
Policy: Appropriate Grade Levels for Pre-AP Courses

The Pre-AP[®] Program recognizes the autonomy of secondary schools and districts in setting course participation policies that best meet their students' unique needs and learning goals. At the same time, Pre-AP courses are specifically designed to provide grade-level course work based on high school content, skills, and expectations.

Pre-AP courses should be offered at the middle school level only if those middle school courses are intended to meet high-school level standards. For example, while Pre-AP Algebra 1 may be appropriate for middle school students who are taking high-school-level Algebra 1, Pre-AP Biology would not be a suitable replacement for an existing Biology course that addresses middle school standards.

When considering offering Pre-AP to younger students, educators should be mindful that the College Board believes students are best served by course work focusing on the academic building blocks necessary for later, successful enrollment in college-level courses. Additionally, Pre-AP is focused on equity and access. All students enrolled in on-level courses should participate in the Pre-AP program.

For more information, visit Pre-AP.CollegeBoard.org.