Date: April 13, 2022

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads,

Nonpublic School Administrators and Principals

Route To: High School Principals

From: Mackey Pendergrast, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Teaching and Learning Services

## 2021-2022 School Year Advanced Placement Test Fee (APTF) Program

In the 2021-2022 school year, the Advanced Placement (AP) test fee will be offset with support from the College Board and the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) for students enrolled in an AP class and who qualify as low-income. A low-income student is <u>defined</u> as 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*.

**College Board Fee Reduction**: This year, the College Board is charging a \$96 fee per AP exam, except for AP Seminar Exams and AP Research Exams. College Board's standard fee for the 2022 AP Seminar Exam and the AP Research Exam is \$144 per exam. Schools will be expected to forgo their \$9 rebate per exam. College Board provides a \$34 fee reduction per exam for eligible students with financial need (College Board AP Exam fee reduction).

**NJDOE Contribution**: In addition, for all students that qualify, the NJDOE will provide a \$27 contribution towards the remaining balance of the test fee, except for AP Seminar and AP Research Exams. The NJDOE will provide a \$75 contribution towards the AP Seminar and AP Research Exams.

Other Federal Funding Sources (Title I-A, Title IV-A, and ESSER): Finally, under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)*, as amended by the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*, districts are permitted to dedicate a portion of the Title I, Part A and/or Title IV, Part A funding they receive to defray the cost of AP and other advanced course or industry credential exams taken by low-income students. These costs are also allowable under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). For more information on allowable uses of ESEA funds, refer to the NJDOE's ESEA District Guide.

If intending to use Title I, Part A, Title IV, Part A, or ESSER funds for this purpose, districts must ensure such costs are supported by their needs assessment and reflected in the budget section of their 2021-2022 ESEA Consolidated Application or their ESSER application, as applicable, in the NJDOE's Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) system.

Please share this information with the appropriate staff. If you have questions regarding the Advanced Placement Test Fee program, contact us at <a href="mailto:APexams@doe.nj.gov">APexams@doe.nj.gov</a>.

Members, State Board of Education
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