



U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Preparing Tomorrow's Workforce

A U.S. Chamber of Commerce and College Board Partnership



Millions of jobs remain unfilled because candidates lack essential skills. Many high school students graduate without the fundamental business knowledge or training to make informed decisions about their future.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and College Board are partnering to bridge this gap.

Our vision is simple—to ensure that today's high school students have the skills needed to excel in their future careers, building a stronger workforce for tomorrow.

Introducing AP CK Business Principles/Personal Finance

To address the needs of today's economy, College Board is developing a new course, Advanced Placement Career Kickstart (AP CK) Business Principles/Personal Finance—a groundbreaking program designed to provide students with a real-world foundation in business and personal finance education. The course will:

- Teach students the fundamentals of how businesses create value, how organizations compete in the marketplace, and how business leaders make decisions.
- Deliver insight into the forces driving customers, whether they are other businesses or families.
- Expand opportunities for high school students from all backgrounds to access engaging, college-level work that will deliver career-ready knowledge and skills.
- Launch in the 2026-27 school year with the AP Exam for college credit and an industry-recognized credential.

Hands-On Learning, Lifelong Opportunity

The AP CK Business Principles/Personal Finance course will connect students to real-world skills essential for today's economy, setting them apart when applying for job opportunities with:

- Smart and relevant lessons on how companies work, how to make wise financial decisions, and how to thrive in the modern economy.
- Practical, project-based learning where students solve business challenges and develop critical thinking.
- A career-focused course framework designed for the CTE Business Pathway and to meet graduation requirements for personal finance.

From the Classroom to the Workplace

The course will be supported in the coming years by initiatives that expand AP CK Business Principles/Personal Finance course impact beyond the classroom, including:

- Opportunities like business competitions to inspire students to develop and pitch entrepreneurial ideas.
- Distinguishing students when they apply for internships and apprenticeships and building a foundation for accelerated on-the-job learning.
- Workforce readiness research to help businesses understand and identify emerging talent.
- Advocating for financial literacy instruction in high schools to ensure personal finance education is accessible nationwide.

Be Part of the Movement

Business engagement plays a vital role in the success of the AP CK Business Principles/Personal Finance course. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, with its broad network of state and local chambers, is uniquely positioned to advance this initiative.

Help us close the skills gap to create meaningful opportunities for students, businesses, and communities.

- Bringing real world input to classroom resources to ensure students gain the exact skills businesses need.
- Hiring motivated and job-ready individuals who can step into critical roles and endorsing the course credential as a meaningful signal that candidates have foundational career skills.
- Spotlighting your organization's commitment to education, workforce readiness, and economic growth.
- Harnessing the U.S. Chamber of Commerce reach to bridge connections between businesses and education stakeholders.

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