Please see Ms. Petrillo for more information.

What if I have two exams scheduled on the same day (but not the same time)?

You will take the exams back to back (one in the morning and one in the afternoon).

What if I decide not to take an exam?

If you decide not to take an exam for which you have paid, you must see Mrs. Petrillo for a refund request.

If I cancel an exam, will I get a refund?

Students may cancel their registration prior to the test date and receive a partial refund. Students who cancel a test ON or BEFORE March 6 will be refunded the full test amount MINUS a \$15.00 administrative fee. Students who cancel a test AFTER March 6 will be refunded the full test amount MINUS \$30.00 (\$15.00 administrative fee and \$15.00 College Board unused test fee). Students must see Ms. Petrillo in the Counseling Office to request to cancel a test.

How can I take an exam with the accommodations from my IEP/504 plan?

If you have a documented disability, you may be eligible for accommodations on AP Exams. The College Board's deadline to submit accommodation requests is February 17. Please see your Special Education case manager, or Ms. Petrillo in the Counseling Office ASAP, in order to get your online request submitted. Students who are approved will be contacted with their testing information 1-2 weeks before the exam. If you are not sure if you are already approved for College Board accommodations, please see Ms. Petrillo.

How do I qualify for a fee reduction?

Any student enrolled in the Federal Free & Reduced Lunch program will have his/her exam registration fee(s) waived.

What if I finish early? Can I leave before the end of the session?

Under no circumstance will a student be permitted to leave an AP exam early (even for work, sports, etc). This policy is per College Board's security regulations, and holds true even if all students in a testing room are done before time is called.

What if I get sick and cannot attend my exam session?

There are provisions for students who become sick or injured during or right before testing. In case of such an emergency, you must notify Ms. Petrillo via email or phone (jpetrillo@cfsd16.org or 520-209-8382). A doctor's note will be required.

What happens if I register for the wrong exam?

If a student inadvertently registers for the wrong test, he/she must notify Ms. Petrillo IMMEDIATELY. The registration fee may be applied to the correct test. However, there will be an additional \$15 fee to cover the cost of returning the incorrectly ordered AP exam. If the registration error is discovered prior to the ordering of tests, no additional fee will be charged.

Are there any circumstances that allow for an alternate late testing date?

Per College Board regulations, there are circumstances that allow for a student to take a late exam on an alternate test date. Depending on the circumstance, there may be a fee charged.

The following are permissible late testing reasons with no additional fee:

- Conflict with state mandated test
- Emergency: bomb scare or fire alarm
- Emergency: serious injury, illness, or family tragedy
- Religious holiday/observance
- School Closing
- Three or more AP exams on the same day
- Two AP exams on the same day and time

The following are permissible late testing reasons with a \$55 late testing fee:

- Athletic contest/event
- Academic contest/event
- Family commitment
- Ordering error
- Other school event

Alternate late exams will be given on May 17-19 as per College Board's national testing schedule. If you need to take an alternate exam, please see Ms. Petrillo.

How can I practice for the AP Exams?

Students can review released free-response questions at www.collegeboard.org/apstudents to get to know the exam. It is also recommended students work with their teacher(s) and other students. Finally, practice books are available to be checked out from the College and Career Center (CCC), located in the Counseling Office.

If I don't get a good grade on an AP Exam, will it hurt my chances for college admission?

If you take an examination as a senior, colleges will not receive your grade before July--after you have been admitted. If you choose to report AP grades obtained during grades 9-11, you will primarily be telling the colleges that you took on challenging curriculum and that you are serious about your studies.

If you have any additional questions about AP exams, please see Ms. Petrillo in the House 1 Counseling Office 😊