



NEWS RELEASE
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Class of 2007 Performs Well on AP Exams

DES MOINES, Iowa – More than 60 percent of Iowa students in the Class of 2007 that took an Advanced Placement (AP) exam during their high school career scored a 3 or higher. Score results for the 2007 class were released today by the College Board, which administers the AP program.

Of the 32,927 members of the 2007 graduating class, 4,021 members or 12.2 percent took at least one AP exam during their four years in high school. Of the class members that took an AP exam, 2,647 or 66 percent scored a 3 or higher. This is higher than the national average of 61 percent.

AP data reported in August showed that all Iowa students, regardless of their graduating year, that took AP exams in the 2006-2007 school year also performed better than the national average.

Many colleges and universities award college credit or advanced placement into higher-level college courses to students with high AP exam scores. A score of 3 or above is considered to be college-level performance. AP exams are scored on a 1-5 scale, with 5 being the highest possible score.

Out of 340 school districts in Iowa that had a high school in 2006-2007, 200 districts or 58 percent offered AP courses onsite. In addition to courses available onsite, 336 public and accredited nonpublic high schools were registered to offer AP courses online. The Iowa Online Advanced Placement Academy (IOAPA) was established in 2001 to expand delivery of AP courses to high school students across the state via the Internet and the Iowa Communications Network (ICN).

In addition to AP courses, students in Iowa have access to other opportunities to earn college credit while still in high school. One option for college-level coursework is dual credit — the opportunity to take a course either at a high school or college that qualifies for both high school and college credit. In 2006-2007, 272 or 80 percent of the 340 districts with a high school offered dual credit. Similar to dual credit is the Post Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO), which permits high school students to enroll in a course at a college if a comparable course is not offered by the school district. In 2006-2007, 290 or 85 percent of the 340 districts in Iowa with a high school offered PSEO.

Iowa Department of Education

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The Iowa Department of Education works with the State of Iowa Board of Education to provide oversight, supervision and support for the state education system, which includes public elementary and secondary schools, nonpublic schools that receive state accreditation, area education agencies, community colleges and teacher preparation programs. The department is committed to high levels of learning, achievement and performance for all students, so they will become successful members of their community and the workforce.