

# EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

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## Advanced Placement (AP) Overview:

AP classes enable high school students to take more rigorous courses that cover complex topics typically found only in higher education. Advanced Placement (AP) classes move at a fast pace and require significant study and work on assignments outside the classroom. If students score a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP exam, they can earn college credit and/or bypass some general education requirements once they enroll in college. However, they should balance taking AP courses with maintaining a healthy schedule to avoid burnout and creating an overly large workload.

## AP Course Limits:

On January 13, 2026, the Dublin Unified School District Board of Trustees unanimously adopted [Resolution 2025/26-37](#) to establish reasonable limits on how many Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors courses a student may take in a single year and across their high school career in order to promote balance, student well-being, and a healthier school culture. The resolution was drafted in response to growing evidence that excessive academic course-loading—often driven by college admissions anxiety—can lead to high levels of stress, sleep deprivation, and reduced engagement in learning, even among high-achieving students. Importantly, this policy does not disadvantage Dublin students in college admissions: colleges evaluate students in the context of their high school's offerings and policies, and clearly defined AP and Honors limits are reflected in the official school profile used by admissions offices. In other words, this change shifts the focus away from résumé-driven overloading toward deeper learning, meaningful involvement, and student well-being—without limiting a student's ability to compete in the college process.

For more information on the resolution and for access to the appeal request, see [Establishing Limits on Advanced Placement and Honors Courses: A Family & Student Guide](#).

## Benefits of taking AP courses include:

- The potential of earning college credit
- By passing AP exams and receiving college credit, students can save time in pursuing degrees and save on tuition expenses
- Creating a more robust application when applying to competitive colleges
- Helping students prepare for success with college-level coursework

## Factors to Consider Before Taking an AP Class:

- Interest: Consider a subject that you have enjoyed or had success with in the past. Spending significant time studying a subject that is not of interest can lead to burnout and frustration.
- Scheduling: Carefully consider your course load each semester and balance classwork expectations with extracurricular activities, part-time jobs, family commitments, etc.
- Course rigor: Make sure that you review the course content and expectations, as most AP courses are time-consuming

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York Alternative  
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If you enjoy learning and challenging yourself and have subjects you truly enjoy, AP classes may be a wonderful option.

**DUSD Sample AP Offerings:**

For a complete list of current AP offerings, consult your school's course catalog or contact your child's counselor. Class availability may differ by school site.

- AP 2-D Art and Design
- AP 3D Art and Design
- AP Biology
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP Chinese Language and Culture
- AP Computer Science A
- AP Computer Science Principles
- AP Drawing
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP Environmental Science
- AP French Language and Culture
- AP Human Geography
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Music Theory
- AP Physics C: Mechanics
- AP Precalculus
- AP Psychology
- AP Research
- AP Seminar
- AP Spanish Language and Culture
- AP Statistics
- AP United States Government and Politics
- AP United States History
- AP World History: Modern

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