

Success in today's global economy requires a higher level of education than ever before, but our educational system has not kept pace with the workforce demands of the 21st century. NMSI's College Readiness Program is addressing this critical gap by partnering with schools to increase the number of students taking and earning qualifying scores on Advanced Placement® math, science and English exams, while expanding access to rigorous coursework to traditionally underrepresented students.

WHY ADVANCED PLACEMENT?

AP® exam scores of three or higher (on a five-point scale) qualify students for credit at many colleges and universities and are a prime indicator of college preparedness and success. Students who master AP courses in high school are three times more likely to graduate from college. African-American and Hispanic students who succeed in AP courses are four times more likely to graduate from college.

PROGRAM ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS



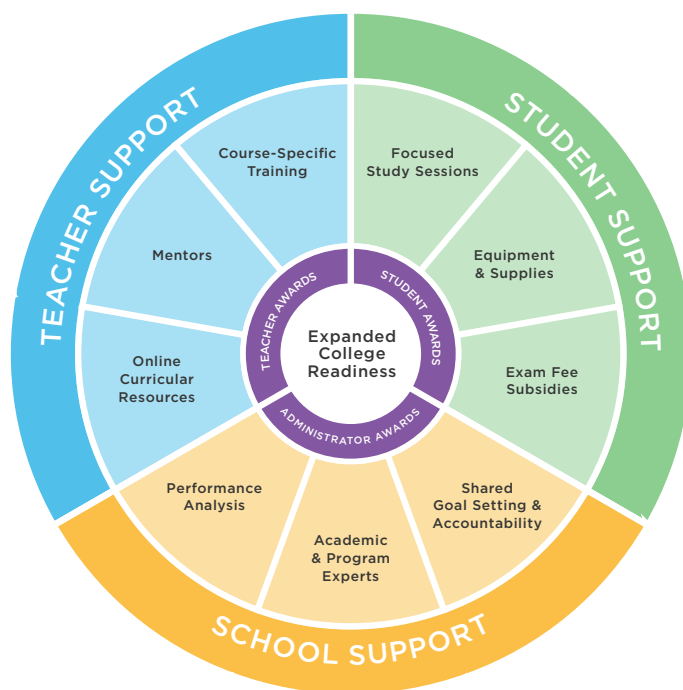
Teacher Support

Course-Specific Training: Teacher-to-teacher instruction and support including:

- Four-day AP Summer Institutes, followed by two-day workshops each fall to reinforce content knowledge.
- NMSI's Laying the Foundation training program for teachers of grades 3-12 to build the pipeline of students ready for rigorous AP courses.

Mentors: One-on-one support—including curricular help, pacing guidance and instructional feedback—provided by expert teachers with a proven record of success in AP performance.

Online Curricular Resources: Access to the most effective teaching materials, including a formative assessment system that allows teachers to customize their instruction and homework assignments toward students' individual learning needs.



Student Support

Focused Study Sessions: At least three study sessions per AP subject, typically held on Saturdays, led by state and national AP experts who teach NMSI-created lessons as students' classroom teachers observe.

Equipment & Supplies: Access to the latest laboratory equipment, graphing calculators and other classroom materials needed to support rigorous coursework.

Exam Fee Subsidies: Program funds typically covering 50 percent of the cost of each AP exam.



School Support

Performance Analysis: Annual review of program components and compliance to ensure maximum program effectiveness.

Academic & Program Experts: Detailed curricular, programmatic and logistical support provided by experienced academic content directors and program managers.

Shared Goal Setting & Accountability: Mutually agreed upon expectations for program participation and support, as well as performance goals for teachers, students and schools.



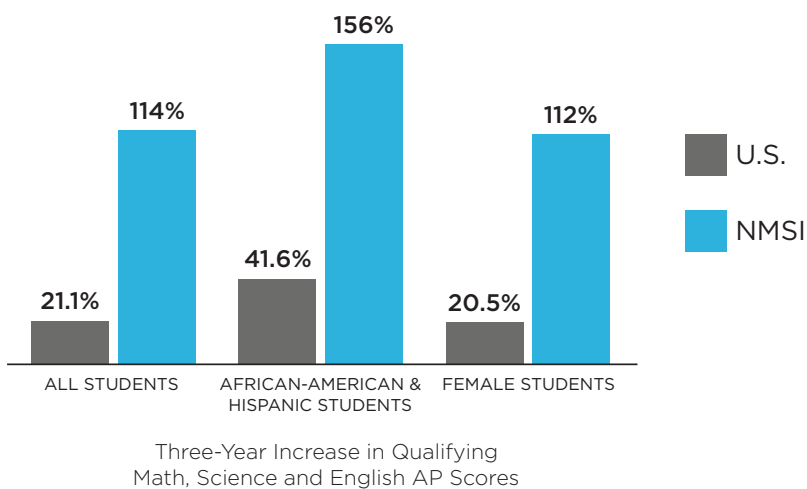
Awards

Students, teachers and administrators are eligible for achievement-based awards subject to the specific grant agreement for each school or district.

Under traditional grants, students receive \$100 for each qualifying AP exam score earned; teachers earn \$100 for each qualifying score earned by a student on their AP roster with bonus opportunities for course-specific goals; and designated school administrators or lead teachers earn a bonus if specific school-level goals are met.

RESULTS & IMPACT

NMSI's College Readiness Program has made a dramatic and lasting difference in more than 725 high schools, impacting student outcomes through unparalleled gains in the number of students earning qualifying scores on AP math, science and English exams.



- After three years, the average increase in qualifying AP scores in math, science and English among NMSI partner schools is 114 percent, more than five times the national average.
- For African-American and Hispanic students, the three-year increase is 156 percent, nearly four times the national average.
- For female students, the three-year increase is 112 percent, more than five times the national average.