



Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

FAQ

2016-17 AP/IB Teacher Legislated Bonuses

Bonus Payment Information

Session Law 2016-94

Section 8.8

Some AP and IB teachers will qualify for bonus pay in January depending on their students' scores from last year's administration of AP and IB exams, based on legislation from this past summer. DPI recognizes that LEAs are in the process of determining who will qualify to receive the AP/IB Bonus; we appreciate your hard work. In response to the recent calls and emails DPI has received, please see the following clarifications based on the most common questions:

How much bonus pay may a teacher earn for student exam scores in AP or IB courses?

Based on student performance on the AP (3 and above) or IB exam (4 and above), a teacher may earn \$50 per student up to \$2000 if she/he is still teaching an AP or IB course in the same district.

Does a teacher qualify for a bonus if she/he will teach the AP/IB course in the second semester (as well as last year)?

YES. An AP/IB teacher who taught in either semester of the 15-16 school year and is teaching an AP/IB course in either semester of the 16-17 school year is eligible to receive a bonus.

If a teacher is teaching a different advanced course this year than what they taught last year, are they eligible to receive this bonus?

YES. The specific course does not matter. The critical element is that the teacher is teaching any AP or IB course in either semester of the 16-17 school year.

If the teacher taught AP last year and teaches IB this year are they eligible?

YES. A teacher is required to be teaching an advanced course, which is defined in law as AP or IB course.

Does an honors course count as an “advanced course”?

NO. Per legislation, “advanced course shall mean an Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme course.”

If a teacher teaches both AP and IB courses and has students’ exam scores qualify in both classes, can she/he earn a \$2000 bonus for each AP and IB course separately?

NO. A teacher may only be awarded a TOTAL of \$2000 for this combined AP/IB bonus program in any given school year.

If a student receives a qualifying score from a course exam for which she/he took the course and the exam score report includes sub-scores, can the teacher receive a bonus for the sub-score in addition to the main score?

NO. A teacher can only receive a bonus for the primary qualifying exam score for the course the student took. The sub-scores do not qualify for a bonus. This occurs with at least AP Calculus BC and AP Music Theory.

Are teachers in Charter Schools eligible to receive this bonus pay?

NO. At this time, this bonus pay applies to traditional school districts and does not apply to Charter Schools.

What is the DPI procedure for allotting funds to each LEA?

DPI will:

- Determine the total number of exams by LEA meeting the score eligibility - based on the College Board and IB reports.
- Allot funds to each LEA based on the total number of exams multiplied by \$50 (plus social security). This is an estimated allotment and should be in excess of what is needed.

What are LEAs responsible for:

The LEAs are responsible for:

- Determining the individual teachers who are eligible
- Validating that the teacher is still working in the same LEA in the current year
- Validating that the teacher is teaching AP/IB courses in the current year
- Calculating the bonus amount for each teacher.
- Providing the bonus to eligible NCVPS teachers who are also employed in your LEA, per instructions that will be provided by NCVPS.
- Ensuring the bonus does not exceed \$2,000
- Paying the teachers for the bonus in January 2017.

Note:

1. IB Theory of Knowledge is not eligible
2. IB-DP tests that are for courses that span over 1 year and have multiple teachers – both teachers are eligible.

If you have further questions, please contact the Advanced Learning Division at DPI:

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