Arkansas Students, Schools Receive $118,700 for Qualifying Scores on Advanced Placement Computer Science Exams

Winners of Computer Science Enrollment Contest Also Announced

LITTLE ROCK — The Arkansas Department of Education is pleased to award $118,700 to 179 students and 36 schools for achieving qualifying scores on Advanced Placement Computer Science exams. An additional $35,000 was awarded to six schools for their efforts to increase enrollment in computer science courses.

AP Incentive Program

The Arkansas Advanced Placement Computer Science A Incentive Program focuses on increasing the number of qualifying scores (3, 4, or 5) on AP Computer Science A exams. Arkansas public school students and schools were eligible to receive a monetary incentive when a student earned one computer science flex credit for successfully completing an AP Computer Science A course and received a qualifying score on the AP exam taken between August 1, 2019, and May 30, 2020.

The schools representing the top ten amounts awarded for 2019-2020 are listed below.

- Fayetteville High School (Fayetteville School District) - $12,800
- Bentonville West High School (Bentonville School District) - $11,350
- Haas Hall Academy (in Fayetteville) - $10,100
- Bentonville High School (Bentonville School District) - $8,550
- Valley View High School (Valley View School District) - $6,750
- eStem High School (eStem Public Charter School) - $6,200
- Central High School (Little Rock School District) - $6,060
- Southside High School (Fort Smith School District) - $5,500
- Conway High School (Conway School District) - $4,850
- Har-Ber High School (Springdale School District) - $4,350

“Schools, both large and small, around the state have embraced the Arkansas Computer Science initiative, as demonstrated by strong student achievement on Advanced Placement exams and enrollment increases in computer science classes,” ADE Secretary Johnny Key said. “I encourage students and educators to embrace the countless computer science learning opportunities that build essential academic and workforce skills needed for the jobs of tomorrow.”
The tiered rewards are as follows:

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

#ARKidsCanCode Enrollment Contest

ADE also recognizes the six Arkansas schools listed below for their efforts to encourage students to enroll in high school computer science courses.

- Annie Camp Jr. High School (Jonesboro School District)
- Arkansas High School (Texarkana School District)
- Bentonville High School (Bentonville School District)
- Blevins High School (Blevins School District)
- Greenwood Freshman Center (Greenwood School District)
- Siloam Springs High School Conversion Charter (Siloam Springs School District)

Winners are recognized in the following categories.

Schools with fewer than 1,000 students:

- Greenwood Freshman Center receives $10,000 for having the highest number and highest percentage of students enrolled in computer science courses.
- Blevins High School receives $5,000 for having the largest percentage increase of students enrolled in computer science courses.

Schools with 1,000 or more students:

- Arkansas High School receives $5,000 for having the highest percentage of students enrolled in computer science courses.
- Bentonville High School receives $5,000 for having the highest number of students enrolled in computer science classes.
- Siloam Springs High School Conversion Charter receives $5,000 for having the largest percentage increase of students enrolled in computer science courses.

In addition, Annie Camp Jr. High School won the random drawing prize package worth $5,000 that was announced in 2020. The school can use the grant to support the future growth of computer science classes. Schools received entries in this random drawing for their high enrollment percentages, growth in overall computer science enrollment, and high percentages of females enrollment in computer science courses.

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