



TAHOMA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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(425) 413-6200 • FAX (425) 413-6333

February 8, 2012

Dear AP Student,

Congratulations on your participation in one or more AP classes! We hope that you are enjoying the opportunity to challenge yourself by studying college-level material.

Now you are about to embark on the next phase, the 2012 AP examination. While the tests are not required, we *strongly* encourage all AP students to seriously consider taking the exam for your course(s). All exams will be offered between **May 7 and May 18**. The schedule for exams is on the back of the "Bulletin for Students and Parents 2012" which your AP teacher will give you with this letter. The schedule is also posted in your AP teacher's room, in the Counseling Center, in the Main Office, and outside Office #118.

Please take the time to read carefully through the *Bulletin for AP Students and Parents*. In addition to the other important information in the booklet, the booklet covers fees, security information, items to bring to the exam, labeling your exam, accommodations, getting your grades by phone, sending additional grade reports, and canceling a grade.

Tahoma Senior High will offer **AP exams in all subject areas taught at the school, providing one or more students register for the exam**. For the 2011-2012 school year, this includes **AP Biology, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Computer Science A, AP Environmental Science, AP European History, AP Human Geography, AP Literature (two separate tests administered in both Literature and Language), AP Physics, AP Psychology, AP Statistics, AP Studio Art (2D; 2D: Graphic Design; 3D; and Drawing), AP U.S. Government, and AP U.S. History**.

Additionally, we will offer **AP exams for subjects *not* taught here, providing that five or more enrolled students wish to take the exam**. If four or fewer students wish to take the exam, then Mrs. Dillon, the AP Coordinator, will check with nearby high schools to see if they are offering that exam. If the exam is being offered at a nearby school, and that school is willing to have the students test there, then the AP Coordinator will make the necessary arrangements. If a nearby school cannot be located that is willing to accept the students, then Tahoma High will offer the exam for those students.

The cost for each exam is **\$87**. While this may sound like a lot of money, you should consider your potential savings. Not only might you eliminate totally the time, energy, and late-night studying for a college class, but you will also enjoy a great financial savings, almost like giving yourself a scholarship! Public colleges and universities charge approximately \$200 per credit, while private colleges can run as much as \$1250 per credit. This does not include the university fees you must pay, as well as textbook costs. Since you can potentially receive between three and eight semester credits for a score of "3" or above on the AP exam (note: many colleges require a score of 4 or 5), you are **saving between \$300 and \$9000 for each course in which you receive credit**. Don't miss this amazing opportunity!

The **\$87 fee is refundable with the exception of the following**: Any student who has registered for an AP exam, but cancels the exam at any time *after March 16*, OR who does not show up for the scheduled

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exam, will lose the nonrefundable deposit charged by the College Board (\$13), as well as the portion of the test fee which the school retains to cover its costs (\$8). The \$66 balance of the exam fee will be returned to the student.

Financial aid is available for those on free or reduced lunch, for those whose family income is at or below the Census Bureau's "poverty threshold," for those whose family receives assistance under part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act, and for those eligible to receive medical assistance under the Medicaid program under Title XIX of the Social Security Act. **Mrs. Dillon must add you to the list if you qualify for financial aid. See her in room 118 (2nd period only) or room 115 (all other periods) as soon as possible if you qualify, or e-mail her at bdillon@tahomasd.us. Please note that if you are not eligible in any of the categories above, but are still experiencing financial difficulty in paying for AP exams, other options are available. See Mrs. Dillon.**

Important dates are as follows:

February 8-March 16

AP exams are ordered. You must give your registration form and your \$87 payment (cash or check) to Mrs. Suchanek, the THS Cashier, OR you can pay online through Skyward on THS e-funds. Checks should be made out to Tahoma Senior High. Do not delay, as the late fee is an additional \$50. If you decide later not to take the exam, \$66 of your \$87 will be returned. A \$13 non-refundable deposit is charged by the testing service, and an \$8 non-refundable deposit is charged by the school for refund processing costs.

April 23, 24, 26, and 27

Pre-administration sessions for AP testing will take place in the Lecture Hall. ALL students **must** attend their scheduled pre-administration session, or they will not be allowed to take AP exams. Students will be notified as to their required date.

May 7 – 18

Testing takes place. You will be excused from your Tahoma classes for approximately four hours per exam.

If you have any questions, please see your AP teacher or Mrs. Dillon. Again, we congratulate you for embracing the more challenging AP curriculum and encourage you to consider taking one or more of the AP exams.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Brooke Dillon

Mrs. Brooke Dillon
AP Coordinator
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