

McKinney ISD

Advanced Placement / Pre-Advanced Placement Agreement

I, _____, intend to participate in the Pre-AP and/or AP program during my tenure at MISD.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. It gives high school students exposure to college-level material through involvement in a Pre-AP and/or AP course. The purpose of the Pre-Advanced Placement courses is to give students the opportunity to develop skills that will enable them to be successful in AP courses. AP students are then given an opportunity to show what they have learned by taking an AP Exam. Colleges and universities often grant credit, placement, or both, to students depending on their AP exam scores. Typically, successful Pre-AP/AP students are task-oriented, proficient readers, able to prioritize their time, and have parental support.

The content and curricular goals of each AP discipline are outlined in an AP Course Description supplied by the College Board at www.collegeboard.org. AP courses are characterized by an immersion in college-level content, an accelerated pace, and a performance assessment at the synthesis and evaluative levels. AP and Pre-AP courses prepare students for the future by giving them tools that will serve them well throughout their college career.

According to Texas Education Agency guidelines, a **grade below 70%** in an AP (or in a Pre-AP Pre-Calculus) class does not affect a student's eligibility for UIL activities. However, such a grade is not a passing grade in regard to satisfactory progress in an AP course, or for determination of course credit. (State Policy, FM (LEGAL)-P)

MISD believes that all students have the right to participate in rigorous and challenging coursework towards college preparation. The value of AP participation in the program far exceeds simple tuition savings, and many of our students will begin their higher education pursuits with several credits already earned. In MISD, all students enrolled in an AP course commit to take and participate in the AP examination for this course in May.

The current cost for an AP exam is currently \$91. While MISD sponsors these college preparation exams, a co-payment of \$30 per exam from families is still required. A \$30 fee is truly a small investment when considering the potential cost savings, which could yield three hours of college credit for those scoring at proficient levels.

A student taking an AP course is committed to taking the designated AP exam in May. Failure to take the exam will result in the student being charged \$15 for the return fee as designated by College Board.

The district also recognizes some families are experiencing financial hardships and is prepared to work with those individuals in need of assistance.

For additional assistance and information about exam payment procedures, please see your school counselor.

General Course Expectations:

- Successful completion of each Pre-AP or AP course requires up to **six hours of individual study time per week outside of class on a regular basis.**
- Students may need to purchase supplemental materials for some of the Pre-AP or AP courses. This requirement will be made known through the course descriptions for the various courses. Financial aid will be available for students with financial need.
- For a student whose grade average for the first *semester* is less than 70, a student-parent-teacher – counselor conference will be held to evaluate the advisability of the student remaining in the class for the second semester.
- Guidelines for grading shall be clearly communicated to students and parents. In accordance with grading guidelines, a student shall be permitted a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a failing grade. (Board Policy, EIA(LOCAL) –A2)

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- Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. (Board Policy, EIA(LOCAL) –A2)

Pre-AP/AP Exit Process:

- Students may exit a two semester Pre-AP/AP course between the 16th and 20th day of the fall semester by following the exit process below.
- A student may also exit a two semester course Pre-AP/AP at the end of the first semester. Exit forms must be signed by the parent, teacher, counselor and student, and submitted to the counseling center
- Additionally, there is an exit option for Pre-AP classes only at the end of the first grading period (1st- nine weeks).
- For an AP one-semester spring course, the exit period is between the 16th and 20th day of the spring semester.

Exiting Process

A student desiring to exit a Pre-AP or AP course between the 16th and 20th day of the semester must take the following steps:

1. Participate in a documented student/parent/teacher intervention meeting.
2. Obtain a Pre-AP/AP Exit Form from the counselor's office.
3. Complete the exit form, along with student, parent, teacher, and counselor signatures.
4. Submit the exit form to the counseling center between the 16th and 20th day of the semester or prior to the end of the first semester for a second semester change.
5. Pre-AP exit forms only may also be turned in at the end of the first grading period (1st nine weeks) or prior to the end of the first semester for a second semester change.

A student desiring to exit an AP course after the 20th day of the semester must take the following steps:

- Attend a minimum of 3 documented tutorial sessions.
- Attend a documented student/parent/teacher/counselor conference.
- Obtain an exit form from the counselors' office and complete the form, along with the parent, teacher, counselor and student signatures.
- Submit the exit form to the counseling center for consideration by the AP campus steering committee.
- Once the student completes the required steps, the campus steering committee will decide whether to approve or deny the student's request.

In all cases, for Pre-AP or AP exit requests, if the request is approved, schedule changes will be subject to course availability. If a student transfers out of a class, the student's grades will directly transfer to the course into which the student enters (i.e. a 60 in a Pre-AP/AP class becomes a 60 in a non- Pre-AP/AP class).

- Students beginning **the second semester** of a two-semester course are expected to **remain** in the course throughout the semester.

Student and Parent/Guardian must sign the signature page prior to be enrolled in Pre-AP/AP classes at MISD. Please sign electronically using the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/c7hw7tf>

Signature page can also be printed from McKinney Boyd website, signed and given to Counselor.

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Student and Parent/Guardian must sign and return the signature page prior to be enrolled in Pre-AP/AP classes at MISD.

Pre-AP / AP Agreement Signature Page

Student Agreement

I have read the description in the MISD Academic Planning Guide (APG) for the Pre-AP / AP classes which I am requesting. I am familiar with the course expectations and accept its academic challenges.

I agree to take the AP exam for each AP course I am enrolled in during my tenure in MISD. I agree to organize my time and efforts to successfully complete the course.

Due to the increased rigor and challenges of these courses, I will notify the teacher, request help, and attend tutorials if I fall behind in class assignments or have difficulty with course content. I understand that my success in this Pre-AP /AP course is primarily my responsibility.

Student Signature

Student printed name

Date

Student ID

Parent Agreement

I have read the description in the MISD Academic Planning Guide (APG) for all Pre-AP and/or AP courses, and I am familiar with its requirements. I agree to support and encourage my son/daughter in his/her endeavors in the course(s).

I agree to have my child take the AP exam for each AP course he/she is enrolled in during his/her tenure in MISD.

I will notify the teacher immediately of any concerns I have relating to the AP class or my child's progress.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

* I understand that, should financial hardship arise during the school year, the district is prepared to work with those individuals in need of assistance. The campus AP coordinator and the counselor's office is available for additional assistance and information about exam payment procedures.