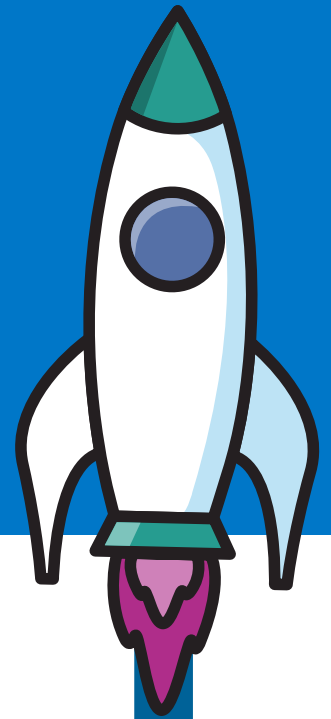


5 WAYS TO RAISE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF YOUR ENTIRE SCHOOL

Caring for an entire school or district of students is a significant responsibility, particularly when striving to provide opportunities for every student. Here are strategies, aligned with College Board programs, that can help expand opportunities and boost achievement across your entire school or district.



1



Set a school or districtwide goal or policy encouraging every student to take at least 1 advanced course before graduation.

By providing more students with exposure to advanced coursework, school leaders can positively impact student achievement for the entire school. This ensures that every student is challenged to push beyond their comfort zone, and this is where the real growth happens. When educators raise expectations, students will often exceed them and, in turn, discover their true potential. This approach promotes a culture of academic excellence and lifelong learning.

"... students in advanced courses work harder and engage more in school, leading to fewer absences...and higher graduation rates."

Ed Trust

2



Prepare all students for advanced learning.

Providing every student with a strong foundation in core concepts and critical thinking is essential to making learning equitable. **Pre-AP**® courses are designed to do just that— give all students the foundation needed to be successful in Advanced Placement® (AP®) and other courses. Open to all students, Pre-AP is a grade-level program usually taught in grades 9 and 10, though some schools offer the program in middle school.

3



Identify more students likely to succeed in AP.

Some students show strengths in other ways, not just through class work and grades. Offering PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, or PSAT™ 8/9 can help you identify more students ready for AP courses. **AP Potential™** is a free, online tool that allows schools to generate rosters of students who are likely to score a 3 or higher on a given AP Exam based on their performance on these assessments. Each year, more than 940,000 students don't sign up for an AP class for which they have potential. Help your students realize the opportunities they're ready for. Although AP Potential is an important evaluative tool, it should never be used as the sole criterion for placement in AP courses. Other important factors include individual student motivation and teacher efficacy.

4



Create more opportunities and open them up for more students.

Giving more students access to more opportunities during the school day is crucial for making opportunity universal. Exposing a wider range of students to advanced coursework and making college admission tests accessible for everyone can also help increase college readiness for the entire school.

- Expand your AP offerings to give more students a chance to earn college credit, placement, or both. Research shows [taking even 1 AP course changes student outcomes](#), substantially improving their first-year college GPA and on-time college graduation rates. The newest AP courses are designed to be more relevant and engage a wider range of students: English 10: AP Seminar, AP Precalculus, AP Computer Science Principles, and AP African American Studies.
- Offer the **SAT® on a school day** to eliminate logistical barriers students face with weekend testing and ensure everyone has the chance to access over \$300 million in scholarship opportunities.

5



Create a college and career planning culture.

Don't leave "planning for their future" to junior and senior year. Make thinking about students' future part of the everyday culture at your school. Empower students to discover career options earlier through the **BigFuture® School mobile app** and the Career Insights Snapshot, delivered with each SAT Suite of Assessments score. In the app, students can also opt in to Connections™ to hear from nonprofit colleges and scholarship providers that are interested in students like them—without having to share any personal information.

Discover additional strategies schools and districts are using to expand access to opportunity.

[cb.org/success](https://collegeboard.org/success)