



Highly Capable Programs Descriptions and Selection Process

Translations (Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian and Marshallese) available at www.auburn.wednet.edu/Page/16807

Highly Capable Selection

Each year, the Auburn School District opens a referral window for screening and nominating potential students for highly capable program selection. **You can disregard this notice if your student has already participated in the identification process and been identified as highly capable in the Auburn School District.** Once a student is identified as highly capable, he/she is entitled to Highly Capable program services from the date of eligibility through graduation; annual testing is not required. The identification process for Highly Capable programs is as follows:

1. Screening Criteria for High Achieving students (**90th percentile and above**) as identified through district standard assessments. **September – December 17, 2021.**
2. Referrals accepted during open nomination window for students not meeting the above screening criteria. **January 10, 2022 - February 18, 2022.**
3. Permission to Test/Characteristics/Creativity Rating from parent/guardian **due February 18, 2022.**
4. CogAT assessment administered **February 28, 2022 - March 25, 2022.**
5. Highly Capable Identification Meeting. **April 20, 2022.**
6. Parent/guardians notified of student selection. **Notification Letters sent by April 29, 2022.**
7. Parental permission to provide services and programs obtained **due May 27, 2022.**

Anyone may refer a child to the program, including teachers, other staff, parents, students, and members of the community. Referral forms are available online and in all elementary counseling offices. If you wish to refer your child, you may download the form from your school's website, pick one up at the school counseling office, or contact your school to request a form be sent home to recommend your child for consideration to the program.

Elementary Programs

First-Fifth Grade PACE (Program for Accelerated and Clustered Education)

Highly Capable programs are offered at each of our fourteen elementary schools. In a cluster group model, Highly Capable students are placed together in grade level general education classrooms. Above grade level core curricula is delivered to this group as needed by a trained teacher. In walk to read/walk to math models, highly capable students shown to need above grade level instruction in core content areas walk to classrooms in the school for this instruction at their assessed level of need.

Fourth and Fifth Grade STEP (Student Teacher Enrichment Program)

The Auburn School District has a unique program that serves exceptionally intelligent, intellectually gifted 4th and 5th grade students whose needs may not be easily met in the general classroom. Since the 1970s, the STEP (student teacher enrichment program) has provided specific instruction to these academically talented students. STEP is a self-contained program located at Terminal Park Elementary.

Secondary Programs

Middle School PACE (Program for Accelerated and Clustered Education) Honors and Acceleration

Students selected for highly capable programs may be placed in Honors or Pre-AP classes in cohort groups for their core ELA or Social Studies course. Students requiring above grade level instruction in mathematics and science (if available) will be placed in appropriate accelerated courses.

High School PACE (Program for Accelerated and Clustered Education) Honors, Acceleration

The Auburn School District offers an individualized program based on highly capable student needs which may include: High School Honors courses, Advanced Placement Courses, Advanced Career and Technical Education courses, University in the High School, Running Start, and Online learning experiences.

If you have questions about Highly Capable programs, contact your child's counselor or Adam Ladage, Student Learning 8-12, aladage@auburn.wednet.edu, 253-931-4950



Elementary Programs for Highly Capable Students

Program Description:

PACE

Highly Capable programs are offered at each of our fourteen elementary schools. Most students identified as highly capable will be served in their home school in a PACE (Program for Accelerated and Clustered Education) program. In a cluster group model, Highly Capable students are placed together in grade level general education classrooms. Above grade level core curricula is delivered to this group as needed by a trained teacher. In walk to read/walk to math model, highly capable students shown to need above grade level instruction in core content areas walk to classrooms in the school for this instruction at their assessed level of need.

STEP

The Auburn School District has a unique program that serves exceptionally intelligent, intellectually gifted 4th and 5th grade students whose needs may not be easily met in the general classroom or PACE programs. Since the 1970s, the STEP (student teacher enrichment program) has provided specific instruction to these academically talented students.

Selection:

Each year, the Auburn School District opens a referral window for screening and nominating potential students for highly capable program selection. Once a student is identified as highly capable, he/she is entitled to Highly Capable program services from the date of eligibility through graduation; annual testing is not required. The current identification process for Highly Capable programs is as follows:

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If you have questions about Highly Capable programs, contact your child's counselor or Adam Ladage, Student Learning 8-12, aladage@auburn.wednet.edu, 253-931-4950



Secondary Programs for Highly Capable Students

Program Description:

Middle School PACE (Program for Accelerated and Clustered Education) Honors and Acceleration

Students selected for highly capable programs may be placed in Honors or Pre-AP classes in cohort groups for their core ELA or Social Studies course. Students requiring above grade level instruction in mathematics and science (if available) will be placed in appropriate accelerated courses.

High School PACE (Program for Accelerated and Clustered Education) Honors, Advanced Placement

The Auburn School District offers an individualized program based on highly capable student needs which may include: High School Honors courses, Advanced Placement Courses, Advanced Career and Technical Education courses, University in the High School, Running Start, and Online learning experiences.

Selection:

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