



# The Advanced Placement Program®

at Lakewood High  
School

**connect to college success**  
**[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)**

Advanced Placement Program® (AP®)  
courses give you a head start on college.

Taking the end-of-course **AP Exam** sends  
a powerful message to colleges and  
universities that a student is ready for them,  
and can enable students to gain admission,  
college credit, and placement into advanced  
courses.

# Did you know . . .

- If you earn a **high school diploma**, you're likely to earn **\$7,000** more annually than students who don't complete high school.
- But if you earn a **bachelor's degree in college**, you're likely to earn **\$22,000** more annually.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, 2000

# Prepare Now to Succeed in College

A 1999 U.S. Department of Education study found that the strongest predictor of college graduation is something students do before they ever go to college:

Participate in rigorous, college-level courses in high school—and AP courses in particular.

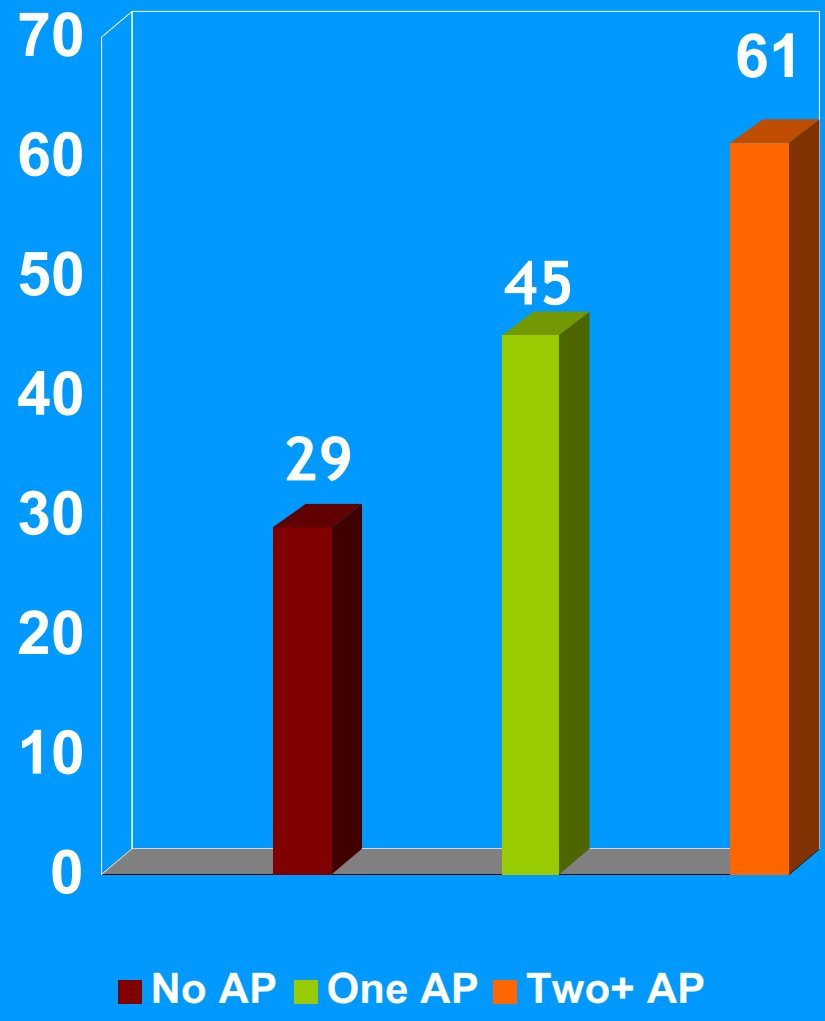
*Clifford Adelman, Answers in the Tool Box: Academic Intensity, Attendance Patterns, and Bachelor's Degree Attainment (1999), U.S. Department of Education.*



# AP and College Success™

Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely than their peers to complete a bachelor's degree in four years or less.

**Source:** Camara, Wayne (2003). College Persistence, Graduation, and Remediation. *College Board Research Notes (RN-19)*. New York, NY: College Board.



# What's the difference between AP and honors (advanced)?

- AP courses are designed and updated annually to reflect what's being taught in cutting-edge college courses.
- Students receive an external evaluation—the AP Exam—which is scored by college faculty from around the world who verify that the student has mastered college-level studies.

# Who designs the AP courses and exams?

- AP committee members currently teach at dozens of the nation's top colleges and universities, including:
- Dartmouth College•UCLA
  - Hamilton College•University of Texas at Austin
  - Michigan State University•University of Virginia
  - Princeton University•Yale University
  - Spelman College

# Why take the AP Exam?

Most of the nation's colleges and universities, plus colleges and universities in 24 other countries, grant students admission, credit, and/or placement for qualifying AP Exam grades.

For example, at Princeton, students can use qualifying AP Exam grades to:

Graduate in three or three-and-a-half years

- Enter upper-level courses
- Fulfill a foreign language requirement



# What's the difference between credit and placement?

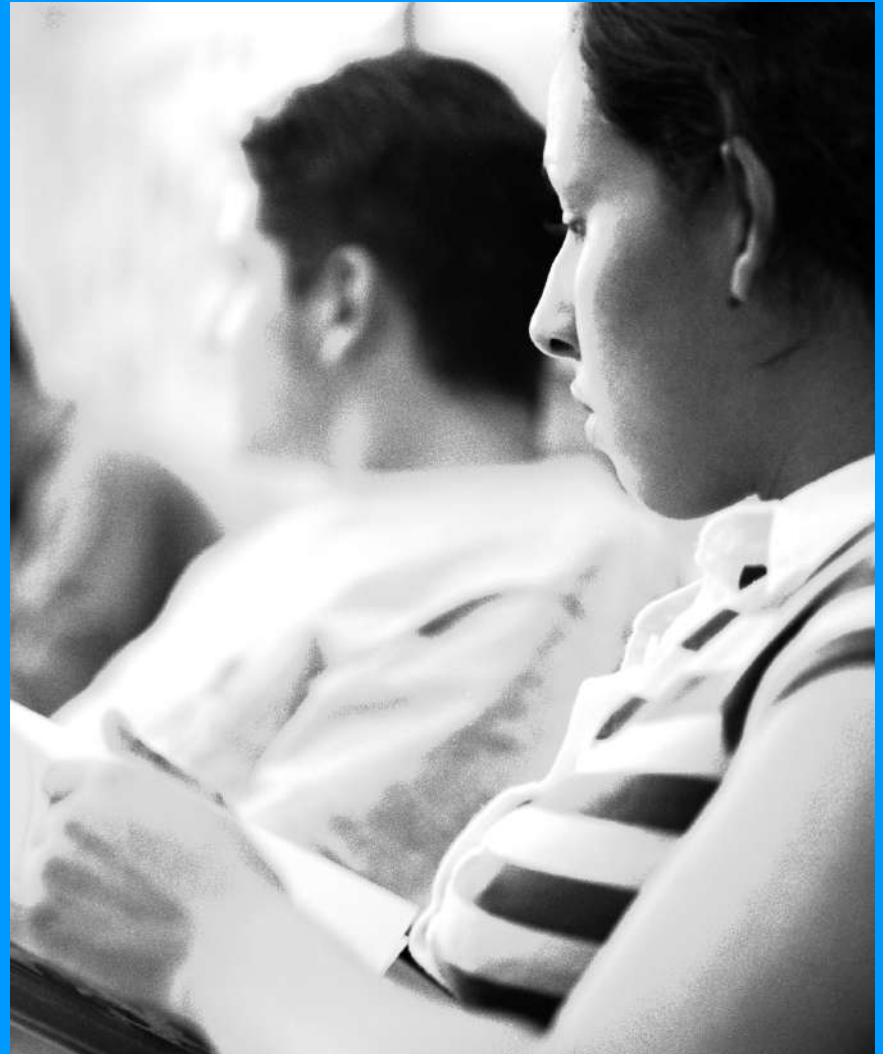
- Some colleges award “credit” for qualifying AP Exam grades. This means you actually earn credit hours toward your college degree.
- Others award “advanced placement.” This means you can skip introductory courses, enter higher-level classes, and/or fulfill general education requirements.

# Why should a student take the AP Exam?

Colleges and universities give credit for qualifying AP Exam grades, not AP course grades.

“The confirmation that college-level learning took place is in the published results. The AP Exam grade is a national standard that I can understand and rely upon.”

—Joellen L. Silberman, Dean of Enrollment  
Kalamazoo College



# Increase your options

College credit can allow you to move into upper-level college courses sooner, pursue a double major, and gain time to study and travel abroad:

“As a freshman, I was able to skip general ed requirements and head straight into the higher-level classes I wanted to take. Taking AP Exams literally saved me semesters of time.”

—Brent Wiese, University of Iowa

# Save money

If you earn a qualifying grade on an AP Exam, you can receive credit for the equivalent course at thousands of colleges and universities:

“I took AP throughout high school because it was the most interesting and well-taught program offered. When I reached college, I realized that I had accumulated a year’s worth of credits. I graduated from Michigan’s undergraduate business school a full year early, saving \$30,000 and a year’s time.”

—Nikki Baker, University of Michigan



# Why should I take the AP Exam even if I'm not looking to earn credit or placement?

- Stand out in the admissions process
- Earn academic scholarships and awards
- Experience a college-level test
- Be a step ahead

# Stand out in the admissions process

“One of the best standard predictors of academic success at Harvard is performance on Advanced Placement Examinations.”

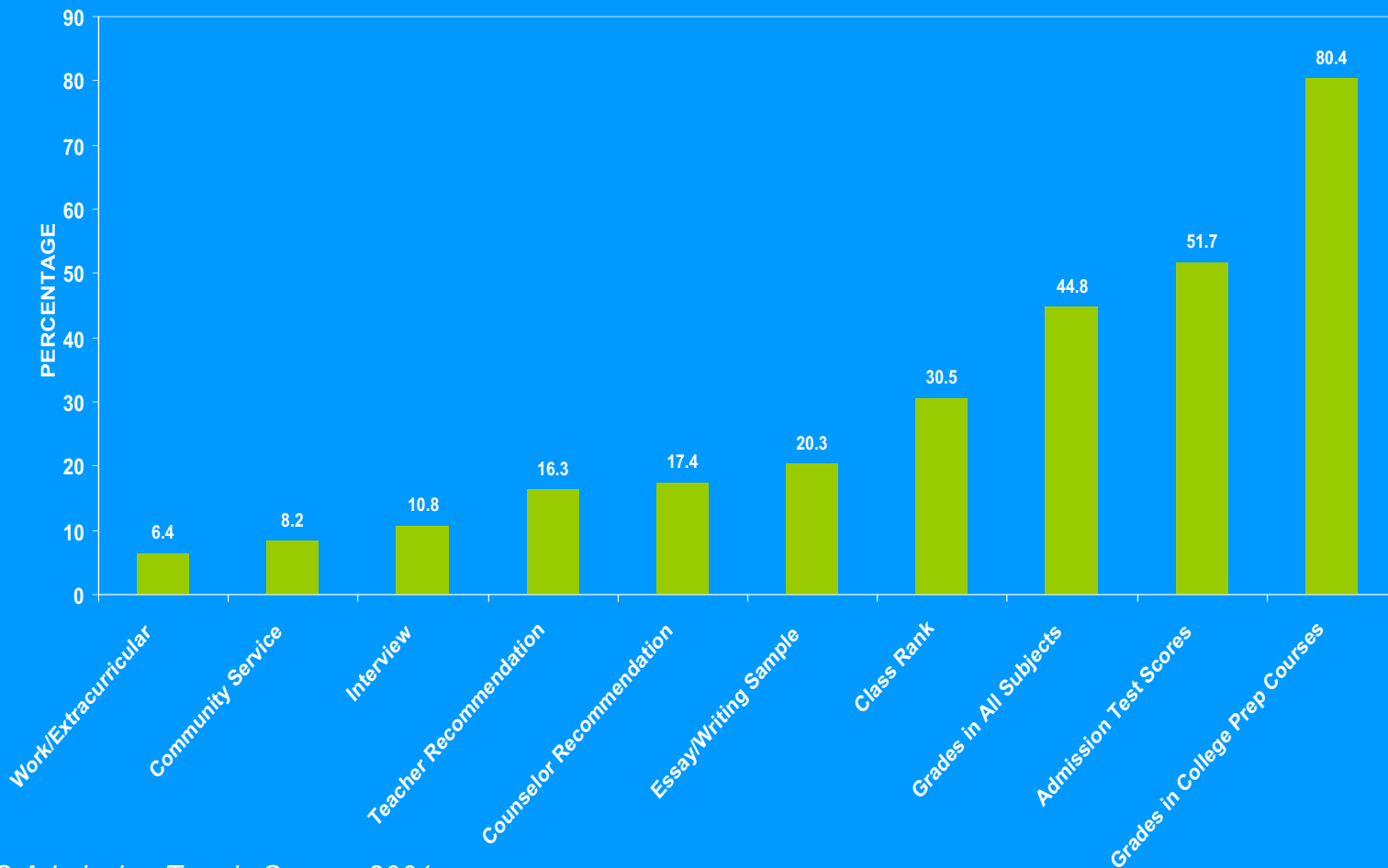
—William R. Fitzsimmons  
Dean of Admissions, Harvard University

“AP Exams affirm the rigor of a student’s course work. Though admissions policies vary, if I were a student, I wouldn’t assume that the college of my dreams didn’t care about AP Exams in the admissions process.”

—Bruce Walker, Director of Admissions  
University of Texas at Austin



# Factors Influencing Admission Decisions—2001



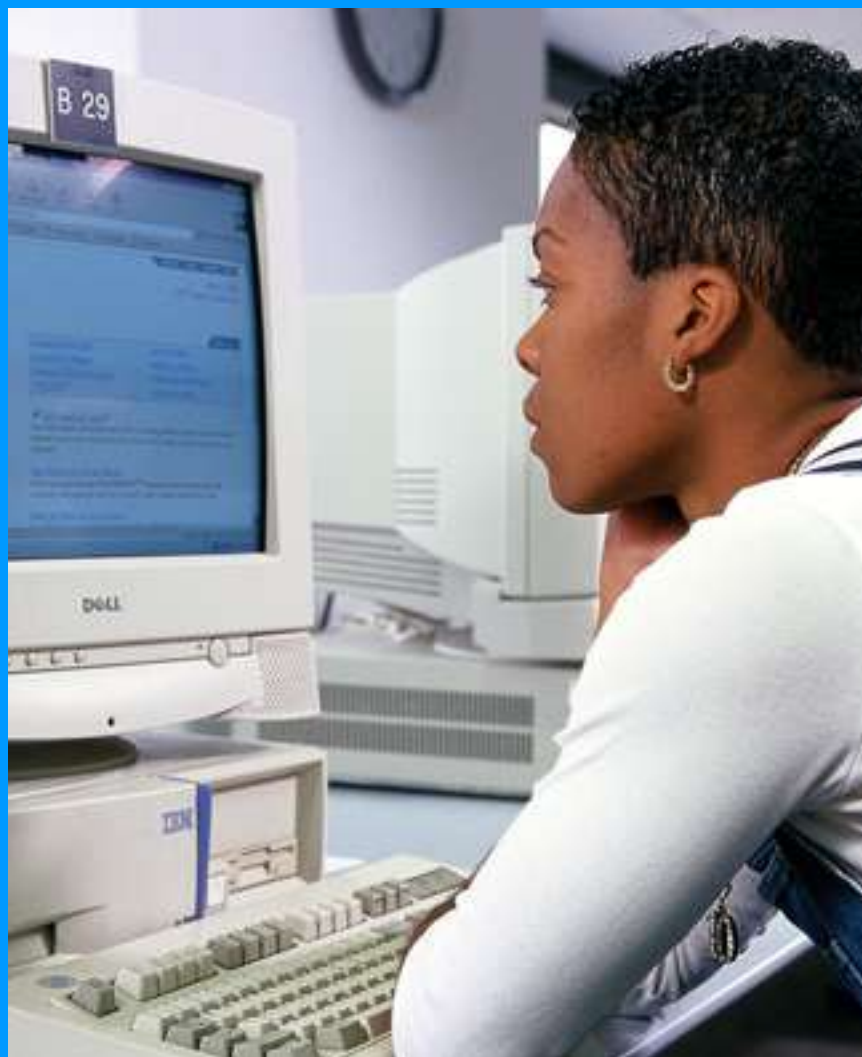
NACAC Admission Trends Survey, 2001

# Earn academic scholarships or awards

Some of the most competitive scholarship awards value AP Exam grades:

“Having the AP Exam grade can make the difference when it comes down to awarding precious scholarship dollars.”

—Edwina Harris Hamby, Dean of Admission  
Fisk University





# Experience a college-level test

The intensity of college exams catches far too many freshmen by surprise:

“Students who have prepared for and taken the AP Exams adapt more easily to taking college essay exams, and are especially skilled in including a thesis and a well-developed argument. They are also less intimidated by sophisticated, college-level multiple-choice questions that seek to test understanding over memorization.”

—Robert Blackey, Professor of History  
CSU, San Bernardino

# Be a step ahead

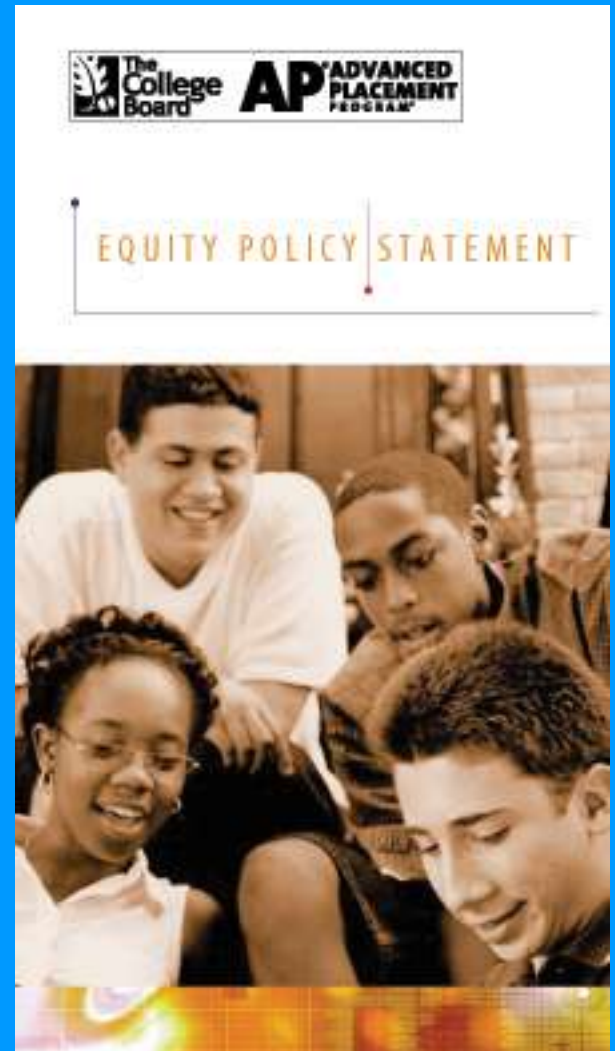
“I received a 3 on my AP English Exam, but since I love English and hope to take all the English courses that I can possibly get my hands on, I decided to take English 111 in college. My college class is covering the same material I studied in AP English. Thanks to my experience preparing for the free-response questions, my frequent essay exams are a breeze. By taking AP, I’m a step ahead of the others in my class. I know the material and I know the process.”

—Anne Elliott, University of Connecticut



# Who should take AP courses and exams?

Our school uses the AP Program's official policy for AP enrollment, which indicates that all willing students should be considered for admission to AP courses.



# AP Equity Policy Statement:

“The College Board and the Advanced Placement Program encourage teachers, AP Coordinators, and school administrators to make equitable access a guiding principle for their AP programs. The College Board is committed to the principle that all students deserve an opportunity to participate in rigorous and academically challenging courses and programs.” *(continued)*

# AP Equity Policy Statement:

“All students who are willing to accept the challenge of a rigorous academic curriculum should be considered for admission to AP courses. The Board encourages the elimination of barriers that restrict access to AP courses for students from ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic groups that have been traditionally underrepresented in the AP Program. Schools should make every effort to ensure that their AP classes reflect the diversity of their student population.”



# Newsweek, June 2, 2003:

“The Science Academy of South Texas, a public school that draws students from three rural counties in the Rio Grande Valley, has sent several migrant workers’ children to high-tech colleges by exposing them to difficult AP assignments.”

*(continued)*



# *Newsweek*, June 2, 2003:

“Norma Flores, a senior, says she often started school late in the fall because her migrant-laborer family needed her in the cornfields. ‘I had to work twice as hard to catch up,’ she says. But next fall, fortified by college-level courses, she will study aerospace engineering at the University of Texas: Pan American campus.”

# AP courses offered by LHS:

- AP Calculus AB
- AP Chemistry
- AP English Language and Composition (11<sup>th</sup>)
- AP English Literature and Composition (12<sup>th</sup>)
- AP United States History



# What's the cost of taking an AP course?

- AP courses and exams are developed and scored by the College Board, a not-for-profit membership association dedicated to helping students connect to college success and opportunity.
- There may be a typical course fee for the course in addition to the exam cost.

# AP Exam fees

There is an \$87 fee for each AP Exam, which the College Board uses to:

- 1) develop, print, ship, and score the exams
- 2) subsidize teacher training
- 3) develop classroom resources
- 4) support educational initiatives

# AP Exam fees

- For students with free or reduced price lunches the College Board reduces the exam fee by \$22 per AP exam.
- In Ohio, additional federal and/or state funding provide these additional fee subsidies:
  - Ohio Department of Education
    - Search AP Test Fee Program
    - Look for grant update in Feb 2011

# AP Credit and Placement Policy Information

Colleges and universities throughout the world offer credit and/or placement for qualifying Advanced Placement Exam scores. Information about AP credit and placement policies at many colleges and universities is now available on the College Board's Web site:

**[www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy)**

# AP Credit and Placement Policy Information

1. Go to [www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy).
2. Type in the name of the college or university whose AP policy you want to view (or browse by letter of the alphabet).
3. You will see two things for each school that has provided their AP credit policy info:
4. A link to the college's own Web page that details its AP credit and placement policies.
  - A statement by the college or university about its AP policy.

The screenshot shows the College Board website's AP Credit Policy Info page. The top navigation bar includes links for STUDENTS, PARENTS, EDUCATORS, HELP, SHOP, ABOUT US, and SIGN IN. A search bar is on the right. Below the navigation bar are buttons for COLLEGE BOARD TESTS, PLAN FOR COLLEGE, COLLEGE SEARCH, APPLY TO COLLEGE, PAY FOR COLLEGE, and MY ORGANIZER. A banner for 'Save Money College-Level Examination Program' is visible. The main content area is titled 'AP Credit Policy Info' and includes a breadcrumb trail: Home > College Board Tests > AP Credit Policy Info. It prompts users to 'Find colleges with AP credit policy information:' and provides an alphabetical list of letters: A-B-C-D-E-F-G-H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z. A search box labeled 'School Name:' with a 'GO' button is present. Below this, the 'University of California: Berkeley' is listed as the selected institution. The page states 'Institution has an AP credit and placement policy.' and provides a link to 'Click here for this institution's AP credit and placement policy on the Web'. A section titled 'Additional Information Provided by Institution:' follows, containing text about the university's credit policy. The left sidebar contains links for 'About AP', 'Registering', 'Preparing', 'Calendar & Fees', 'Exam Day', 'Exam Grades', 'Exam Security', 'Contact Us', and 'Subjects'. There are also links for 'Tools' (AP Credit Policy Info, SAT Online Registration), 'Jump To' (Services for Students with Disabilities), and a 'Subscribe Today!' section for free e-mail newsletters.

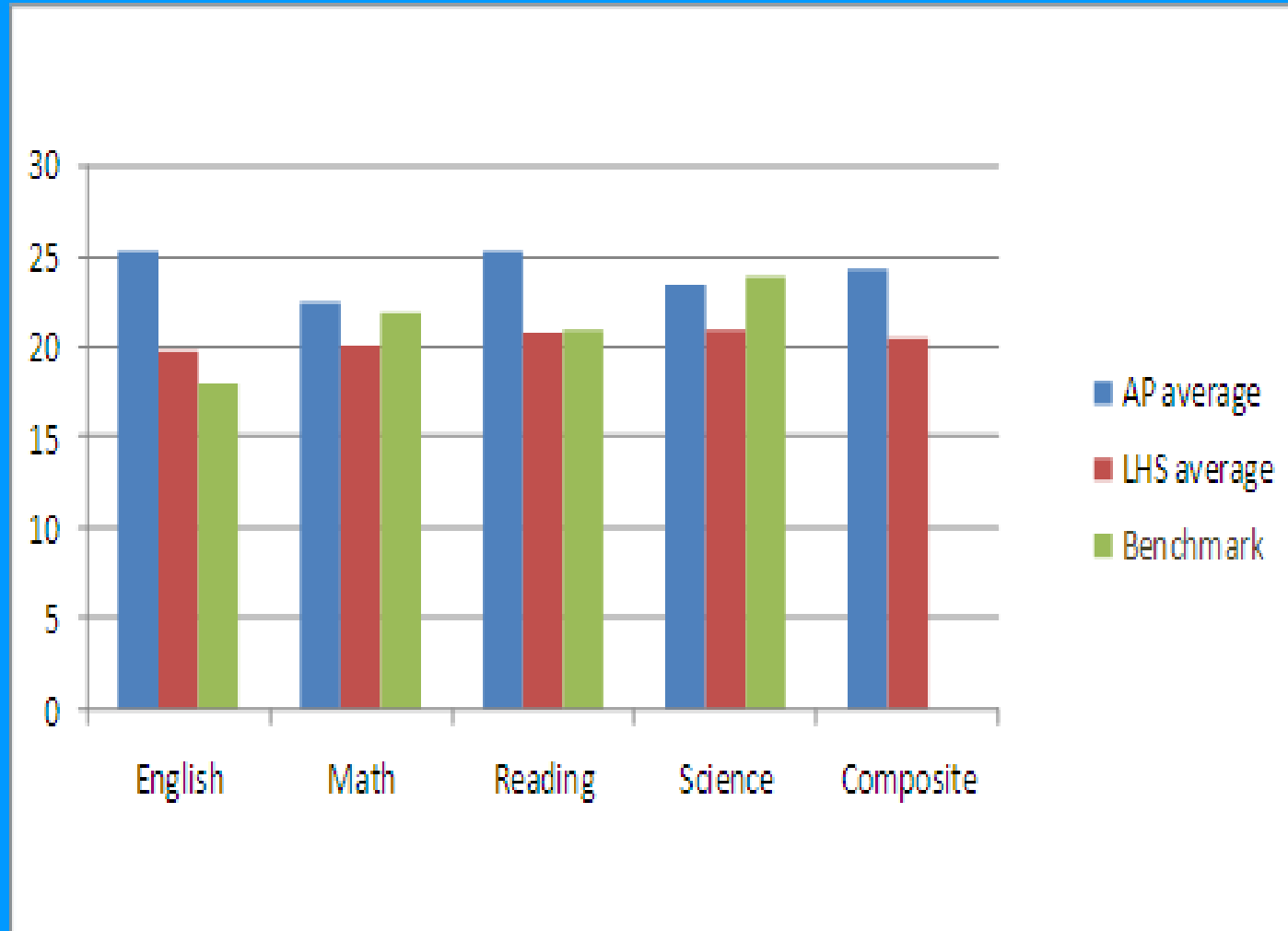
# Ohio State University AP Credit Policy

- <http://www.ureg.ohio-state.edu/ourweb/Tests/TestsContent/CurrentEM.pdf>
- Chemistry score 3 = 5 hrs, 4-5 = 10 hrs
- Calculus score 3-5 = 10 hrs
- English score 3-5 = 5 credit hrs EACH!!
- US History score 3-5 = 5 credit hrs

# AP Courses and GPA

- AP courses are weighted grades
- A = 5.0, A-=4.75, B=4.0
- The only way to have a GPA above 4.0 is to enroll in AP courses.
- Since the Class of 2001, the valedictorian has always been an AP student.

# AP courses and ACT scores





# AP courses and ACT results

AP AVG	E 25.3	M 22.6	R 25.3	S 23.5	C 24.3
LHS AVG	19.9	20.2	20.9	21	20.6
*Benchmark	18	22	21	24	

# Interested?

- Get the application(s) for the courses you are interested in enrolling for 2011-2012 school year.
- Talk to other students/AP teachers/Counselors about the AP experience
- AP is the next logical progression for college-bound students.
- Rise to meet the challenge of AP, you'll be glad you did!

# Contacts

- Mandy O'Dell AP English
  - [aodell@laca.org](mailto:aodell@laca.org)
- Kevin Miller AP US History
  - [kdmiller@laca.org](mailto:kdmiller@laca.org)
- Todd Spencer AP Chemistry
  - [rspencer@laca.org](mailto:rspencer@laca.org)
- Rob Englert AP Calculus
  - [renglert@laca.org](mailto:renglert@laca.org)
- Valerie Kieffer AP Coordinator
  - [vkieffer@laca.org](mailto:vkieffer@laca.org)