

Archived Information

ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEST INCENTIVE

Goal: To increase the numbers of low-income high school students prepared to pursue higher education.

Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives: The Advanced Placement program supports Objective 3.1 of the Department’s Strategic Plan. The program subsidizes the advanced placement test fees for low-income students to promote education excellence and equal access to higher education for these students.

FY 2000—\$15,000,000

FY 2001—\$20,000,000 (Requested budget)

OBJECTIVE 1: ENCOURAGE A GREATER NUMBER OF LOW-INCOME STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM.

Indicator 1.1 Students served: The number of AP tests taken by low-income students will increase by 10 percent annually (e.g., to 83,300 in 1999).

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p>Status: In 1999 the performance goal was exceeded.</p> <p>Explanation: In 1999, low-income students took 92,750 Advanced Placement tests.</p>	<p>Source: College Board data on participation in Advanced Placement testing. <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> 2000.</p> <p>Validation Procedure: Quality of data is monitored by College Board.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: No significant limitations of the data—no planned improvements.</p>
1999:	92,750	83,3000		
2000:		102,000		
2001:		112,200		

KEY STRATEGIES

New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ Encourage increased access to challenging AP coursework, including the creation of new AP programs in disadvantaged areas.
- ❖ Develop an action plan for coordinating AP program activities with ED programs and initiatives—such as New American High Schools, Gear Up, and Trio—that work for schools that
- ❖ Conduct a national AP forum, in partnership with the College Board, to include state teams to ensure high-quality educational opportunities for our young people, especially low-income students, to enroll and succeed in advanced placement courses, to better prepare students in grades 8–10 to be ready for AP courses, and to offer a full set of quality AP courses.
- ❖ Disseminate information to the public about the availability of funding to pay for or to help pay for AP test fees.

HOW THIS PROGRAM COORDINATES WITH OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

- ❖ Developing coordination activities with New American High Schools, Gear UP, TRIO, and other related programs.

CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL

- ❖ While 34 states and D.C. participated in fiscal year 1999, some states have not shown an interest in participating in the program to increase the number of low-income students participating in the Advanced Placement program.

INDICATOR CHANGES

From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)

Adjusted—None.

Dropped—None.

From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year's)

Adjusted—Indicator 1.1 was adjusted to align with data being collected.

Dropped

- ❖ Indicator 1.2, the number of districts participating in AP-test fee reduction, has been eliminated but remains part of the program strategy. The change was made because the indicator did not provide an adequate measure of the program's ongoing activities with states, districts, the College Board, and others to build familiarity with the program and effective use of program resources.

New—None.