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Educators

Beginning July 1 through November 13, there are critical steps for schools to complete to access AP resources and register students for exams. AP teachers, coordinators, and principals all play a role in important deadlines for student AP success. Click to view information for AP teachers and coordinators related to [Important Deadlines for Setup, Enrollment, and Ordering](#).

July 1, 2020: AP teachers can begin using AP Classroom for 2020-21.

January 31, 2021: AP Course Audit deadline. Teachers must be aware of this date. Learn more about the AP Course Audit.

Who Can Teach AP?

There are no formal requirements or mandatory professional development for teachers of AP courses, with the exception of teachers of AP Seminar and AP Research, who must complete a summer workshop and online training. However, even if it's not required for your course, we strongly recommend that AP teachers take part in professional development in their subject area before teaching the AP course for the first time, and periodically thereafter.

Teachers Design Their Own AP Courses

The AP Program does not supply syllabi for AP courses. What College Board supplies is a detailed set of expectations about what content a college-level course in that subject should cover. AP teachers design their own syllabi with these standards in mind. (They can also choose to use existing, approved syllabi.) The College Board reviews each course design through a process called the AP Course Audit before authorizing your school to call the course "AP."

The fact that teachers design their own AP courses—within guidelines that ensure that each course meets standards for college-level instruction—makes AP flexible and accessible for students and schools.

Your course must be authorized by the AP Program in order to call it an AP course. The only way to do that is through the [AP Course Audit](#). The process is designed to confirm teacher awareness of course scope and occasional exam changes, and to ensure that practice exams and other resources are only accessible to teachers verified by a school administrator. Once your course is authorized, you will have access to practice exams and other resources (e.g., formative assessments and the AP Question Bank) that are reserved for AP teacher usage. And your course will be included in the AP Course Ledger—the official list of all AP courses—so colleges and universities can verify what they see on student transcripts.

Training strategies for AP

- [Access AP Recorded Webinars](#)
- Podcast - [Conversations with College Readiness: Changes to AP](#)
- Podcast - [Conversations with College Readiness: AP Classroom](#)
- Podcast - [Conversations with College Readiness: Why Become a College Board Reader](#)

- [How to Start an AP Course](#)

Placing Students in AP Classes

- Based on AP Potential
Schools can [generate rosters of students](#) who have the potential of being successful on an AP Exam based on their performance on the PSAT/NMSQT. [AP Potential](#) is free and web-based.
- Based on PLAN
Schools can use the results from 10th graders' PLAN tests to predict students' performance on AP exams. Use the chart to correlate PLAN Composite scores to AP scores.

Professional Development Opportunities

Visit the College Board website to find the [most current](#) listing of available professional development opportunities by state and topic. The College Board recommends that AP teachers have undertaken some form of professional development before teaching AP for the first time, but it is not required.

Professional development opportunities for new and experienced AP teachers include AP workshops, AP summer institutes, AP readings, and the AP annual conference. Some of these are offered by the College Board and other opportunities are endorsed by the College Board but managed by partnering organizations. The College Board also provides online communities and discussion groups for teachers.

To support AP Summer Institutes (APSI) and teachers during summer 2020, College Board is allowing APSIs to offer their sessions online. [AP Summer Institutes](#) offer the most intensive professional development available for AP educators. Attendees engage in 30 or more hours of content-rich training designed to strengthen how they teach their AP courses. APSI are not required to offer online sessions and may, at their own discretion and guidance of their institution, continue with the traditional on-site delivery for their APSI, or cancel.

See additional professional development opportunities and specific details by using links below.

- [AP-Content and Pre-AP Readiness workshops](#)
- [AP Mentoring](#)