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Policy Update

Student Testing Rule (160-3-1-.07) Update

The State Board of Education approved an AP/IB amendment to the testing rule (160-3-1-.07) at its November 7 meeting. The amendment exempts a student from taking the end-of-course assessment for a core subject course if he or she passes an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) course in certain related courses. According to our Legal and Policy Divisions of the GaDOE, amendments to SBOE rules take effect 20 days after adoption. Therefore, students completing and passing eligible AP/IB courses this winter would be exempt from the EOC. Districts will need to be in compliance with the testing rule in effect at the time **students are completing courses and final grades are being issued.**

Students enrolled and passing AP/IB American Literature, U.S. History, and Economics are exempt from the EOC. All students enrolled in Ninth Grade Literature and Composition, Algebra I, Coordinate Algebra, and Biology must take the EOC. As there are currently no AP/IB courses in Geometry, Analytic Geometry, or Physical Science, students enrolled in those EOC-required courses will also take the EOC.

CCRPI will utilize the same business rules as the dual enrollment exemption:

- Students earning an A (90-100) shall count as "Distinguished Learners;"
- Students earning a B (80-89) or C (70-79) shall count as "Proficient Learners;" and
- Students earning less than a C (70) shall count as "Beginning Learners" in CCRPI indicators that utilize achievement levels.

Students must pass the AP/IB course to exempt the EOC; however, if the AP/IB course is failed, the student will take the EOC when the required credit is earned through taking the actual EOC course.

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AP/IB SBOE Rule Amendment – Frequently Asked Questions

- **Are students required to take the AP/IB exam in order to exempt the EOC?**

Students are not required to take the AP/IB exam to be exempt from the EOC. The rule change specifies that a student will be exempt from taking the EOC assessment for a core subject course if she or she passes an AP or IB course in a related subject.

- **When does this rule take effect?**

Students currently (Fall 2019) enrolled and completing eligible AP/IB courses would be exempt from the EOC. Districts will need to be in compliance with the testing rule in effect at the time students are completing courses and final grades are being issued.

- **Which EOCs are required regardless of AP/IB course enrollment?**

All students enrolled in Ninth Grade Literature and Composition, Algebra I, Coordinate Algebra, and Biology must take the EOC. These courses are not included in the rule amendment, as the assessments for these courses are required for federal accountability.

- **Which EOCs can AP/IB students exempt?**

Students enrolled in the following AP or IB courses are exempt from the EOC:

- American Literature
- U.S. History
- Economics

- **Besides those courses required for federal accountability, are there any other core courses for which EOCs are still required?**

Yes. EOCs are still required for core courses that do not have related AP or IB courses. Those courses include:

- Geometry or Analytic Geometry
- Physical Science

- **Can students take the EOC if they are exempt?**

No. The intent of the SBOE rule amendment is to reduce unnecessary high-stakes testing. Students who exempt the EOC by taking and passing a related AP or IB core subject course may not take the EOC.

- **If a student fails the AP/IB course, when will he or she take the EOC?**

The student will take the EOC when the student repeats the course.

- **How will this change affect CCRPI?**

CCRPI will utilize the same business rules as the dual enrollment exemption. For eligible AP/IB courses – students earning an A (90-100) shall count as “Distinguished Learners,” students earning a B (80-89) or C (70-79) shall count as “Proficient Learners,” and students earning less than a C (70) shall count as “Beginning Learners” in CCRPI indicators that utilize achievement levels.