

# BROADEN SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION IN ADVANCED COURSES

## NC Exam and Registration Fees Guidance



In summer 2014, with SL2013-360 section 8.27, the General Assembly modified 115C.83.4A to enhance access and encourage participation in Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses by appropriating funds to pay for all AP and IB exams for public school or charter school students who are enrolled in the corresponding AP/IB courses.

In the summer of 2017, with SL2017-57 section 7.28, the General Assembly modified 115C-174.26A and SL2013-360 section 8.27 to include Cambridge International Education (CIE) AS-Level and A-Level courses as eligible advanced courses. *This funding continues in the recurring budget.*

Below is guidance regarding payment of 2020-2021 AP/IB/AICE exam fees by NCDPI in the form of questions frequently asked.

### ***Are AP/IB/CIE exams mandated by NCDPI?***

NO. AP, IB, and AICE exams are not mandated for students by this legislation or State Board of Education policy.

### ***Do all AP/IB/CIE students have their test fees covered?***

YES. All public school students in traditional and charter schools, enrolled in AP, IB, and CIE courses who decide to take the appropriate AP/IB/AICE exams will have their exam and, if applicable, registration fees covered for the 2020-2021 school year.

### ***Can a student have more than one test fee covered?***

YES. There is no limit to the number of test fees a student may have covered. For example, if one student takes four courses, then that student may have all four test fees covered. The only condition is that the student must be enrolled in each of the corresponding courses.

### ***Which fees will be covered by NCDPI?***

For Advanced Placement exams:

- NCDPI will cover the Used Exam Fees for each student.
- NCDPI will not cover College Board ancillary fees, such as late-testing fees and the unused exam fees.
- College Board will provide rebates to each school to help with implementation.

For International Baccalaureate exams:

- NCDPI will cover Subject Test and Core Test Fees (for the initial ordering window)
- NCDPI will not cover any other International Baccalaureate Organization fees, such as the late subject, retest, and appeal fees as well as withdrawals and May exam session no shows.

For Cambridge International Education exams:

- NCDPI will cover Test fees.
- NCDPI will cover Diploma fees.
- NCDPI will not cover any other Cambridge International Education fees, such as late-testing fees or appeal fees.

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### ***What is the process for billing?***

For AP exam fees:

- College Board will bill NCDPI directly for the portion of the bill that NCDPI is responsible for paying. Any remaining costs will be billed to the school.
- AP testing coordinators at the school level must indicate the low-income reductions and submit exam registrations through the AP exam ordering website by **November 13, 2020**. This will ensure that NCDPI can pay College Board effectively in this fiscal year.
- Pay close attention to recognizing low-income students. We want to take full advantage of the reduced rate for these students from College Board.

For IB exam fees:

- The International Baccalaureate Organization will bill NCDPI directly for the portion of the bill that NCDPI is responsible for paying. Any remaining costs will be billed to the school.
- NCDPI will not cover the May exam session test fees for no shows. This amount will be billed to the school. (*This was new in 2019-2020.*)
- NOTE: Additional fees that are not covered by NCDPI will remain the responsibility of the LEAs and Charter Schools.

For AICE exam fees:

- The individual North Carolina high schools offering CIE courses will forward the bill from Cambridge International Education to NCDPI. NCDPI will pay CIE for the test fees.

Questions/Concerns: Contact the Division of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education at [ap.ib@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ap.ib@dpi.nc.gov) or 984-236-2739.