

Policy for Awarding AP Credits
Public Institutions of Higher Education in Ohio
May 11, 2008

Guiding Philosophy

The OBOR recognizes that students can document their achievement in college level subject matter via the College Board Advanced Placement Program (AP). In order to provide consistency and clarity for students policies for awarding AP credit are adopted for all public institutions of higher education (PIOHE) in Ohio.

The motivation and guiding philosophy behind these policies include the following.

- There should be consistency across Ohio PIOHE in how AP credits will be awarded and how they count towards degrees.
- It should be clear to prospective students how AP credits will be awarded at any PIOHE in Ohio.
- The policies should promote student success at PIOHE in Ohio.
- The policy should be fair to “native” students as well as transfer students.
- There should be a balance between maintaining standards and advantaging students in awarding AP credits.
- Students should not be disadvantaged in the acceptance of AP credits when transferring within the PIOHE system.
- Students should consult with academic advisors to determine how AP credits can be used most effectively in meeting degree requirements. It should be recognized that advisors may recommend that students have higher than the minimum required AP score to be successful in courses in their major area or in courses used as prerequisites.

Revised Code 3333.163 was passed in April 2007 and the above philosophy supports the language of the law. While a policy should provide clarity for most cases, any uncertainties should be adjudicated consistent with the guiding philosophy. All PIOHE in Ohio shall adhere to the following policy in awarding AP credits.

Policy

1. A score of 3 or higher will provide credit at any PIOHE in Ohio. The credit must count towards graduation and will meet a general education requirement if the course to which the AP credit is equivalent fulfills a requirement at the receiving institution.
2. When it clearly enhances the opportunity for student success, an institution should strongly advise that an AP score of at least a 4 is needed for a student to be successful in a second course in a highly dependent sequence of courses in a STEM area. For example, an advisor should strongly recommend that an AP score of at least a 4 is needed on the AP Chemistry exam in order for the student to be successful in the second course in Chemistry.
3. A score of 3 or higher on an AP exam in a foreign language area will provide credit for at least the first year of foreign language at any PIOHE.
4. Each PIOHE in Ohio will provide information on awarding AP credits, which should include the number of credits awarded and the course equivalents earned for scores of 3 or higher.
5. Credits earned via AP exams are transferable within PIOHE in Ohio according to the state's transfer module and transfer policy.

Timeline

The policy will be fully implemented by fall 2009, and will be applied to students who are enrolled at a PIOHE in the fall of 2009 and have not had their AP scores evaluated for college credit. The new policy will be communicated to prospective students and to other key stakeholders during the 2008-9 academic year.

Determining the Effect of the Policy

Within three years of implementation of this policy, the OBOR should review the policy to determine its effect. The OBOR should recommend any needed modifications in the policy to bring it into consistency with the guiding philosophy.