



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Ajit Gopalakrishnan *Ajit Gopalakrishnan*  
Chief Performance Officer

DATE: February 5, 2020

SUBJECT: Increasing Participation in Rigorous Coursework

As part of its commitment to raising expectations and opportunities for all students, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) is continuing the practice of using data from the PSAT® to encourage students to participate in rigorous coursework such as Advanced Placement® (AP), dual enrollment, and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses while in high school.

In the coming weeks, the CSDE will be sending letters to students in Grades 10 and 11 who took the PSAT in fall 2019 and who, based on the College Board’s AP potential program, are likely to do well in at least one AP exam. The letters will be addressed from the Commissioner. They will instruct students to meet with their high school counselor and discuss the rigorous course opportunities that are right for them. In future years, the CSDE expects to broaden the criteria for identifying students to go beyond just a PSAT score.

To access the list of students in your district who have been identified as having “AP Potential”, please 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 online score reports portal within the “roster” reports.

Thank you for your support in increasing access to rigorous coursework for all students. Please contact Michelle Rosado, Education Consultant, at [michelle.rosado@ct.gov](mailto:michelle.rosado@ct.gov) if you have any questions.

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