



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Ajit Gopalakrishnan *Ajit Gopalakrishnan*
Chief Performance Officer

DATE: January 22, 2019

SUBJECT: Advanced Placement (AP) Potential

Once again, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) in partnership with the College Board is undertaking an initiative to increase access to Advanced Placement® (AP) courses. One way to accomplish this is to utilize the College Board's database around *AP Potential*.

The AP Potential database lists students using their PSAT/NMSQT® scores who show potential to succeed on AP course work and exams. The CSDE will be sending letters in January to each of these students who has been shown to have AP potential based on their October 2018 PSAT/NMSQT scores. The letter instructs these students to meet with their school counselors to discuss what course work is right for them.

We urge you and your staff to visit <https://appotential.collegeboard.org>. First-time visitors will be asked to create an education professional account and enter their AP Potential access code. Access codes appear in the PSAT/NMSQT online score reports portal within the "roster" reports.

AP Potential is a research-driven, web-based tool that will help you identify AP students. It will enable you to:

- Identify students likely to succeed on AP Exams;
- Improve access to AP;
- Analyze data and PSAT/NMSQT scores;
- Ensure that no student with the potential to succeed in AP is overlooked; and
- Help make determinations as to which AP courses to offer at your school.

College Board research published in 1998 and 2006 shows strong correlations between students' PSAT/NMSQT scores and AP Exam results. These studies show that PSAT/NMSQT scores are strong predictors of students' AP Exam scores, and when used in conjunction with the more traditional signposts such as high school grades, grades in previous same-discipline course work, and the number of same-discipline courses a student has taken, can serve to provide reliable guidance in identifying additional students who may be ready for the rigor of AP.

Thank you for your support of increasing access to rigorous course work for all students. Please contact Michelle Rosado, Education Consultant, at michelle.rosado@ct.gov if you have any questions.

AG:mr