Enhancing AP Coursework Through Service Learning

AP with WE Service provides students with the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Advanced Placement® course content and skills. In this program, students apply what they learn in their AP course to complete a service learning project. Through service learning—an academic pedagogy distinct from volunteering or participating in community service—students are given focused opportunities to practice and strengthen their skills outside the classroom.

AP with WE Service courses use the same rigorous curriculum framework and exams as traditional AP courses. To enhance the AP course, students investigate a social issue connected to their course content and skills, with the goal of applying their understanding to a local and global service project.

“AP with WE thoroughly prepared me for college.... As a freshman, I immediately [sought] out the service learning clubs and volunteer opportunities that my school provided.... AP with WE Service taught me that being selfless is the best way I can make an impact on my college campus.”

— Aishwarya Palekar, AP with WE Service, Georgia Gwinnett College, Lawrenceville, GA
The AP with WE Service Experience

AP with WE Service encourages students to:

- Tackle real-life local and global problems that interest them by effectively applying their academic learnings outside the classroom through meaningful and sustained service.
- Build an understanding of their active role and ownership in solving today’s problems as they drive change and demonstrate civic responsibility.
- Demonstrate skills for college readiness and success:
  - Communication: They work collaboratively within teams and with community members to research, plan, and execute service projects by expressing opinions, clearly communicating ideas, and defending a position with evidence.
  - Critical thinking and analysis: They complete a needs assessment of the problem, draw conclusions, and evaluate project impact.
  - Leadership: They perform a role within the project team where they own their respective work and present results to community members to motivate further action.

AP with WE Service Recognition on Score Reports

Students earn the AP with WE Service Recognition on the official score reports sent to colleges and universities by meeting all the requirements in the program rubric and by taking the AP exam in the relevant AP course. Since 2016, more than 8,500 students who have earned the AP with WE Service Recognition have sent score reports to more than 800 colleges and universities. Admissions teams will be seeing the recognition on the Scholar Award section of AP score reports.

How Students Earn the AP with WE Service Recognition

Inside and outside the classroom, students engage in the following activities:

- Research and investigate an issue relevant to their AP course content and skills
- Conduct analysis of related problems and solutions, and identify a project
- Develop an action plan and complete their project
- Showcase their findings to communicate conclusion, impact, or make a recommendation

Learn more about AP with WE Service and view our Impact Report at: collegeboard.org/apwe.

“Students should be encouraged to engage in meaningful, sustained community service that is authentically chosen, consistent, and well-structured, and that provides opportunity for reflection both individually and with peers and adults. The college admissions process should value this kind of service.”

— Turning the Tide: Inspiring Concern for Others and the Common Good Through College Admissions