

Pre-Advanced Placement/ Advanced Placement Commitment Letter for Students Entering Grades 9-12

MISD Open Access Philosophy: The Mansfield ISD believes that all students who are willing to undertake the challenge of rigorous coursework should have that opportunity. Students who have taken the prerequisite courses and have an interest can enroll in Pre-AP/AP classes.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ ID Number: _____

Entering Grade: _____ Pre-AP/AP Course(s): _____

Each student who plans to register for a Pre-AP and/or AP course should understand the requirements outlined below. Students with questions or concerns about the requirements should contact their counselor for further clarification. Both parent and student should review and sign this commitment letter.

Pre-AP / AP Courses

- Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) courses cover the grade-level state-mandated curriculum with greater depth and complexity.
- Advanced Placement (AP) Courses provide college level studies for high school students who desire and are ready to do college level work. These students demonstrate a strong curiosity about the subject and a willingness to complete hard work. AP courses are taught using college level materials and strategies that will prepare students to take the College Board Advanced Placement Examinations in May. Mansfield ISD currently offers our students more than 30 AP courses. Because of the intensity of AP courses, students should expect the pace and academic rigor of AP classes to be more stringent than regular classes at the same grade level. Taking AP courses demonstrates to college admission officers that students have sought out the most rigorous course work available to them.

I understand the commitment involved in taking a course at this level. I have read and understood the expectations of enrollment and exit guidelines on page 2 and wish to register for the classes listed above.

Student signature _____

Date _____

I have read this letter and understand the commitment my son/daughter is making to the program. I understand and will support my student's efforts to meet the expectations and guidelines provided.

Parent/ Guardian signature _____

Date _____

Mansfield ISD is excited to provide an opportunity for your student to take such a rigorous academic course, and we commend both you and your student for accepting such a challenging opportunity.

STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ENROLLED IN Pre-AP/AP COURSES UNTIL THIS COMMITMENT LETTER IS SIGNED BY THE STUDENT AND THE PARENT/GUARDIAN. ATTACH THIS TO YOUR COURSE SELECTION SHEET.

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Expectations of Enrollment: (students and parents please acknowledge each statement by initialing in the spaces provided)

Success in Pre-AP/ AP classes requires commitment and effort on the part of the student. While students may not have all of these skills, it is important that students and parents recognize that enrollment in a Pre-AP/ AP course will require the development of all of them.

1. To be independent learners, willing to read, learn, ask questions, pursue outside reading and research, integrate and discuss material from diverse sources. _____
2. To spend, on average, approximately five hours per week for each Pre-AP/AP class. Weekends, long breaks, and personal time will be used to stay on schedule with content information. Expect daily homework appropriate for the time frame. _____
3. To attend class, take tests, and turn in assignments on time. Being prepared and displaying a willingness to actively take part in classroom discussions, simulations, and group work will lead to success. _____
4. To accept that enrollment in a Pre-AP/AP course does not guarantee an A or B grade. _____
5. To accept assignments, suggestions, and tutoring from the teacher. Timely completion of all assignments, prompt attention to make-up work, and active participation in tutorials and study groups when needed are all necessary for student success. Anyone who lacks the discipline to meet the rigorous demands these courses may encounter difficulties. _____
6. Some Pre-AP/AP courses have summer assignments. These are required and must be completed before the start of the school year. In these Pre-AP/AP courses, students may be given a test/essay in the first two weeks of school. See your Pre-AP/AP teacher or campus web site for summer assignment information. _____
7. AP students are encouraged to take the AP exam in May. It is a major focus of the course content and instruction in AP courses. Currently, Mansfield ISD covers the full cost of the exam for students who are enrolled the corresponding AP class. _____

Exit Guidelines: (students and parents please acknowledge each statement by initialing in the spaces provided)

- a. It is expected that students seek assistance when needed to be successful in the course and remain in the course for at least 6 weeks. _____
- b. Students who are not passing at the end of the first 6 weeks grading period may be removed from the course unless otherwise recommended by the teacher and administrator. _____
- c. Students petitioning to exit a Pre-AP or AP course must conference with the teacher and complete course assignments and/or attend tutorials. The petition may or may not be granted by the campus administrator. Granting the petition is based on input from the teacher, student performance, availability of space in other courses, and the timing of the request. _____
- d. Students who elect to take an AP course for which there is no academic equivalent will be required to remain in the course until the end of the semester. _____

Please Note: When a student exits from a Pre-AP/AP course, all grades earned in that course follow the student to the other course, including the summer reading grades if applicable.