

AP Statistics: Frequently Asked Questions

This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document has been developed to provide clear and concise information about recent changes related to Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics.

Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to address common questions, clarify key updates, and support a smooth transition. As updates to curriculum, assessment structure, policies, or instructional expectations are implemented, it is important for students, educators, and families to understand what these changes mean in practice.

Questions and Answers:

1. Why is this change with AP Statistics occurring?

College Board has removed mathematical content from the AP Statistics course, thereby lowering the rigor required for a fourth higher-level course.

2. Who made the decision about AP Statistics no longer counting as a fourth math for college entrance?

The Office of Assessment and Standards (OAS) was notified by College Board about the change in content of AP Statistics. OAS submitted the information to the Commission on Higher Education (CHE), and they determined the course change.

3. For a student who took AP Statistics in the 2025-26 school year, will it count as the fourth math for CHE?

Yes, AP Statistics will count as a fourth higher-level math course for students who took it in the 2025-26 school year.

4. For a student who took Algebra 2 in 2025-26 and plans to take AP Statistics in 2026-27, will it count as the fourth higher-level math for CHE?

No, according to the CHE, AP Statistics will not count as a fourth higher-level math course for students taking it in the 2026-27 school year.

5. Moving forward, if students take Algebra 2 with Probability prior to taking AP Statistics (even though that will not be a requirement of the SCDE), would the math course count as the fourth higher level math based on CHE guidance?

No, AP Statistics will not meet the higher-level math requirement if Algebra 2 with Probability is not a prerequisite. Starting with the 2026-27 school year, Algebra 2 is not as prerequisite per

College Board. College Board has removed mathematical content from the AP Statistics course, thereby lowering the rigor required for a fourth higher-level course.

6. If a school district chooses to keep Algebra 2 as a prerequisite, would AP Statistics count as a fourth higher-level math course for those students?

No, AP Statistics will not meet the higher-level math requirement because Algebra 2 is not as prerequisite per College Board. College Board has removed mathematical content from the AP Statistics course, thereby lowering the rigor required for a fourth higher-level course.

7. What if students prefer not to follow the Pre-Calculus/Calculus sequence?

Alternative options such as Statistical Modeling or Discrete Math are available and may better align with their academic goals.

8. We offer a dual credit Stats class. Will it remain a fourth higher-level math course since it is already a college credit?

Yes, dual credit Statistics courses will still count as a fourth higher-level math course. This latest information only affects the AP Statistics course.

Examples:

1. Students Enrolled in AP Statistics During the 2025–2026 School Year

Students who completed AP Statistics in the 2025–2026 school year will have the course recognized as a fourth higher-level mathematics credit for college admissions purposes because Algebra 2 with Probability was established as a prerequisite by the College Board at that time.

2. Students Enrolling in AP Statistics During the 2026–2027 School Year and Beyond

For students taking AP Statistics in the 2026–2027 school year and thereafter, the course will fulfill a mathematics credit requirement for high school graduation. However, it will not be recognized as a fourth higher-level mathematics credit for college admissions by the Commission on Higher Education (CHE), as Algebra 2 with Probability is no longer designated as a prerequisite by the College Board.