



Arkansas Department of Education

Johnny Key, Commissioner

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

October 22, 2018

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Program to Provide Incentive for Qualifying Scores on AP Computer Science Exam Continued This School Year

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education is pleased to announce the extension of the Arkansas Advanced Placement Computer Science A Incentive Program for the 2018-2019 school year. The purpose of the incentive program is to increase the number of qualifying scores (3, 4 or 5) on AP Computer Science A exams. Under the first year of this incentive program, 155 students in 35 Arkansas schools earned \$103,550 for exams taken in 2017-2018.

Through this program, Arkansas public school students and schools may be eligible to receive a monetary incentive when the student earns one computer science flex credit for successfully completing an AP Computer Science A course and earns a qualifying score on the AP exam taken between August 1, 2018, and May 30, 2019. This program will not apply to the AP Computer Science Principles exam or any other AP exam.

"I have often said that Arkansas' computer science education initiative is preparing Arkansas students to successfully join the 21st century workforce," Gov. Asa Hutchinson said. "But for us to succeed in this effort, it's important for us to ensure that our students are receiving the highest quality of instruction we can provide. This program rewards computer science students for their hard work, and it continues to position them to succeed in our increasingly technology-driven economy."

The tiered rewards are as follows:

- For a qualifying score of 5 on the AP Computer Science A exam, an Arkansas public school student can receive \$1,000, with the school receiving \$250.
- For a qualifying score of 4 on the AP Computer Science A exam, an Arkansas public school student can receive \$750, with the school receiving \$150.
- For a qualifying score of 3 on the AP Computer Science A exam, an Arkansas public school student can receive \$250, with the school receiving \$50.

Student scores will be verified by official College Board data shared with the ADE during the summer of 2019. Payments to schools and students, which are subject to program and funding availability, will be processed by October 31, 2019. Student reward payments will be sent to the school district for distribution.

To learn more about the program, visit <http://adecm.arkansas.gov/ViewApprovedMemo.aspx?Id=3793>.

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