

Courses Available for Credit Grade 8 & Below

Eligible Courses

The following courses may be offered for secondary school credit **without a course approval** from the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for students enrolled in grade 8. Courses marked with an *asterisk may be offered to students for credit starting in grade 7.

All courses must align with the appropriate standards and be taught by a teacher licensed in the relevant content area and grade level. Standards for these courses are linked here: [Non-CTE](#), [CTE](#). Licensing information can be found in [CCMS](#), and information regarding corresponding graduation credits can be found in the [AR Graduation Course Code List](#).

English Language Arts (ELA) Courses

- *English I (410000)
- *Pre-AP English 1 (410100)
- English II (411000)
- Pre-AP English II (411100)
- ♦AP Seminar (517060)
- Research (0.5 credit) (496000)

Mathematics Courses

- *Algebra I (430000)
- *Pre-AP Algebra I (430300)
- Algebra II (432000)
- Pre-AP Geometry (431300)
- Geometry (431000)

Science Courses

- *Physical Science - Integrated (423000)
- Biology - Integrated (420000)

Computer Science Courses

- Introduction to Computer Science (465070)
- ♦AP Computer Science A - Year 2 (565130)
- ♦AP Computer Science Principles - Year 1 (565030)

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Courses

- Introduction to Advanced Manufacturing (495570)
- Introduction to Engineering (493960)
- Introduction to Agriculture (491150)
- Introduction to Construction (494480)
- Introduction to Architecture and Civil Engineering (494700)
- Introduction to Business (492120)
- Introduction to Health Care (495350)
- Introduction to Criminal Justice (494620)
- Automotive Collision I (494300)
- Automotive Service Technology I (494180)
- Diesel Technology I (494650)
- Introduction to Digital Arts (493680)
- Introduction to Education (493240)
- Principles of Biomedical Sciences (495000)
- Food Safety and Nutrition (493110)
- Business Intelligence (593640)
- Family & Consumer Sciences (493080)

♦ Advanced Placement (AP) courses may only be offered in school buildings designated as secondary schools.

Communication, Earning Credit, and Grade Point Average (GPA) Implications

When offering secondary school credit-bearing courses to students below grade 9, school districts should ensure that:

- Clear communication occurs with the student and his or her parent/guardian before enrollment. Informing that:
 - The course will appear on the student's official secondary school transcript.
 - The grade earned will be calculated into the student's GPA.
 - If the course satisfies one of the twenty-two (22) required units for graduation, it must be included in the student's cumulative GPA.
 - Any relevant school policies that are applicable.
- Secondary school credit must be awarded for any student who earns a passing grade in an approved secondary school course offered below grade 9.
- Credit and GPA weighting may not be withheld based on the student's grade level.

Additional Note

- End-of-year state assessments shall be administered in English Language Arts (Grades 3-10), Mathematics and Science (Grades 3-8), and the secondary school courses of Biology, Algebra I, and Geometry.
- For information on course approvals for secondary credit, please see the [Course Approval & Management](#) DESE webpage.