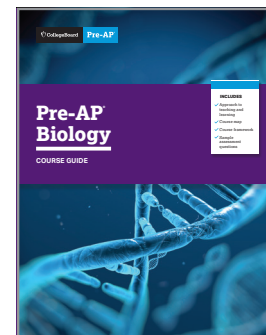


# Pre-AP Biology and Colorado Academic Standards for Science: Alignment Summary

Pre-AP courses focus deeply on a limited number of concepts and skills with the broadest relevance for high school coursework and college and career success. The course framework serves as the foundation of the course and defines these prioritized concepts and skills.

When teaching a Pre-AP course, teachers have purposeful time and space to bring their own voice and lessons into each unit to best meet the needs of their students and address the full range of state standards. This alignment summary demonstrates the deep connections between the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework and the Colorado Academic Standards for Science to support teachers and schools in their planning. Along with the corresponding standards crosswalk, teachers and schools can use this alignment summary when planning and preparing to implement Pre-AP Biology.



## Alignment at a Glance: Very Strong

### CO Science Standards:



- **From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes**
- **Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics**
- **Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits**
- **Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity**

### Discipline Highlights

- ✓ Overall, the alignment between the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework and the Colorado Academic Standards for Science is very strong.
- ✓ All of the disciplinary core ideas in the CO Academic Standards Life Science strand are deeply aligned.
- ✓ All of the standards in the life sciences are addressed in full or in part.



= **Very strong alignment**



= **Partial alignment**

Alignment between the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework and the Colorado Academic Standards for Science is described as *very strong* or *partial*. A *very strong* alignment is one in which the majority of standards are fully addressed by the mapped Pre-AP Learning Objectives (LOs). A *partial* alignment is one in which the standards are partially addressed by the corresponding Pre-AP Learning Objectives. Partial alignment can occur when one framework includes greater specificity or extends beyond the scope of the other framework. Given the focused nature of the Pre-AP course framework, some partial alignments are to be expected.

# Alignment at a Glance: Partial

## CO Science Standards:



- Earth's Place in the Universe
- Earth's Systems
- Earth and Human Activity

## Discipline Highlights



While the overall alignment between the Colorado Academic Standards for Science and the Pre-AP Biology framework is very strong, there are some expected gaps in alignment given the intentional focus and approach of the Pre-AP framework.



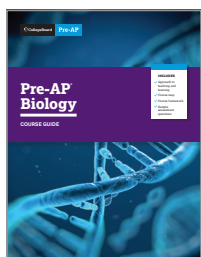
The CO Academic Standards for Science include Earth and Space Science topics that are not directly addressed by the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework. As a result, these areas show no alignment. Despite this, Earth and Space Science standards can be addressed using several compelling examples while teaching Pre-AP EKs, such as ECO 1.1.1, ECO 3.1.1, and ECO 3.2.1.



Although there are gaps in the alignment with CO Earth and Space Science topics, it is valuable to see where the Pre-AP Biology Course Framework extends beyond what is listed in the CO Academic Standards for Science.

## Summary

Beyond alignments to the course framework, it is also important for educators to turn to the Pre-AP Shared Principles and Pre-AP Science Areas of Focus to understand the full picture of alignment between Pre-AP Biology and the Colorado Academic Standards for Science. The shared principles and areas of focus represent the Pre-AP approach to teaching and learning, and these principles deeply address skill development and disciplinary practices that cannot be easily captured within a standards crosswalk. **In summary, there are ample opportunities for teachers to address the Colorado Academic Standards for Science with confidence throughout this course.**



Learn more about Pre-AP Biology at [preap.org](https://preap.org)