

# November News!

*What we need is more people who specialize in the impossible.*  
Theodore Roethke, University of Washington poet

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AP Honor Roll Released today**

**539 Districts in the United States and Canada** earn recognition from the College Board's 3rd Annual AP<sup>®</sup> District Honor Roll for simultaneously increasing access to [Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup>](#) course work while increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP Exams. Achieving both of these goals is the ideal scenario for a district's AP program because it indicates that the district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are likely to benefit most from rigorous AP course work. More than 90 percent of colleges and universities across the U.S. offer college credit, advanced placement or both for a score of 3 or higher on an AP Exam — which can potentially save students and their families thousands of dollars in college tuition.



***Congratulations*** to our Western Region Winners:

**MT:** Hamilton School District No. 3, Kalispell Public Schools: **OR:** Pendleton School District, West Linn-Wilsonville School District~: **UT:** Alpine School District, Davis School District~, Granite School District, Nebo School District~, Wasatch County School District: **WA:** Archdiocese of Seattle, Auburn School District, Bellingham Public Schools~, Camas School District~, Cheney Public Schools, Clover Park School District\*‡, Federal Way Public Schools, Issaquah School District 411~, Lake Washington School District, Nine Mile Falls School District, Northshore School District~, Richland School District, Ridgefield School District, Riverview School District, Snoqualmie Valley Public Schools, Spokane Public Schools‡~, Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1, Tahoma School District No. 409~. (~second year on list, ‡high underserved populations)

**AP<sup>®</sup> Participation form due the Ides of November which is Thursday the 15th:** Please complete the participation form and survey and return using the provided envelope. If you did not receive a participation form to enroll in AP, the form can be found along with other resources: <http://professionals.collegeboard.com/testing/ap/downloads>. Fax number to submit the form: 609 771 7320

**AP & Pre-AP Professional Development workshop at Clackamas High School, Dec. 8-- 7:30 am to 3 pm.** AP Biology, AP Calc AB, AP English Language, AP English lit, AP Spanish Language, AP US History, and Pre AP Vertical Teams Social Studies, Pre-AP Vertical Team math, Pre-AP Vertical team Science. Cost is \$180 for members, \$205 for non members.

**Two free sessions: Organizing Exams for AP Coordinators, and Ensuring College Success.** This new NOSCA customized workshop, designed for administrators, counselors, and teacher leaders, provides an opportunity for participants to examine their own beliefs about ensuring that all students are college

and career ready upon completion of high school. In addition, participants will have time to examine and share the strengths of their current program and what areas need to be improved. Washington State Clock Hours are available at no cost. To register [www.collegeboard.com/meetings](http://www.collegeboard.com/meetings)

The **2012 PSAT/NMSQT® administration took place last month**. Over 3.5 million students at more than 22,000 schools participated, with the vast majority of students testing on Wednesday (approximately 3,000,000 vs. 500,000). Facts about the PSAT/NMSQT:

- It measures college readiness and provides students with feedback and tools they can use to plan for their future such as My College QuickStart™ and Score Report *Plus*
- It's taken primarily by 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders
- It measures skills in three academic areas: critical reading, mathematics and writing skills
- It prepares students for the SAT and has the same format and types of questions
- It helps educators expand access to AP® via the AP Potential™ tool
- It's a part of the College and Career Readiness Pathway
- It's cosponsored by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, NMSC
- It's used by NMSC as the screening test for high school students who want to participate in their scholarship programs

**Get More from the PSAT/NMSQT® Student Data File.** Starting this year, the Student Data File will include an AP Potential™ Indicator for each AP subject for which a given student has a 70 percent likelihood of scoring a 3 or better on the AP Exam. This information can be used to identify students who may be ready for the challenge and rigor of AP. An additional 40 columns will appear at the end of the Data File this year to accommodate this change.

**AP Potential™ Comes to My College QuickStart™** Starting this year, AP Potential feedback will be available to students online in My College QuickStart. They will be able to view their current level of readiness for 23 AP® Exams, get recommendations for courses related to their intended major, and see which AP Exams were offered at their school last year. Feedback is not available for eighth-grade and younger students. Feedback for ninth-grade students is only provided for AP U.S. History and AP World History.

**Teacher Voices: Teachers share their ideas to improve student learning .** The College Board believes in the power and commitment of teachers. In support of their work, the College Board Advocacy & Policy Center has released the seventh installment in our Teachers Are the Center of Education/Teacher Voices series, [Teachers Talk about Some of the Big Problems They Face in the Classroom and How These Impede Student Learning](http://advocacy.collegeboard.org/preparation-access/teacher-advocacy/news/teacher-voices-teachers-talk-about-some-big-problems-they-face). (<http://advocacy.collegeboard.org/preparation-access/teacher-advocacy/news/teacher-voices-teachers-talk-about-some-big-problems-they-face>)

**Catch up on Common Core by checking out the College Board National Forum's plenary speakers on YouTube.** David Coleman, College Board President, revealed a bold action plan for achieving the social mission of the College Board.  
<http://www.youtube.com/course?list=EC1B4D230216E3E515&feature=plcp>

The [Advocacy & Policy Center](#) released the results of the 2012 Trends in Higher Education reports. Visit the [Trends website](#) for the full series findings. The reports show that while the 4.8% (\$399) 2012-13 increase in published in-state tuition and fees at public four-year colleges and universities across the

nation was lower than that of recent years, the rapid growth in federal aid—which for a few years actually reduced the average net prices students paid—has ended.

### Key Tuition and Fee Findings

- Average published tuition and fees for **in-state students at public four-year colleges and universities increased from \$8,256 in 2011-12 to \$8,655 in 2012-13**. The 4.8% increase in tuition and fees was accompanied by a \$325 (3.7%) increase in room and board charges for students living on campus. At \$9,205, room and board charges account for more than half of the total charges for these students.
- Average published tuition and fees for **out-of-state students at public four-year colleges and universities increased by \$883 (4.2%)**, from \$20,823 in 2011-12 to \$21,706 in 2012-13. Total charges, including room and board for students living on campus, average \$30,911.
- Average published tuition and fees at **private nonprofit four-year institutions increased by \$1,173 (4.2%)**, from \$27,883 in 2011-12 to \$29,056 in 2012-13. Total charges, including room and board for students living on campus, average \$39,518.
- Average published **in-state tuition and fees at public two-year colleges increased by \$172 (5.8%)**, from \$2,959 in 2011-12 to \$3,131 in 2012-13.

### Key Student Aid Findings

- **Total education borrowing**, including federal student and parent loans, as well as nonfederal loans, **declined by 4%** in real terms between 2010-11 and 2011-12 — the first decline in at least 20 years. However, the 2011-12 total of \$113.4 billion was 24% higher than five years earlier.
- Over the decade from 2001-02 to 2011-12, **the number of federal Stafford Loan borrowers almost doubled**, while the average amount borrowed from subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford Loans combined increased by 8%, from \$7,627 (in 2011 dollars) to \$8,230.
- During the 2011-12 academic year, **\$236.7 billion in financial aid was distributed to undergraduate and graduate students** in the form of grants from all sources, Federal Work-Study (FWS), federal loans, and federal tax credits and deductions. In addition, students borrowed about \$8.1 billion from private, state and institutional sources to help finance their education.
- The **number of students receiving Pell Grants**—the central federal grant program providing funding for low- and moderate-income students— increased from 2.7 million in 1981-82 and 3.8 million in 1991-92 to 4.3 million in 2001-02 and **to 9.4 million (37% of all undergraduates)** in 2011-12.

**Question:** In which 11 states are more than 5% of all rural students classified as English Language Learners?

**Answer:** In California, 18.1% of rural students are English Language Learners, the highest percentage in the country. California is followed by Alaska, where 16.3% of rural students are learning English, Texas (9.4%); Arizona (9.1%); Oregon (8.0%); Idaho (7.0%); Washington (6.9%); Florida (6.6%); North Carolina (6.4%); Colorado (5.7%); and Nevada (5.3%). *Read more from the October 2012 [Rural Policy Matters](#).*

**This is always my favorite time of year, I am so thankful for you...and all you do. In providing all students the chance to choose college, you specialize in the impossible.**

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Nancy S. Potter**

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