

Advanced Placement Tests

Description of the test:

AP tests provide students an opportunity to receive college credit while enrolled in high school. The AP tests have multiple choice and free response questions. Scores are reported on a 5 point scale. In general, a score of 5 is equivalent to a college grade of 'A'. Similarly the scores of 4, 3, and 2 are equivalent to grades of B, C, and D. The fee for each exam is \$84.00.

Why is the test given?

This is not a required assessment, however participation is encouraged. The School District of Waukesha currently offers 17 AP courses. During the 2006 – 2007 school year, 492 students earned over 1629 college credits by participating in the assessments.

Who participates in the test?

AP tests are designed to assess students' understanding after taking an AP courses, however taking an AP course is not a requirement for participating in an AP test.

When are the results available?

Students participate in the assessment in May. Results are made available to the school and students by early July.

How are the results used?

- The School District of Waukesha uses AP results to examine overall trends in achievement. Results are used to evaluate the course content and modify the curriculum or instruction as needed.

How are the results communicated to the community?

Scores (paper and phone) are available to students in early July. A summary of the School District of Waukesha performance is available here. The results of all public schools are available at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website <http://data.dpi.state.wi.us/data/selschool.asp>