

AP Cybersecurity Application

2026-27 School Year

Course Overview

The Advanced Placement Program enables a student to take a college level course while still in high school. The AP Cybersecurity course is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college cybersecurity course.

This course is open to students in **10th, 11th and 12th** grade.

Please familiarize yourself with the curriculum of this course by visiting the following link:

- <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-cybersecurity-course-framework.pdf>

Next, please read the following prerequisites and expectations for the course. Both the student and parents must sign that they understand the expectations before the student will be considered to take the course.

Prerequisites

- It is strongly recommended that students complete Algebra I with a final grade of B or higher prior to enrolling in this course.
- Students should have experience working on a computer and should understand the basics of how a computer works. Students who have only worked on an iPad should take AP CSP or Computer Science Fundamentals prior to taking this course.
- **Students should not have any academic dishonesty referrals of any type during the current school year.**
- Students should have innate curiosity about computers and the world of technology, but they must also have a strong moral and ethical code in place. An innovative spirit backed by strong integrity is essential for this course.
 - **Task: Students will record a video of themselves addressing this prompt:**
 - Describe a time when you were curious about how a digital system, device, network, or application worked, and you chose to explore it further on your own.
 - What sparked your curiosity?
 - What steps did you take to learn more?
 - How did you ensure your exploration was ethical and responsible?
 - What does this experience reveal about how you approach learning and technology?
 - Completed recordings must be submitted in MP4 format through email by March 27, 2026, to rebeccastacey@mckeelschools.com.

Expectations

Homework/Pace/Grading

Because it is a college-level course, the pace will be quick. Students will need to be consistently attentive and on task. ***Many students have the tendency to be off task when using an electronic device. Those students will have difficulty keeping up with the college-level pace of the curriculum.***

Students must be willing to work diligently on all assignments. Students who manage their class time effectively will have very little homework. Students who cannot manage their time effectively will quickly fall behind.

Attendance in each class is vital. Students who are absent frequently may struggle. It is expected that the students will do their assignments promptly.

It is vital that students be self-directed problem solvers. Students will routinely deal with frustrating problems. They must be able to deal with this frustration effectively and proactively. They may need to spend a great deal of time on a particular aspect of their project before it is what they want, so perseverance is a must!

The AP Cybersecurity Exam

The exam will have two sections:

- Multiple Choice: The questions connect to realistic job scenarios and test both knowledge and application.
- Free Response: The questions use realistic cybersecurity artifacts and evidence for students to analyze and provide responses.

Equipment

It is important that students have access to a laptop or desktop computer at home so that they can work there when necessary. ***An iPad is NOT sufficient.***

Summer Preparation

Students will receive information about required summer work upon their acceptance.

Agreement/Acknowledgement

If both the student and the parents understand these expectations and are committed to the effort necessary to succeed in AP Cybersecurity, please sign below and return to Mrs. Stacey by March 27, 2026.

Please make a copy for your records

Student (Print) _____

Student(Sign) _____

Date _____

Parent(Sign) _____

Date _____

~~~~~*Do not write below this line*~~~~~

Video submitted: Yes / No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

No academic dishonesty referrals: Yes / No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_