



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 28, 2023

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

**SUBJECT:** Advanced Placement Potential Notification Letter

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is continuing its partnership with the College Board to utilize the [Advanced Placement \(AP\) Potential Tool](#). This free online tool identifies students who are likely to score a three or higher on a given AP exam based on the student's performance on the spring 2023 PSAT 8/9 or PSAT 10. Students with scores of three or higher often receive college credit from their college. MDE will work directly with the College Board to identify students in grades 9 or higher who demonstrate potential to be successful in AP coursework.

MDE will issue a letter directly to parents and guardians of identified students beginning in early November 2023. Notifying parents and guardians prior to or during the sophomore year of students' education helps to expand the number and percentage of students in rigorous coursework in high school, particularly those from historically underrepresented groups, including economically disadvantaged students.

This opportunity also supports students in earning college credit, which can help change a student's sense of capability and life direction and reduce the cost of college.

The use of the AP Potential Tool by MDE aligns with [Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan](#) Goal 4 – to expand secondary learning opportunities for all students, Goal 5 – to increase the percentage of all students who graduate from high school, and Goal 6 – to increase the percentage of adults with a postsecondary credential.

MDE recognizes that not all Michigan high schools offer AP courses. If a school does not currently offer AP courses, school leaders can learn more about how to start an AP Program on the [College Board's website](#). Districts may also consider partnering with [Michigan Virtual](#) to offer AP courses. Additional opportunities for students who are prepared for college-level coursework include dual enrollment and [Early Middle College \(EMC\)](#) programs, some career and technical education courses and programs, or an International Baccalaureate® (IB) Diploma Programme (DP), if available.

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MDE's letter to parents and guardians will encourage students to consider these rigorous options, and school counselors are urged to share these options in local school districts, as available, as well. You may access AP resources for Michigan schools [here](#).

For questions regarding the AP Potential notification letter, please contact Jeff McNeal at [McNealJ1@michigan.gov](mailto:McNealJ1@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments