

**OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**September 17, 2015**

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07. Discussion of Advanced Placement in Mississippi [Goals 1 and 2 – MDE Strategic Plan]

**Executive Summary**

Advanced Placement® courses offer students the opportunity to earn college credit by taking rigorous courses in high school. Students who demonstrate mastery of the material on a national standardized end-of-course exam – a score of 3 or higher out of 5 – may be eligible for college credit for the course.

Research suggests that students who complete AP® coursework are:

- Better prepared for college-level work
- Stand-outs in the college admissions process
- More likely to continue beyond their freshman year in college
- More likely to graduate within 4-5 years
- More competitive in qualifying for scholarships

The purpose for the discussion of Advanced Placement programming in Mississippi is to:

- 1) Share the results that highlight what Mississippi educators and students have accomplished in Advanced Placement as of May 2015.
- 2) Focus on where and how Mississippi might improve Advanced Placement programming and student performance in such programs.
- 3) Identify and dismantle obstacles that prevent all students from realizing their full potential in Advanced Placement programming that leads to better job opportunities and a stronger workforce across the state.

This item references Goals 1 and 2 of the *Mississippi Board of Education 2016-2020 Strategic Plan*.

No Action: Discussion Only