

# 2021 AP Exam Formats

## AP Exam Options 2021

DMPS, March 17, 2021

Student choices for Advanced Placement Testing

March 12, 2021

Dr. Gogerty, Director of Advanced Learning



### There are 3 Testing Administration Windows

You will only take your exam once, during one of the exam windows.

The College Board has created three exam administration windows. All AP exams are offered in all three administration windows but the formats differ based on the nature of the exam. Des Moines Public Schools will offer as many of these choices as we can but there are some limitations based on space and proctor availability due to pandemic considerations. We are largely reserving Administration window 3 for late testing or special circumstances.

MAY 2021							JUNE 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8							
9	10	11	12	13	14	15							
16	17	18	19	20	21	22							
23	24	25	26	27	28	29							
30	31												

Schools will offer exams during each administration windows depending on space and proctor availability.

We are largely reserving Administration window 3 for late testing and special circumstances.

### The College Board is offering two exam formats for most exams



#### Paper Exam Format

Paper exams are only available in-person at school. All exams have a paper exam during the first administration window. World Language and Music Theory Exams are ONLY available in-person with "paper" exams.



#### Digital Exam Format

Digital exams may be given at home or at school during the second or third administration windows. The AP Coordinator at the school where your order was placed may assign you to a digital exam.

There are two exam formats this year: the Paper Exam format and the Digital Exam format. Paper exams are the traditional AP exams taken in school with bubble sheets and essay booklets. All AP exams are offered in the paper format during the first administration window. Mathematics and some science exams are offered as paper exams during both the first and second administration windows. All world language and music theory exams are only given as in-person "paper" exams because they require specific equipment the school provides. Chinese and Japanese exams are given at school on a specifically prepared computer but are still classified as "paper exams" because they are given in school in the way they have always been given.

Digital exams start to become available during the second administration window. Digital exams may be given at home or at school based on space and proctor availability and student need for reliable internet and quiet exam space. To get a digital exam, the AP Coordinator at the school where your order was placed must assign it to you.

Some exams have portfolio or other submission requirements instead of or in addition to exams. For example, all art and design exams are portfolio submissions that students upload instead of taking a test. Computer Science Principles, by contrast, has a short multiple-choice exam in addition to their submitted projects. All submissions must be uploaded to the College Board portal by May 20 at 10:59 PM, local time.

### Students May Choose Between 2 Location Settings

DMPS Schools are striving to offer AP Exams at a place that's right for individual students.



#### In School

Schools that can safely administer **paper and pencil exams** or **digital exams** in school buildings will do so. Students are more likely to face fewer disruptions than when attempting to take a test at home.



#### At Home

To increase local flexibility and preserve credit-earning opportunities for students who aren't able to take an in-school exam this year, the school's AP coordinator can authorize students to take at-home **digital** testing options for 25 AP courses, if in-school testing isn't possible.



Des Moines Public School students will have some choices about where to take their exams. All paper exams must be taken in person at school. Digital exams can also be offered in school depending on the space and proctor availability. Students may also request to take digital exams at home if the exams are available from the College Board. All World Language and Music Theory exams must be taken in person at school.

### Making Your Choices

- Look for an email with your AP Survey or about March 17.
- Your survey is specific to you. Use your 6-digit DMPS ID number to get your testing options.
- The Survey closes March 26.



Students will get some choices for when and which formats they can take their exams. Limitations on options may be imposed by the school where the order was placed based on space and proctor availability. Students will get an email with a survey where they can make their choices among the options at your school.

The survey is specific to each student because of unique testing situations. Use your 6-digit DMPS student ID number to see your testing options. For our Virtual Campus friends, schools provided Exam Only join codes so that your exam would be ordered by the school you normally attend. This was important because Virtual AP teachers work at every high school in the district. If you did not use the exam only join code, however, your test was ordered from the school where your teacher normally teaches. This is how a Roosevelt student may have an exam at North, for example, or an East student an exam at Lincoln. We have one student who has exams ordered through East, Lincoln, Roosevelt, and Academy. The Exam Only join code strategy was a really different concept for many students. And we know that most students don't know or don't remember if they used one, so they don't know which school ordered their exams. That's part of the reason for the survey. Your survey shows you your options based on where your individual exams were ordered. It also lets you tell the AP Administrator where your exam was ordered which format and date you'd like to take your exam.

The AP Administrators must register your exam administration window and location with the College Board by April 1. So, the survey closes March 26.

### Resources: AP Format Guide

- The differences between exam formats by exam name: [Ap 2021 exam formats](#)

EXAMS	2021 EXAM INFORMATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Science</li> </ul>	<p><b>EXAM MODES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exams will be offered on paper in early May, and as a digital exam in late May and early June.</li> </ul> <p><b>EXAM SECTIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both the paper and digital versions will contain the typical multiple-choice and free-response sections.</li> <li>• Per the <a href="#">AP Exam Calculator Policy</a>, a four function (with square root), scientific, or graphing calculator is allowed on all versions of the exam.</li> <li>• On the digital exam, students will answer free-response questions with a keyboard, rather than by hand. Questions requiring calculations will be written such that students can show their work via typing. No handwritten or photographed work will be required or accepted.</li> </ul>



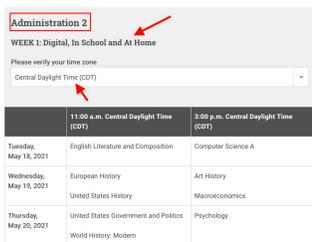
We have some resources available to help you make your choice. The [AP 2021 Exam Formats](#) is a PDF explains the difference between each format for each exam. In this example, the Environmental Science exam is given in two modes: on paper during the first administration window and digitally during the second and third administration windows. The Exam Sections lists relevant policies and differences between the two modes of the exam.

The College Board has created a [video](#) on YouTube that answers most questions about how Digital Exams work. Exams have never been given in this way before. So, the College Board is the most reliable source for information about the digital exam format. We'll share more about digital exams as we learn more.

We'd like everyone to be ready to take a digital exam even if they are planning for a paper exam because, as we have learned this past year, it is better to be prepared for any eventuality. Also, for students taking the second half of their AP classes in Term 4, taking a paper exam may mean missing weeks of instruction if the only paper exam for the class is offered in the first administration.

Remember, World Language and Music Theory exams are only given in person in the "paper" format.

## Resource: AP Exam Calendar



- The 2021 AP Exam Calendar from the College Board (not all exams are available at all schools):

[2021 AP Exam Calendar – AP Students | College Board](#)

The College Board has also created a detailed chronological [calendar](#) describing when, and in which formats, exams will be given. Be sure to note which administration window the calendar is referencing and, in the case of digital exams, be sure to use Central Daylight Time to get local start times.



When deciding which exam choice makes sense for you, it may be helpful to know how long the test will take. We've created a [timing chart](#) based on information about the tests the College Board has made available.

All AP Exams are timed tests. However, for in-person exams, additional time is necessary for tasks such as distributing test materials, completing identification information on answer sheets, reading instructions aloud, collecting materials, etc. The College Board provides a window of time when the exam should begin to accommodate these variations. The exam proctor governs the exam timing. Digital tests also have some computer set up requirements, but do not rely on the proctor.

## Resource: College Board YouTube Video

- A video from the College Board describing Digital Exams:

<https://youtu.be/cUtHuYfPsFY>



## Resources: Timing Chart

- The timing chart lists how much time students will have to respond to questions during the exam. When planning your schedule, it may be helpful to keep in mind the FULL exam time in addition to the time allotted to respond to questions:

–[AP Exam Timing Chart](#)

Exam Name	Section 1	Break	Section II
2-D Art and Design			Portfolio Submission: no exam
Art History	1 hr	10 min	2 hrs
Biology	1 hr 30 min	10 min	1 hr 30 min
Calculus AB	1 hr 45 min	10 min	1 hr 30 min
Calculus BC	1 hr 45 min	10 min	1 hr 30 min
Chemistry	1 hr 30 min	10 min	1 hr 45 min
Chinese Language & Culture	1 hr 20 min	10 min	40 min
Comparative Government & Politics	1 hr	10 min	1 hr 30 min
Computer Science A	1 hr 30 min	10 min	1 hr 30 min
Computer Science Principles	2 hrs- Multiple choice	none	none
Drawing			Portfolio Submission: no exam
English Language and Composition	1 hr	10 min	2 hrs 15 min
English Literature and Composition	1 hr	10 min	2 hr
Environmental Science	1 hr 30 min	10 min	1 hr 10 min
European History	1 hr 35 min	10 min	1 hr 40 min
French Language and Culture	1 hr 35 min	10 min	1 hr 10 min
German Language and Culture	1 hr 35 min	10 min	1 hr 10 min



Students should plan to be ready to check in 30-minutes before the start of the exam window for both in-person and digital exams. Paper-pencil exam windows open at 8:00AM or Noon with check in starting at 7:30 and 11:30. Digital exam windows begin at 11:00 AM or 3:00 PM (local time) with check in at 10:30 and 2:30. Keep in mind the FULL exam time (including check in time, instructions, etc.) when planning your schedule. This table lists the testing time for each section of the exam. It does NOT include the additional time for reading instructions, etc.

Remember, if you have testing accommodations for extended time, these times will be adjusted for you. Either the proctor (for in person exams) or the computer program (for digital exams) will adjust your time based on your approved accommodation.

## Deadlines

- April 1: School Administrators must register paper format orders with the College Board.
- May 14: Last day Administrators may switch students to paper format in administration 2.
- Administrators may change a student to a digital exam format until 7 days before test the scheduled administration of the digital exam.

The College Board sets some deadlines that we must follow. April 1 is the deadline for School AP Administrators to register all paper format orders. It takes time to package and ship paper exams to the school.

You can switch to a later exam from your original choice, should it become necessary. But there is a window of opportunity to change your choice based on the format of the new choice. For mathematics and some science exams to switch from a paper exam in the first administration to a paper exam in the second administration, we have to register the change with the College Board by May 14 to ensure shipping. Switching to later digital exam has more leeway, but must be done a full 7 days before the exam.



If you miss your exam due to illness or unexpected problems, the school administrator where your exam was ordered can move you to a later exam date if it falls within those windows. We also can order you a "late" exam—which, this year, means an emergency rush order but we have to meet certain criteria to do so.

## What if I'm sick or miss my test?

- If you miss your exam due to illness or unexpected problems, your school administrator can move your exam to a later administration.

## How do I cancel an exam?

- Contact the school administrator where your test was ordered.

School	AP Administrator	Bookkeeper
Academy	Jessica Gogerty	Kimberly Kinney
East	Jill Versteeg	Tracey Fetters
Hoover	Boston Freilinger	Amy Fritz
Lincoln	Gregory Marshall	Christi Bethards-Welch
North	Steven Leib	Cassie Deyoung Formaro
Roosevelt	Mindy Euken	Janet Stonerock

There is no cost for cancelling this year due to the pandemic.



Remember to sign up for you FREE Score report by June 20.

## Free Score Report: Deadline 6/20

Myap.collegeboard.org

My AP Profile

Score Send tab

choose the college, university, or scholarship organization

