

Dear parents of 8th grade students,

Thank you for assisting your student with completing their course request for registration last week. You are receiving this email because your student selected Biology as their science course for next year. We offer two science options for 9th grade students at Legacy: Biology and Earth Science. **Most students take Earth Science in 9th grade and Biology in 10th.**

It is important to choose the correct science class for your student’s abilities and goals to set them up for success in high school, and this letter is intended to give you the information you need to make the right decision for your student. Please review this information with your student and contact your student’s counselor if you have additional questions or would like to make a change to your child’s science placement.

Biology is recommended for students with higher level math skills or who are in the accelerated math program (Secondary Math 1 as an 8th grader). Biology in 9th grade allows students to progress more quickly to upper-level science classes (ie: Chemistry and Physics). These upper-level science classes will require stronger math skills. If a student takes Biology in 9th grade and struggles with math and/or science, they may be required to take a science class that they are not academically prepared for in 10th grade.

Earth Science is recommended for students who do not excel in Math, and/or do not plan to take Chemistry or Physics in 10th grade. Earth Science in 9th grade does not push your student into upper-level science courses for their 10th grade year. Earth Science is not taught at the high school level, so 9th grade is the only year students will be able to take Earth Science. The science portion of the ACT Test includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Earth/Space sciences, so taking Earth Science in 9th grade may help your student earn a higher ACT score.

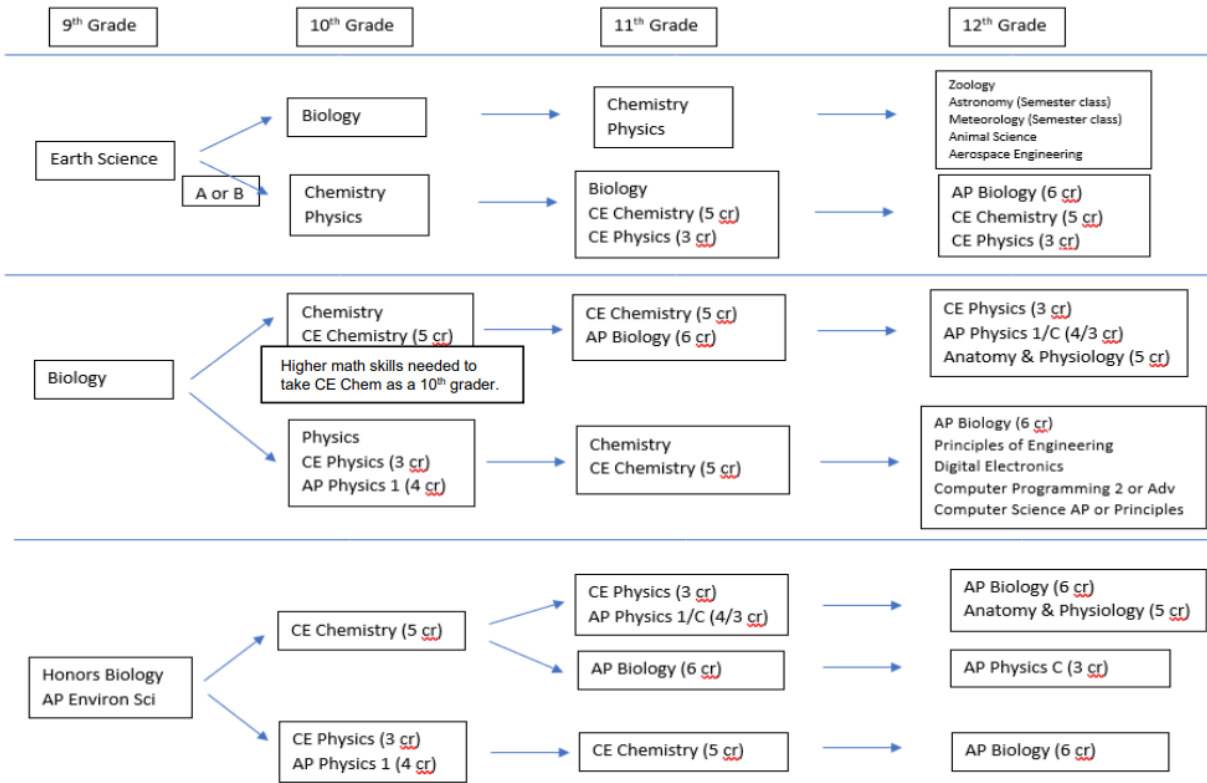
Either Biology or Earth Science will fulfill 1.0 credit towards the Science Graduation Requirement.

Students are required to take two years of science courses from the Foundation categories, and a third year of foundation or other science courses to meet graduation requirements. The table below shows which courses may count for these credit types at your student’s high school:

Foundation Science Courses		3 rd year Science credit options
Earth Science Earth Science	Physics Physics CE Physics	Medical Anatomy & Physiology Advance Health Science Biotechnology Medical Forensics 1 and 2 Zoology Animal Science Astronomy Planetary Astronomy Deep Space
Biological Science Biology AP Biology	AP Physics C: Mechanics AP Physics 1	
Chemistry Chemistry Honors Chemistry AP Chemistry CE Chemistry w/ Lab	Computer Science AP Computer Science A Advanced Computer Programming Computer Science Principles (SEM credit)	Aerospace Engineering Principles of Engineering Digital Electronics Computer Programming 2

The flow chart below shows the proper sequencing of science courses in high school, as recommended by Layton High School.

Science Flow Chart for Proper Sequencing



Please contact your child's counselor if you have questions about this information or would like to make a change to your child's course requests.

Counseling Office: 801-402-4707