# Office of Postsecondary Readiness

COLORADO
Department of Education

www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary

## **FACT SHEET**

# Advanced Placement Incentives Pilot Program

The Advanced Placement Incentives Pilot Program (AP Incentives) first provided incentives in the 2014-2015 school year as the result of House Bill 14-1118. The program is designed to incentivize the implementation and/or expansion of Advanced Placement (AP) programs to build capacity for increased AP participation in rural and small rural school districts across Colorado.

#### Districts and Schools

#### Distribution of Incentives

To date, the AP Incentives Program has awarded \$712,500 in incentives to twenty-five participating high schools in twenty-two school districts across Colorado. These districts and schools represent a diverse cross-section of Colorado's rural and small rural school districts and for the 2016-17 school year, will serve 475 students in reaching their Advanced Placement goals.

# **Demographics**

- The average free and reduced lunch (FRL) rate among Colorado high schools is 42 percent (2015-16) and the average FRL rate of the high schools participating in AP Incentives during the 2016-17 school year is 44 percent.
- Of the 19 high schools receiving AP Incentive dollars in 2016-17, 15 are located in rural school districts and 4 are located in small rural school districts, as designated by CDE.
- Since the program's inception in 2014-15, 8,874 AP Incentives have been requested. 1,425 incentives have been awarded based on available funds representing 16 percent of the total requested incentives.

#### Allocation of Incentives

 To be eligible for AP Incentives, a school must meet the definition of being in a rural or small rural district:

Rural School District: A Colorado school district is determined to be rural giving consideration to the size of the district, the distance from the nearest large urban/urbanized area, and having a student enrollment of approximately 6,500 students or less.

Small Rural District: A Colorado school district is determined to be small rural giving consideration to the size of the district, the distance from the nearest large urban/urbanized area, and having a student population of less than 1,000 students.

 Distribution of AP Incentives is prioritized based on the school's free and reduced lunch participation and the number of participating students.

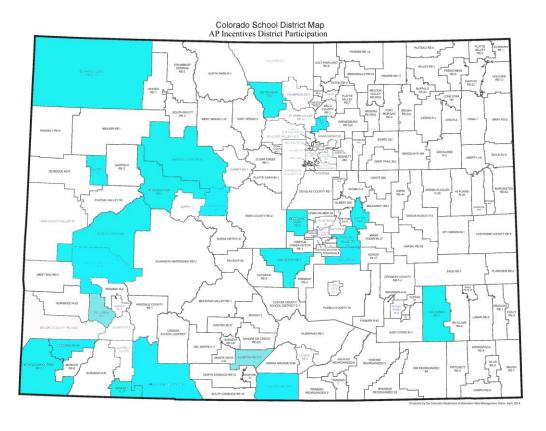


#### Use of Incentives

#### Implementation and Expansion

- Each school that participates in the pilot program receives \$500 per participating student's completion of an AP course and the correlated AP exam.
- Incentive Award must be used for:
  - o Professional development programs for teachers and administrators to improve understanding of content, placement and instructional strategies;
  - Enhancing online access to Advanced Placement;
  - Teacher or mentor incentives.

### District Map of Advanced Placement Program Participants 2014-2017



# Where can I learn more?

- AP Incentives Guidelines and Definitions
  - o www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/apincentives
- C.R.S. 22-95-105 (AP Incentives Bill)
  - o www.statebillinfo.com/bills/bills/14/1118\_enr.pdf
- To view all CDE fact sheets, visit: <a href="https://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/factsheetsandfaqs">www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/factsheetsandfaqs</a>