

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

How many AP Exams can I take? How many exams do students usually take?	1
Do I have to take an AP course to take the corresponding AP Exam?.....	2
Can I take both Calculus AB and BC?	2
Can I take both Physics 1 and Physics 2 exams? Can I take all four Physics exams?	2
Can I retake an AP Exam in the same year?.....	2
I am enrolled in the IBDP. Should I still take AP exams? Is AP more beneficial than IB?	2
Is there an alternative testing schedule for AP which isn't in May?.....	3
My school does not offer AP. How do I prepare for the exams?.....	3
Which online course providers should I use?	3
Where can I find AP text books?	4
Can I use something other than my passport to register for AP exams?	4
Where can I check the AP credit policies of colleges?	4
How long do I have to study to prepare for an AP Exam?	4
How do I decide which AP exams to take?	4
In which Grade should I take AP Exams? Can I take them in Grade 9?	5
Who administers AP Exams in India?.....	5
How will I receive my scores?	5

How many AP Exams can I take? How many exams do students usually take?

Colleges look to see that students have taken the most challenging courses available to them. You may take as many AP exams as you are prepared for each year. The average student takes 3 exams over their high school/secondary school career, although there are certainly students who take more.

Do I have to take an AP course to take the corresponding AP Exam?

An AP course culminates in an end of course AP Exam. You can take most AP Exams without taking the corresponding AP course as a prerequisite. Students at schools where an AP course is not offered may prepare for the end of course exam on their own. There are three exceptions, however: for AP Seminar, AP Research, and AP Computer Science Principles, you must take the course as a prerequisite; just taking the exam in May will not give you a complete exam score.

Can I take both Calculus AB and BC?

The difference between AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC is one of scope and not level of difficulty. Calculus BC is an extension of AB. Each course is challenging and demanding and requires a similar depth of understanding of common topics. AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC were designed to represent year-long college courses, so it is not recommended that you take both Calculus AB and Calculus BC courses within the same year.

Regarding the exam: you are not permitted to take both the Calculus AB and Calculus BC exams within the same year. Also, you may not take the same AP exam more than once in the same year; however, you may repeat an exam in a subsequent year. In such cases, both scores will be reported unless you request that one be withheld or cancelled.

Can I take both Physics 1 and Physics 2 exams? Can I take all four Physics exams?

Yes, students can take Physics 1 and Physics 2, as well as one or both of the Physics C exams, in the same year. For more frequently asked questions about the new AP Physics courses and exams, please view the special FAQ resource online:

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/225589.html

Can I retake an AP Exam in the same year?

You may not take the same AP exam more than once in the same year; however, you may repeat an exam in a subsequent year. In such cases, both scores will be reported unless you request that one be withheld or cancelled.

I am enrolled in the IBDP. Should I still take AP exams? Is AP more beneficial than IB?

Different universities have different policies about AP and IB in terms of admissions, credit and placement out of introductory courses. AP and IB are both high quality programs and are viewed by colleges and universities as having value for admissions. AP offers over 30 courses and exams, each designed to correspond to an introductory-level college course. You have the flexibility to take just one or as many AP courses and/or exams that interest you, **even if you're already enrolled in IB courses.**

AP Exams provide students with a standardized measure of their readiness for placement into a college course beyond the typical freshman course in a discipline. Exams are evaluated by college and university professors and AP teachers using college-level standards. Most colleges and universities in the U.S. and

Canada grant credit and placement for qualifying AP scores; moreover, universities in more than 60 other countries recognize AP in the admission process. You can save money and get a head start on your degree when you enter college with credit you've already earned through AP.

Is there an alternative testing schedule for AP which isn't in May?

All students around the world take the standardized AP Exams in during the first two full weeks of May, as a culmination of their AP courses during the school year. A 3-day late testing period in the third week of May is available for eligible students, although it is for each school or test center to decide whether to offer late testing or not. Late Testing registration opens after the Regular Testing registration period concludes. An additional late testing fee per exam may apply.

My school does not offer AP. How do I prepare for the exams?

The best preparation for an AP Exam is an authorized AP course at your school. If your school does not offer AP, you may wish to explore the option to take an AP class online, which resembles a year-long AP class you would take at your school, except it is offered virtually by a third party provider. To locate authorized AP online providers, you and your school counsellor may search for school names with the keyword "online" via the AP Course Ledger (<https://apcourseaudit.inflexion.org/ledger/>).

Another option is to prepare for AP Exams on your own via self-study. You can take an AP Exam without taking the AP course.

- a) We recommend getting familiar with the course material and exam format by reviewing the detailed information for each at AP courses.
- b) Review the course description and try the sample questions from prior exams available for each subject, available for free on the Exam Practice page. Depending on the subject, you should also review the exam practice tips and calculator policy if one applies. For the science exams, you'll want to have access to a lab where you can practice lab work in preparation for the exam questions, which are based on experiences and skills that students acquire in the lab.

AP Course Descriptions:

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/descriptions/index.html>

- c) For complete exams and additional resources, check the College Board Store (<https://store.collegeboard.org>) for AP materials available.

You may also contact your **United States-India Educational Foundation** (<http://www.usief.org.in/>) for guidance on this topic as well as inquire about usage of their AP resource library across their centers.

Which online course providers should I use?

AP provides the AP Course Ledger (<https://apcourseaudit.inflexion.org/ledger/>), a public list of AP-authorized online providers that offer courses that meet AP curricular and resource requirements. Search the list of schools (type "online" in the school name) to explore the many online providers that offer the subject(s) you wish to take.

FAQS FOR STUDENTS IN INDIA TAKING AP EXAMS AT AP TEST CENTERS

VISIT [AP HELP](#) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Where can I find AP text books?

AP courses use college-level textbooks and AP provides teachers with general guidelines for selecting textbooks in the course description, as well as an **Example Textbook List**. To view, go to [AP Course Audit Explore by Course](#) (<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-course-audit/explore-by-course>), select a course, and then view “Example Textbook List”).

Students in India may contact **United States-India Educational Foundation** (<http://www.usief.org.in/>) for guidance on this topic as well as inquire about usage of their AP resource library across their centers.

Some students opt to search on Advanced Placement textbook via online seller websites such as [flipkart.com](#) (India) or [Amazon.in](#).

Can I use something other than my passport to register for AP exams?

Test centers will require that you have a valid government-issued photo ID such as your valid passport or Aadhaar Card at the time of registration and also for admissions on exam day. We urge all students interested in AP to begin the process to obtain or renew a passport months in advance of the annual AP Exam registration deadline in late March. Also be sure to allow plenty of time before the exam dates if you will need to submit your valid passport to a consulate to obtain a visa. If for any reason, you cannot provide a valid government-issued ID, it is up to the authorized test center to allow you to register with an alternate form of ID (for example a school-issued photo ID), which you must also bring on exam day.

Where can I check the AP credit policies of colleges?

What sets an AP Exam apart is that you could potentially earn university credit and/or advanced placement, which means you could skip an introductory-level university course or earn enough credits to start at a higher-level course for that subject. However, many students find that preparation for an AP Exam helps them once they're at university, even if they don't earn credit or placement.

Visit the **Credit and Placement** page to understand the value of earning AP credit and/or placement. <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement>

Each college sets its own policies for awarding credit or advanced placement for AP exams, with most colleges accepting a minimum AP score of 3 or higher. Find a college's credit policy: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search-credit-policies>

To see AP policies for institutions outside the United States, download a list of universities outside the U.S. that recognize AP for admissions, scholarships, credit and/or advanced standing <https://international.collegeboard.org/xlsx/college-board-higher-education-recognition-policies-0.xlsx>

How long do I have to study to prepare for an AP Exam?

This varies by student.

How do I decide which AP exams to take?

You can decide based on your interests, your intended college major, or career area. Visit [Explore AP](#) (<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap>) to begin. For example, if you plan to major in Chemical

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Engineering, it may make sense to take subjects like AP Chemistry and AP Calculus. You may also consider the [AP recognition policies \(https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search-credit-policies\)](https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search-credit-policies) of any specific colleges/universities where you think you will apply.

In which Grade should I take AP Exams? Can I take them in Grade 9?

Most students take AP courses and exams in Grades 11 or 12. However, you may feel prepared to take on the challenge of AP earlier, in Grades 9 or 10.

Who administers AP Exams in India?

A few schools, along with [authorized AP test centers \(http://ap-india.org/\)](http://ap-india.org/) are able to administer AP Exams in India. Check with your school's AP Coordinator to confirm if you can register for and take exams at your school. If your school does not offer a particular AP Exam you wish to take, or if your school opts to not administer any AP Exams, you may register with one of the other test centers. Note that AP Exam fees and registration procedures may vary across test centers. Refund, late testing, and registration policies may also vary for AP authorized test centers.

If a test center in India does not offer a particular exam you wish to take, you may contact AP Services for Students (apstudents@info.collegeboard.org or +1 212-632-1780) to locate other testing locations that accept external students.

How will I receive my scores?

If you haven't already, sign up for a College Board account at <https://apscore.org>. If you already have an account for SAT or other College Board programs, try signing in first at apscore.org. You can use your SAT account to get your AP scores.

Scores are released to students and schools online beginning in July. The score release schedule will be posted on <https://apscore.org>. The same website also has a video and other resources to help you get your scores.

VISIT [AP HELP](#) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.