Ohio | Department of Education

CCIP Note # 371

Re: Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Test Fee Reimbursement for 2016 – 2017
Date: February 23, 2017
To: Superintendents, Treasurers, Title I Directors/Coordinators and Consolidated Application Contacts

The federal government has eliminated the dedicated AP/IB Fee Reimbursement Grant for the 2016-2017 school year and beyond. This grant has provided funding since 2005 to reduce the cost of the Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests of low-income students. In place of this and many other dedicated funding programs, the federal government created a new block grant (under Title IV, Part A) that will provide funding for a variety of eligible purposes. The majority of block grant funds will be distributed directly to districts. Federal appropriations for the block grant have not yet been made.

Rather than suspending the test reimbursement program entirely based on the termination of dedicated federal funding, the Ohio Department of Education has identified other financial resources to partially maintain the reimbursement program. To support low-income students during the 2016-2017 school year, the Department is reimbursing $20 per test to help reduce test costs for eligible students in low-income families.

Your district or school may choose to use, at your discretion, Title IV or other appropriate federal, state or local funds to further defray the costs of the tests for these students.

The College Board will provide more information on invoice procedures for Advanced Placement reimbursement. Attached is the invoice form for International Baccalaureate reimbursement.

For general questions about AP and IB tests, please contact the Office of Curriculum and Assessment at 614-466-1317 or gradrequirements@education.ohio.gov.

For questions about uses of federal funds, please contact the Office of Federal Programs at 614-466-5834 or Jeremy Marks, Director of Federal Programs, at Jeremy.Marks@education.ohio.gov.

Below is a sample message that you can use to communicate with students and their families. Feel free to customize this message, if appropriate, for your district or school.

Message for students of AP (or IB) program
Dear Parents:

Your child is participating this school year in our district's *(*or *school's)* Advanced Placement (*or International Baccalaureate*) program. We congratulate your family for supporting your student in the challenge to reach high expectations in learning. The experience of this coursework will serve your child well in future endeavors.

Your family is income eligible to receive a reduction in the cost of the AP (or *IB*) test(s). This school year, the U.S. Department of Education discontinued a specific federal grant that previously supported reducing the cost of AP (or *IB*) tests. However, other funds have been identified to partially replace the federal funds that have been eliminated.

This school year, our district (or *school*) will reduce the cost of an AP (or *IB*) test by $20 (*insert other amount as appropriate*) for your student.

After applying the reduction, the cost for an AP test this spring is $33 (or *family cost after combined state and district/school contribution*); an AP Capstone test is $81 and an IB test is $96. Please contact *(XXX)* about your intention to take a test and to discuss the payment process.