

## AP STEM Frequently Asked Questions – Excellence Resource Funding

### What should I contact DonorsChoose.org about?

Please reach out to DonorsChoose.org for help with the following items:

- How to post a project
- How to use a gift code
- When your resources will arrive

To get answers to your DonorsChoose.org related questions, please [contact us](#).

### Who should I contact regarding my excellence resource funding eligibility and amount?

Please reach out to College Board and your AP Coordinator for all questions regarding your excellence resource funding eligibility.

### What is excellence resource funding?

Excellence resource funding is Phase II of the AP STEM Access Program. Excellence resource funding refers to the opportunity that eligible teachers will have to obtain additional resources for their classrooms through DonorsChoose.org

### What are the eligibility requirements for round 2 excellence resource funding?

All pre-existing AP STEM teachers in the school, as well as new AP STEM teachers, are eligible to receive “Excellence resource funding” if they achieve the following:

1. Increase course enrollment and completion by at least five underrepresented students (black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, female) within the AP STEM class. This will be measured through College Board data comparing the number of underrepresented students who take the May 2013 AP Exam versus those who take the May 2014 AP Exam;
2. For every 3, 4, or 5 score any of their students achieve on the AP Exam, participating teachers will receive a \$100 DonorsChoose.org gift code from DonorsChoose.org for use in acquiring additional classroom resources (lab equipment, textbooks, science materials, calculators, etc.).

### Why should I attend a webinar?

AP STEM webinars, hosted by DonorsChoose.org, offer an opportunity to learn more details about the program, review the updated process for submitting a project on DonorsChoose.org, and ask questions to a DonorsChoose.org expert. These webinars will cover everything you need to know up front and will save you a lot of time down the road. They are not to be missed!

### Why do I have to post a project on DonorsChoose.org instead of just receiving a check?



Donors and partners give through our site because they know exactly where their dollars are going and get to hear from the teachers about the impact their gift makes on their classroom. This transparency and accountability is what makes donors and partners excited to work with DonorsChoose.org!

### **Where can I find suggestions for materials that I can order on DonorsChoose.org?**

We have created a list of recommended supply lists for each AP course. These supply lists were created by looking at recommended materials from College Board, the materials that fellow AP teachers on DonorsChoose.org are requesting, and online resources. These are here to guide you if you need it, otherwise we trust that you know what your students need the most and you are free to order what you'd like.

- [AP Bio Suggested Supply List](#)
- [AP Calculus Suggested Supply List](#)
- [AP Chemistry Suggested Supply List](#)
- [AP Computer Science A Suggested Supply List](#)
- [AP Physics 1 and 2 Suggested Supply List](#) (formerly known as Physics B)
- [AP Statistics Suggested Supply List](#)
- [AP Environmental Science Suggested Supply List](#)
- [AP Physics C Suggested Supply List](#)

### **How will I receive my excellence resource funding?**

Teachers who qualify for excellence resource funding will receive DonorsChoose.org gift codes via email starting the first week of October. Emails will be sent to the address you supplied to your AP Coordinator.

### **If I qualify for excellence resource funding, how can I spend my DonorsChoose.org gift code?**

The purpose of excellence resource funding is to give you the opportunity to continue to invest in your AP class and receive the materials that will allow your AP class to thrive every year. You can take advantage of excellence resource funding by submitting a DonorsChoose.org project. Once your project is reviewed and approved, you can use your gift code to fund your own project. If you'd like help applying your gift code please use [these instructions](#).

### **When does my gift code expire and when should I post a project?**

Your gift code will expire on January 31, 2015. We strongly encourage you to submit a project on DonorsChoose.org no later than January 15, 2015. In the event that your project essay needs to be edited, this will give you plenty of time to resubmit and make any necessary changes. If you post a project later than January 15, please write into our help center and explain your situation. Make sure to mention that you are part of the AP STEM Excellence

resource funding program and we'll make every effort to expedite your submission process. Please note that once January 31 passes, your gift code cannot be extended.

**I don't have enough points on DonorsChoose.org to submit a project large enough to take advantage of my full gift code value?**

We have made every effort to add points to your account before distributing your gift code. If we missed your account please write into our [help center](#) and explain your situation. Make sure to mention that you are part of the AP STEM excellence resource funding program. Our team will happily add more points to your account.

**What if I cannot find the items I want through any of the vendors on DonorsChoose.org?**

We strongly encourage you to select materials through our vendor directory because it expedites the material delivery process. Our vendors have a streamlined process for working with us to get you the materials you request as quickly as possible. However, if you do not see the material you need we have a process by which you can submit a special request.

Please write into our [help center](#) and make sure to mention that you are part of the AP STEM program. Our customer relations team will happily add more points to your account and help you make a special request.

**Can I opt out of the 15% donation on my DonorsChoose.org project?**

Yes. You can exclude the 15% when you make a donation or redeem your gift code. Keep in mind that you won't be able to exclude the optional donation during the project creation process but you will be able to remove it when you redeem your gift code.

To exclude the optional 15% from your donation, click "edit" or "optional 15% donation" when reviewing your giving cart. Choose 0% and Save, then proceed through checkout.

**Do I need to submit thank you notes?**

Our thank you process has three parts: photos, impact letter, and student thank you notes. You will need to upload photos of your resources to our site and complete an impact letter, but you will NOT need to submit student thank you notes.

**My question wasn't answered here...**

We'll be happy to answer it for you! Please feel free to reach out to us through our [help center](#). We are committed to getting all of your questions answered and ensuring that this process is as smooth as possible. Thank you so much for participating in this program and for all you do for your students!

