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| Accelerated College Opportunity Exam Fee Grant Program Pursuant to 22-95.5 C.R.S. |

**For Program Questions:**

Marina Kokotovic,

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# Accelerated College Opportunity Exam Fee Grant Program

# Introduction

Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses are offered to high school students and reflect the information found in a college-level course. Students taking such courses have the option to take an Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate exam following completion of the course. Some colleges, including all state institutions in Colorado pursuant to Colorado Commission on Higher Education policy, offer credit based on a student's Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam score. Students who take an Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam must pay an exam fee.

The Accelerated College Opportunity Exam Fee Grant Program is intended to increase the number of eligible students who take Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams and receive scores for which college academic credit is awarded by providing funds to high schools, to pay all or a portion of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam fees on behalf of eligible students.

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# Eligible Applicants

Applicants are eligible to apply for this opportunity on behalf of high schools serving eligible students. An applicant is:

“Applicant” means a public high school, either on its own behalf or through its authorizer or fiscal agent, which serves grades nine through twelve and has one or more students who plan to take an Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate exam. A school district, authorizer, or high school (as defined in section 2.06 of these rules) may act as an applicant.

“High school” means any public school that serves grades nine through twelve and has one or more students who plan to take an Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate exam.

“Eligible student” means a student enrolled in a high school who is a low-income individual, as defined in [20 U.S.C. sec. 9832(3)](http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=sec+9832&f=treesort&fq=true&num=5&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title20-section9832) and who is planning to take one or more Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams.

# Available Funds

The amount allocated per exam will be set by the department on an annual basis based on available appropriations, reduced fee prices as set by the exam vendor, amount of federal funding received by applicants for payment of exam fees, and total number of exams to be funded for eligible students.

$245,000 is available for the 2020-2021 school year. Each eligible exam fee will be funded at a rate of up to 53 dollars (94 dollars AP exam fee minus reduced fee waiver of 32 dollars, minus the administrator fee of 9 dollars).

If funds are sufficient to fund all grant applications, each applicant will receive full funding. If the total request of funds exceeds the amount available, CDE will distribute funds proportionately on a pro rata basis. The condition of pro rata will be applied to the total amount requested by the applicant.

Subject to available appropriations, the department may award a grant for an exam fee in an amount greater than the amount of a grant awarded for another exam up to the amount necessary to cover the entire fee of an exam. In order to award a grant in a greater amount pursuant to this subsection, any grant awarded for a lesser amount must cover the entire cost of the exam fee for which the lesser grant is awarded.

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# Duration of Grant

Grants will be awarded for the 2020-2021 school year. Additional grant funding for subsequent years will be contingent upon annual appropriations by the State legislature. Funded applicants are not guaranteed any additional funding beyond the 2020-2021 school year. Applicants may request and receive funding for multiple exams per eligible student. Grantees may not use grant awards to supplant federal funds already available to pay for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam fees for eligible students.

**Note:** No carryover will be allowed. Funds must be expended by June 30, 2021.

# Data Privacy

CDE takes seriously its obligation to protect the privacy of student Personally Identifiable Information (PII) collected, used, shared, and stored. PII will not be collected through the Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Exam Fee Grant. All program evaluation data will be collected in the aggregate and will be used, shared, and stored in compliance with CDE’s privacy and security policies and procedures.

**Please note: Documents submitted must not contain any personally identifiable student information including names, identification numbers, or anything that could identify an individual.**

# Submission Process and Deadline

* Please complete the application and the Exam Count Excel sheet. Signatures on the Assurances page must include original signatures of the lead organization/fiscal agent. Please read the application carefully and submit all information required. If you have questions, email Marina Kokotovic. **Incomplete application will not be considered.**
* An electronic copy of the application (in PDF format) must be email to Marina Kokotovic (Kokotovic\_m@cde.state.co.us) by **December 1, 2020 at 11:59PM.** Due to the competitive nature of this grant, **Incomplete or late applications** will be disqualified.

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# Part IB: Program Assurances Form

The appropriate Authorized Representatives must sign below to indicate their approval of the contents of the Accelerated College Opportunity Exam Fee Grant Program application, and the receipt of program funds.

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| On | (date) | , 2020, the Board of | (district) |

hereby agrees to the following assurances:

* Funds from this program will not supplant federal funding pledged or received for the payment of Advanced Placement and/or International Baccalaureate exam fees.
* Funds will be used only for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam fees of eligible students as verified through the process outlined in Student Eligibility (below).
* If the applicant is a high school that applies on its own, an assurance that its fiscal agent or authorizer has not applied for funding on its behalf for the same eligible students for which the high school is requesting funds.
* By June 1st, applicants must verify in writing to the department the number of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams administered to eligible students.

An applicant must verify and provide an assurance to the department that students for whom the applicant seeks a grant award for exam fees are eligible students. In verifying and providing the assurance, applicants must confirm that eligible students are between the ages of 5 through 19, and from a low-income family, based on the following eligibility criteria;

* The student qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751); or
* The student or his or her family is eligible for assistance under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601); or
* The student is eligible to receive medical assistance under the Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396); or
* The student qualifies as low-income based on data used by the federal Department of Education to determine basic grants to states under 20 U.S.C. 6333

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| Name of District Superintendent orCharter School/BOCES Executive Director (if applicable) |  | Signature |
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| Name of Charter School Institute Authorized Representative(if applicable) |  | Signature |
| Name of School Principal (if applicable) |  | Signature |



HB 18-1396

Application and Assurances

**Applicant Information**

Name Printed (Program Contact): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ District/LEA: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Program Contact): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* (District/High School Name)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has identified (Number of unduplicated, *eligible* students\*) \_\_\_\_\_\_ planning to take Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams in the 2020-21 academic year.
* Total number of AP exam fees for eligible students for which funding is requested. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Total number of IB exam fees for eligible students for which funding is requested. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Total number of exams (for ALL students) offered at applicant. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Please specify subject matter or exam name of Advanced Placement exams for which you are requesting funding using the excel document attached to email.

 Please specify subject matter or exam name of International Baccalaureate exams for which you are requesting funding using the excel document attached to email.

Please specify amount of federal funding (e.g. Title IV Part A and Title I) set aside, pledged or received to pay for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exam fees, and for how many students and exams funding applies, if applicable.

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| **Total amount requested****(Total exams fees requested\* $53)** | **Amount of federal funds set aside to pay for exam fees** | **Adjusted amount requested****(Total amount requested – Amount of federal funds set aside to pay for exam fees)** |
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