

Senator Girod , Representative Holvey and Members of the Committee.

For the record, I am Terry Whitney. Senior Director, State Government Relations for the College Board.

The College Board is a non-profit membership organization of 6,000 of the nation's leading colleges, universities and secondary education entities. Each year we work to assist 7 million students with college and career preparation programs and services. We are best known for administering the PSAT and SAT student assessments in addition to the Advanced Placement Program which I am here to speak with you about today.

We believe that motivated high school students should be able to work at the height of their abilities, and earn the opportunity to enter college with advanced standing through coursework and end of course exams that colleges find rigorous enough to use as the basis for granting credit.

AP delivers on that promise year after year. Since 1956, AP has offered colleges and universities the most valid and reliable way to assess college level learning by high school students, and it has set the standard for more than 60 years.

Today, colleges and universities continue to turn to AP to help them identify and reward students who have succeeded in mastering challenging college level content and skills. Nearly 12,000 public high schools across the country offer students the opportunity to participate in AP.

When we ask them directly, high school students tell us they use AP to get a head start in college. They use AP to:

- stand out in college admission
- earn college credits
- build college skills, and
- advance into higher-level courses

Celebrating the Class of 2020

Notwithstanding the challenges presented by the pandemic, AP students rose to the occasion in 2020. 1,213,760 students in the class of 2020 took 4,109,003 AP Exams in public high schools nationwide.

In Oregon, 10,229 members of the graduating class of 2020 took an AP course in high school.

Nationally, 38.3% of the class of 2020 took at least one AP Exam during high school, and 24.4% scored a 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam.

In Oregon, 30.2% of the graduating class of 2020 took at least one AP Exam during high school, and 19.1% scored a 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam resulting in 59.6% of exams taken resulting in qualifying scores of 3, 4 or 5.

Now, I want to turn to addressing the value of your investment by discussing the Cost Savings for Oregon's Students and Families

In Oregon, public and private high school students earned 19,972 AP® qualifying scores of 3, 4, or 5 in 2020. These scores translate into 59,916 potential college credits.

At a cost of \$395.67 per college credit, the potential tuition and fee savings to Oregon students and taxpayers is \$23,706,964.

[Please note: This report assumes a student earns three college credits for a qualifying score of 3, 4, or 5. Average 2020-21 in-state tuition and fees at public four-year institutions in Oregon are based on Figure CP-6 of Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid 2020].

How AP has helped to address Equity Gaps

Over the past 10 years, the percentage of U.S. public high school graduates scoring a 3 or higher on at least one AP Exam has risen by 8.2 percentage points.

Hispanic/Latino and Asian students are well represented in AP, making up a larger share of AP participation and performance than what's expected from the size of their populations.

American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, and White students are currently underrepresented in AP courses nationwide, suggesting the need for continued focus on AP opportunities in both rural and Tribal schools, among other initiatives.

Additionally, access to AP has expanded for historically underrepresented students. Closing the equity gap in AP participation is essential to giving all students the chance to experience the benefits of challenging coursework. AP Funding Assistance for Low-Income Students State funding plays a critical