TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons  
Nonpublic School Administrators  
Principals

FROM: Marie Barry, Director  
Office of Career and Technical Education

SUBJECT: Advanced Placement Test Fee Program

This memorandum will provide you with an update regarding the Advanced Placement (AP) Test Fee program. As you may be aware, this federal grant program has enabled states to pay part or all of the cost of advanced placement test fees for students who are enrolled in an advanced placement class and qualify as low-income family members. A low-income individual is defined as an individual who is determined by the local educational agency to be a child, age 5 through 19, from a low-income family, based on eligibility for free or reduced-price lunches under the National School Lunch Act.

This year, the College Board is charging an $89 fee per AP exam and the federal contribution is $37 per exam. The College Board will also provide a $26 fee reduction and $8 rebate per exam for low-income students. The combined subsidies will result in an $18 per exam fee for low-income students. As initially communicated in my March 18, 2014 correspondence, Title I, Part A funds may be used to pay the cost of taking an AP exam for a low-income student who is participating in a Title I, Part A program provided that paying for these costs is otherwise the responsibility of the students’ parents. Thus, if the low-income student would not be able to access the exam absent of the Title I, Part A funds, these funds can be used to pay the cost of taking the exam. However, if the local education agency (LEA) covers the cost of the exams for all students, or the LEA has a fund to pay the cost for low-income students in general, Title I, Part A funds may not be used.

The New Jersey Department of Education will use its AP Test Fee grant to pay $37 per exam for low-income students; however, this is contingent upon receipt of a grant award for this current school year.

Please share this information with the appropriate staff. If you have any questions regarding the AP Test Fee program you may contact David McNair at (609) 777-3578 or APexams@doe.state.nj.us.

MB/SM/dm/s:/Advanced Placement/2014 Grant/050614 AP Test Fee Program

c: Members, State Board of Education
   Senior Staff
   Executive County Superintendents
   Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers
   Executive County School Business Administrators
   NJ LEE Group
   David McNair
   Michael Barry