

Advanced Academic Program

Rigorous Path

BISD believes it is vital for students to have every opportunity to excel through rigorous and challenging courses.

Pre-Advanced and Advanced Placement courses offer options to excel in many areas of study. Students and parents should expect these courses to be more challenging, take more time, and require a different type of work that is rigorous and fast paced.

The goal of the Pre-AP/AP program is to challenge and stimulate students to the highest level of their ability.

- Gifted and Talented—Pre-AP/AP Programs
- Dual College Enrollment Programs
- Superintendent Scholars

Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) and Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

 Both Pre-AP and AP are designed to meet the needs of gifted students as well as highly motivated students by offering a continuum of learning experiences that leads to the development of advanced level products or performances.

 BISD has created vertical and horizontal teams for Pre-AP and AP to work specifically on aligning this differentiated curriculum to state and AP standards.

Set High Expectations

- High Achieving students should be performing at an advanced level in course work and should be taking advanced courses
- On STARR and EOC the goal for these students is the Advanced Measure category
- Advanced Measure on EOC not only indicates student is academically ready for the next level, but it is also the only way to reach the Distinguished Achievement Program Graduate status for students under the EOC requirements

Distinguished Achievement Program-DAP Graduates

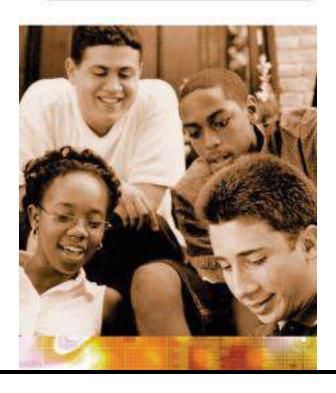
- Highest academic program for graduates within the state of Texas and should be completed by those who are most academically talented
- Requirements:
 - All course requirements of the Recommended High School Program –PLUS the following:
 - Three years of the same language other than English
 - Score Advanced Measures on Algebra II and English III end of course
 STARR exams (if under EOC guidelines)
 - Complete a combination of four advanced measures

Who should take Pre-AP and AP

Birdville ISD practices the College Board Program's official policy for AP enrollment, which indicates that all willing students should be considered for admission to Pre-AP and AP courses.







Advanced Placement Program

Birdville ISD has received "AP Honor Roll Award" this year from College Board for increasing participation while maintaining or increasing AP performance.

The award was given to 539 districts in the nation, only 13 districts in Texas

Recommended Guidelines for Pre-AP and AP courses:

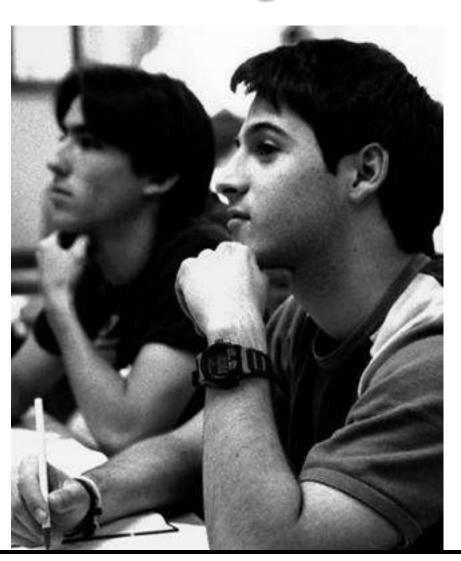
- ❖ If student has taken PSAT, review AP Potential
- Demonstrate successful completion of previous course taken in the subject area (i.e. 80% or higher as semester averages and/or advanced measure on EOC and a qualifying score of 3 or higher on an AP exam from a previous course)
- ❖ Achieved Commended performance on TAKS or Advanced Measure on EOC/STAAR
- ❖ Meet all course pre-requisites as delineated in the Planning Guide
- Commit to the extra time necessary for class preparation: increased outside reading, sophisticated writing assignments, and projects or labs with complex problem solving
- Seek teacher and/or counselor advisement on registering for class
- Maintain a passing grade
- Commit to meeting all AP Exam requirements

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, collegelevel courses in high school and AP courses in particular.

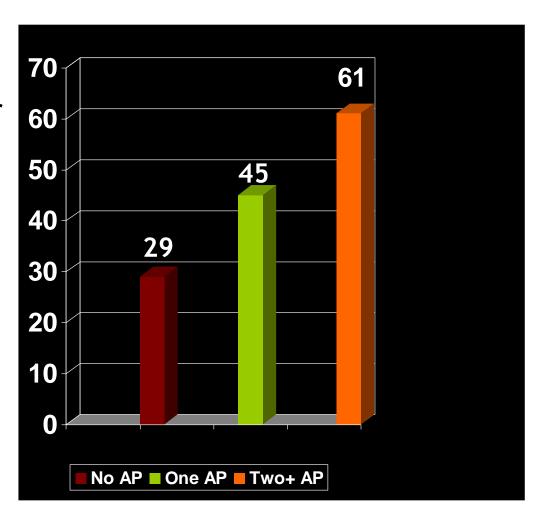
Clifford Adelman, Answers in the Tool Box: Academic Intensity, Attendance Patterns, and Bachelor's Degree Attainment (1999), U.S. Department of Education.



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 do colleges give for AP success?

Some colleges award "credit" for qualifying AP Exam grades

This means you actually earn credit hours towards your college degree.

Others award "advanced placement"

This means you can skip introductory courses, enter higher-level classes or college honors programs, and/or fulfill general education requirements.

AP Credit and Placement Policy Information www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy

- 1. Type in the name of college or university
- Two things for each school are provided:
 - 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.



Impact of AP on 5-Year College Graduation Rates

Comparison made among students with the same abilities and backgrounds (test scores, family income, school poverty index)

Student Group	AP Exam Grade of 3, 4, 5	AP Exam Grade of 1, 2	Took AP course, but not exam
African American	28% higher	22% higher	16% higher
Hispanic	28% higher	12% higher	10% higher
White	33% higher	22% higher	20% higher
Low-income	26% higher	17% higher	12% higher
Not low-income	34% higher	23% higher	19% higher

AP classes can save families 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."



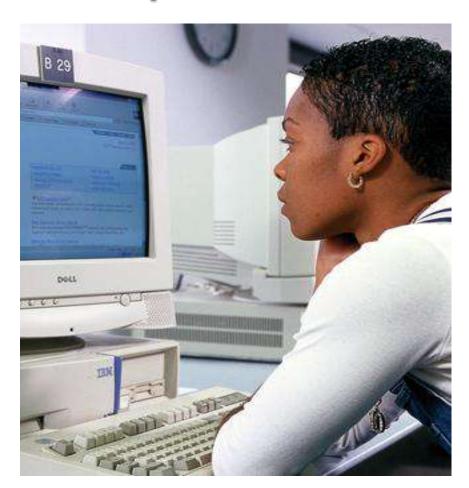
—Nikki Baker, University of Michael

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



BISD Course options and equivalent college hours:

AP Course Offerings by Content	Number of AP courses	College Hour Equivalent
AP English III, AP English IV	2	6
AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, AP Computer Science	4	12
AP Environmental Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics	4	12
AP World History, AP US History, AP Government, AP Economics	4	12
AP Foreign Language IV AP Foreign Language V	2	6
AP Art 2, AP Art 3	2	6
AP Music Theory, AP Art History	2	6
Total	20	60

Tuition at area universities

- ▶ 2012-2013 Tuition Rates according to http://www.collegefortexans.com
- ▶ Amounts per course based on a 15 hr course load (5 classes) each semester
- ▶ Does not include Room and Board or cost of books:
- ▶ If a student takes 5 AP classes over the course of high school and makes a 3 or higher on each test, it COULD save up to:

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TCC $ 1,560 $ 156 per 3 hr. course x 5 = $ 780

UT Arlington $ 9,152 $ 915 per 3 hr. course x 5 = $ 4,750

UT Austin $ 9,749 $ 974 per 3 hr. course x 5 = $ 4,870

Texas A&M $ 8,480 $ 848 per 3 hr. course x 5 = $ 4,240

TCU $ 34,500 $ 3,450 per 3 hr. course x 5 = $ 17,250
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Texas College & Career Resource

- Texas College & Career is a no-cost, one-stop, online college and career planning resource for all secondary students, parents, and educators: www.TexasCollegeandCareer.org
- Texas College & Career provides the key components of college and career planning all in one centralized location.
- Accessible online anywhere, anytime and is available to fully browse in English or Spanish.

AP Exam Fees

Cost of exam – Normal cost is \$87, but Birdville ISD students pay \$15 per exam and students who qualify for free and reduced lunches will pay \$5 per exam.

Note: A fee of \$30 will be assessed for any test ordered for a student and not taken by a student

Dual College Enrollment

BISD has established dual enrollment programs in which students may enroll in college courses taught on the high school campus, the college campus, or on line with qualified instructors through the following options:

Texas Wesleyan University (on high school campus)
University of Texas at Arlington Honors College (at University or On-Line)
Texas Virtual Schools Program (On-Line)
Tarrant County College (on high school campus)

- •These courses have college requirements and are based on acceptance to the university
- •These courses cost between \$350-\$450 for the course
- Books are not included in the cost of this course

Superintendent Scholars

- Students from the freshman, sophomore, and junior classes that score exceptionally well on the PSAT Exam are invited to join the Birdville ISD Superintendent Scholars Program.
- Superintendent Scholars are given an opportunity to study for the PSAT at a reduced rate with an outside company.
- ➤ Without specific preparation, data shows students will not significantly improve their performance.

Shmoop.com

- Shmoop is a free on-line program available to any BISD student in grades 9-12.
- SAT and ACT prep
- AP Prep
- EOC prep

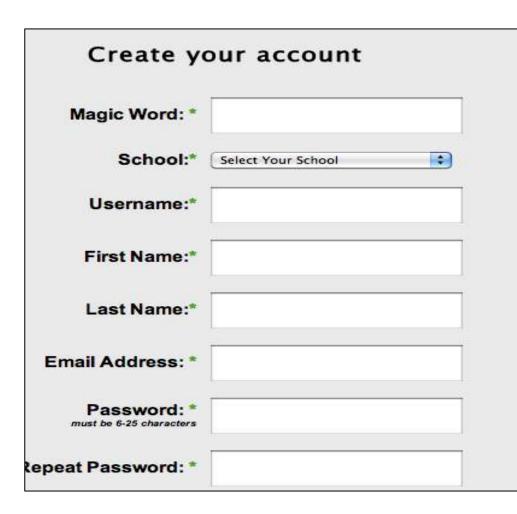
We encourage any interested student to register with the following:

http://www.shmoop.com/signup/birdville

http://www.shmoop.com/signup/birdville



- ▶ Enter your Magic Word:BISDROCKS(in all caps as shown)
- Choose Your School
- Create Your Username and Password



AP Contacts at Birdville High School

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