

Advanced Academic Programs (AAP)

Secondary Opportunities for FCPS Students

ELEMENTARY → MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL



Welcome to the Overview of Advanced Academic Programs services. This presentation will provide families with information about gifted services, known in FCPS as “Advanced Academic Programs, or “AAP” in secondary schools.

Fairfax County Schools (FCPS) Beliefs

- All students deserve an excellent education.
- Students learn best when educators, parents, and students work together.
- High expectations lead to high performance.
- All students need opportunities to use strengths and pursue interests.

Fairfax County believes **all students deserve an excellent education** and **students learn best when educators, parents, and students work together** as partners. We also believe that when schools and families have **high expectations** for achievement, students will rise to meet the challenge. All students have unique strengths and interests. FCPS teachers work hard to provide **opportunities for students to use their strengths and pursue their interests.**

Virginia Department of Education 'Gifted' Definition

“Gifted students means those students...
who **demonstrate** high levels of accomplishment or
who show the **potential** for higher levels of accomplishment
when compared to others of the same age, experience, or
environment.”

The Virginia Department of Education defines gifted students as those who **demonstrate** high levels of accomplishment or who show the **potential** for higher levels of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment.

Virginia Department of Education Gifted Regulation

All Virginia school divisions must:

- identify gifted students, and
- provide instructional services to meet their needs.

All Virginia school divisions are required to **identify gifted students** and to **provide instructional services** to meet their educational needs.



FCPS VA Local Plan for the Gifted

Information related to FCPS Advanced Academic Services

FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted 2016-2021

Each school division in Virginia develops a comprehensive plan for the education of the gifted. The FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted provides specific explanations of FCPS' implementation of Regulations Governing Educational Services for Gifted Students in Virginia.

The Virginia Department of Education requires schools to write a plan that details how gifted students will be identified and served. The plan must be approved by the local school board. **The FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted** can be found by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching “local plan.”

<https://www.fcps.edu/academics/academic-overview/advanced-academic-programs-aap/fcps-va-local-plan-gifted>

Two **Goals** of the Advanced Academic Programs

FCPS AAP strives to develop the talents of all students and provide challenge through:

- **Talent development**
- **Differentiation** to meet the needs of **advanced learners**.

Fairfax County Public Schools Advanced Academic Programs has two main goals: talent development and differentiation to meet the needs of advanced learners.

Talent Development

What does Talent Development look like in Fairfax County Public Schools?

- Instructional opportunities to use AAP curriculum and strategies.
- Working with students to identify and explore areas of interest.
- Attention to underrepresented groups through the Young Scholars Model.

Our focus on talent development reflects our beliefs that ALL students in FCPS need opportunities to work with rigorous curriculum and go in more depth in areas of strength and interest. Students also need opportunities to develop ownership of their learning through reflection, goal-setting, and identifying areas of interest. And, while we recognize the importance of talent development for all of our students, we also know that support services, like those found in our Young Scholars model, are important to identify and nurture students in groups historically underrepresented in gifted programs.

Differentiation to Meet the Needs of Advanced Learners

What does Differentiating for Advanced Learners mean in Fairfax County Public Schools?

- Meeting students' needs to go beyond grade level standards by name and need.
- Ensuring access to differentiated curriculum and environment including increased depth and complexity, different pacing, and less scaffolding.
- Ensuring time to work with similar academic peer group to ensure peer-to-peer feedback to promote growth.
- Academic advising and complementary supports for success through implementation of the Young Scholars model.

Differentiation means each student gets what they need in their education. To meet the needs of advanced learners reflects our beliefs that all students must be met by name and by need. FCPS AAP offers a continuum of services to provide multiple entry points so that all students access the level of service that meets their cognitive and affective needs. Our goal is to ensure all students have access to a research-based, differentiated curriculum and academic peer group.

AAP Continuum of Services

AAP offers a continuum of services to challenge and engage all students K-12. Our goals are:

- Provide deeper learning and talent development opportunities to all students
- Identify and build upon student strengths and abilities
- Provide multiple entry points to meet diverse student needs through the continuum of services

We believe talent can be nurtured and developed in all students. AAP services for a student may change over time.

The FCPS Local Plan for the Gifted includes a continuum of advanced academic services to provide challenging learning experiences to all students.

Schools partner with families to **identify each student's strengths and abilities**. Students are **matched with the level of AAP** service to meet student needs at the time. We believe academic potential can be **nurtured and developed** through access to advanced academic curricula and strategies. As students develop talents and build on strengths, the **AAP services needed may change over time**.

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Advanced Academic Programs Overview

Young Scholars Model - All K-12 Students		
Elementary School: K-6	Middle School	High School
Tier 1 access to AAP curriculum & strategies (I)	IB Middle Years Program – Grades 6 -10 (selected schools)	
Differentiated Lessons in areas of Academic Strength (II)	Honors Courses in areas of Academic Strength/Interest Grades 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honors Courses • Advanced Placement (AP) • International Baccalaureate (IB) • Dual Enrollment Courses • Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Part-Time Advanced Academic Program (III)		
Full-Time Advanced Academic Program (IV) - Grades 3-8		

Adapted from the Integrated Continuum of Special Services by Sally Reis and Levels of Service by Donald Treffinger.

This is a big picture overview of the continuum of AAP services available in FCPS elementary, middle, and high schools. You will notice that The **Young Scholars Model** [red box comes in] is available to students at all school levels, K-12. Let's learn a little more about this model.

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Advanced Academic Programs

Grades K-12

Young Scholars Model

FCPS developed the **Young Scholars Model** to help identify students from historically underrepresented populations for AAP services.

The model seeks to provide opportunities to nurture students' advanced academic potential and prepare them for more challenging and rigorous coursework as they advance in grade level. The goal is to prepare Young Scholars for challenging courses and success in the future.

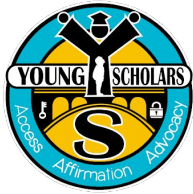
FCPS developed the Young Scholars Model to help identify students from historically underrepresented populations for AAP services. The model provides additional opportunity to nurture talent and build confidence so that students can meet their potential. The goal is to prepare Young Scholars for challenging courses and success in the future.

Young Scholars also receive level II, III, OR IV services – depending on their needs. The Young Scholars label stays through grade 12 so that as students transition from elementary to middle to high school, teachers and school counselors understand the student has potential and needs to access advanced academic opportunities

SECONDARY

Grades 7-12

Young Scholars Model



In the Young Scholars Model in Secondary Schools, school administrators, teachers, counselors, and other school staff work together to implement a schoolwide system of support that provides 'wrap around' services in the following areas: relationships, academics, transitions, and enrichment.

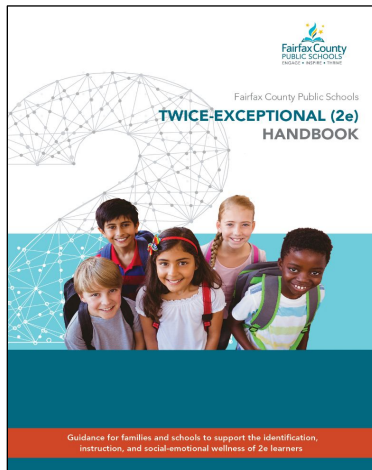
Goals include:

- Relationships
- Academic Habits and Skills
- Academic Course Advisory
- Transition Advisory between ES - MS - HS - Beyond
- Enrichment Opportunities

The Young Scholars Model continues to provide supports to students through Grade 12.

Advanced Academic Programs

Twice-Exceptional (2e) Students



Twice-exceptional (2e) students have exceptional abilities and exceptional learning challenges.

FCPS 2e Handbook:
Go to www.fcps.edu
and search **2e**

Some gifted students also have learning disabilities. These twice-exceptional, or “2e” students need strengths-based instruction. Their learning challenges also must be supported. FCPS has created a 2e handbook to help schools and families understand how to identify and serve 2e students. You can find these resources by going to www.fcps.edu and searching “2e”.

Advanced Academic Programs LEVELS OF SERVICE

MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 7-8

Advanced Academic Programs
LEVELS OF SERVICE in MIDDLE SCHOOL
Grades 7-8

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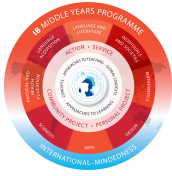
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AAP services in middle school [red box comes in] look a little different than in elementary school. Middle school students may receive services in the following ways:

- IB Middle Years Program
- Honors courses
- Full-Time Advanced Academic Services

MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 6-8 (in selected schools)

International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IB MYP)



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program (MYP) is available in some FCPS middle schools.

The program encourages students to understand the connections between content and the real world through critical and reflective thinking.

In schools that have IB MYP, all students participate.

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You can find out more about the IB Middle Years Program by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching "IB MYP".

Advanced Academic Programs Overview

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All middle schools in FCPS offer honors courses.

MIDDLE SCHOOL Grades 7-8

Honors Courses in areas of academic strength or interest

Honors classes provide opportunities for students who want to be challenged in one or more subjects:

- English
- Science
- Social Studies
- Mathematics

Students may choose to enroll in 1, 2, 3, or 4 Honors classes.

FCPS wants all students prepared to take at least one advanced class in high school. Honors classes in middle school prepare students for this challenge. Honors classes are open to all students who want to learn at a high level. Students are encouraged to think about their strengths and interests and enroll in one, two, three, or four Honors classes.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

Acceleration in Mathematics Courses in Middle School

Acceleration in mathematics content:

- Any student in 7th grade may select Math 7 Honors. This course is one year above grade level. Students will learn 8th grade content.
- 7th grade students who want to take **Algebra I Honors** must meet criteria set by the FCPS math office.
- Algebra I courses are open to all 8th graders

Some students are very strong in Mathematics and need acceleration. This Acceleration in math content can happen in 2 ways.

Any 7th grade student may choose to take Math 7 Honors. This course is one year above grade level.

7th grade students may take Algebra I Honors if they meet criteria set by the FCPS math office.

Algebra I courses are open to all 8th graders.

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Next let's look at Level IV "full-time" services in middle schools.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

Level IV Full-Time services

Some advanced learners need a full-time advanced academic program, including differentiated instruction in all 4 content areas and access to a peer group with similar academic needs.

Students eligible for full-time AAP services receive:

- Advanced Language Arts, science, and social studies curriculum, and
- Math curriculum at least one year above grade level.

Some students' development requires an environment where they can learn at a faster pace and with greater intensity of advanced curriculum. It is important for these students to work with peers who have similar academic needs and with a teacher who understands advanced learners. Academic peer groups are important to ensure that students learn and grow in collaborative environments.

Students eligible for full-time AAP services receive advanced Language Arts, science, and social studies curriculum. They receive math curriculum at least one year above grade level. A student does not have to be eligible for AAP level IV/full time services to qualify for advanced math classes. Advanced mathematics is considered a level II AAP service.

Students need to be screened for full-time services.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 7-8

Level IV Full-Time services

Parents, guardians, and teachers may refer a child to be screened for full-time AAP services.

- **Fall Screening** (only available to students who are new to FCPS since January) - referral and optional materials are due by **early October**.
- **Spring Screening** - referral and optional materials are due by **December 15**.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified according to the published **Testing and Identification Timeline**.

Eligible students may attend their AAP center or stay at their local middle school.

Level IV services continue through Grade 8. Students do not need to be evaluated each year.

Parents/guardians may refer their child to be screened by submitting a referral form to the school. Level IV screening has set deadlines that are published at the start of each school year. Please be sure to submit a referral no later than the deadline. Once students are found eligible for Level IV services, eligibility continues through 8th grade. Eligible students may attend their AAP center or stay at their local middle school. Students do not need to be re-evaluated for Level IV services each year. For more information, please contact the AART at your local school.

Advanced Academic Programs LEVELS OF SERVICE

HIGH SCHOOL Grades 9-12

Advanced Academic Programs
LEVELS OF SERVICE in HIGH SCHOOL
Grades 9-12

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Let's look at how AAP services meet the advanced learning needs of high school students. [red box comes in].

HIGH SCHOOL

Advanced Academic Programs

In high school, students may select advanced courses to meet their advanced academic needs. Advanced academic opportunities include:

- Honors courses
- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- International Baccalaureate (IB) courses
- Dual Enrollment (DE) courses

There is a separate application process for Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

Advanced classes are open to all students who want to learn at a high level. Students are encouraged to think about their strengths and interests and enroll in at least one advanced class.

Students who enter 9th grade in 2018-19 and beyond will need to complete either an AP, IB, or Honors course OR earn an industry credential to graduate with a standard or advanced studies diploma.

Advanced opportunities include [Honors courses](#), [Advanced Placement courses](#), [International Baccalaureate courses](#), and [Dual Enrollment courses](#). In addition, some students apply for and are admitted to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, sometimes called “TJ”, and participate in advance courses at that school site.

Please note that advanced courses options vary by school. To find out what courses your school offers, visit your school website.

For information about graduation requirements, go to www.fcps.edu and search “graduation requirements”

For information about how to apply for TJ, go to www.fcps.edu and search “admissions”

HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12

Honors Courses

Honors classes provide opportunities for students who want to be challenged in one or more subjects:

- English
- Science
- Social Studies
- Mathematics

Students may choose to enroll in 1, 2, 3, or 4 Honors classes.

FCPS offers open enrollment in Honors English, science, social studies, and mathematics classes for students who seek additional academic rigor. Students may self-select one or more honors courses in areas that match their strengths or interests.

You can find out more about Honors courses by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching “Honors”.

HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 10-12 (in selected schools)

Advanced Placement



The Advanced Placement (AP) program provides students with opportunities to take college-level courses in high school.

AP course curricula are designed by The College Board, in conjunction with university and high school faculty.

AP courses include an externally administered AP exam that may entitle a student to college credit. Some AP courses, such as AP Computer Science principles, AP Seminar and AP research, include performance-based assessments.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program provides students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in high school. AP course curricula are designed by The College Board in conjunction with university faculty and mirror content and skills developed in common introductory-level college courses in the United States. AP courses culminate in an externally administered AP exam that may entitle a student to college credit, depending on student performance and university policy. Some AP courses, such as Computer Science Principles, AP Seminar and AP research, have performance-based assessments.

Check your with your local school to learn in your school offers the AP program, and if so, which AP courses are offered. You can find out more about Advanced Placement by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching “AP”.

HIGH SCHOOL Grades 9-10 (in selected schools)

International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program (MYP) is available in some FCPS high schools.

The program encourages students to understand the connections between content and the real world through critical and reflective thinking.

In schools that have IB MYP, all students participate.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Middle Years Program (MYP) is available in some FCPS high schools. The program encourages students to understand the connections between content and the real world through critical and reflective thinking. These high schools work in partnership with their MYP feeder middle schools.

You can find out more about the IB Middle Years Program by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching “IB MYP”.

HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 11-12 (in selected schools)

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program (DP) is available in some FCPS high schools.

The program focuses on developing students with a wide breadth and depth of knowledge in a variety of content areas. It focuses on the physical, intellectual, ethical, and emotional health of students.

In schools that have IB DP, students can take one or more courses or they can pursue the full IB diploma.

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In schools that have IB DP, students can take one or more courses or they can pursue the full IB diploma.

You can find out more about the IB Diploma Program by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching "IB DP".

HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 11-12 (in selected schools)

International Baccalaureate Career-related Program



The International Baccalaureate (IB) Career-related Program (CP) is available in some FCPS high schools.

The IB CP provides an opportunity for students to design a rigorous course of study and prioritize their interests. Students can pursue academics and gain professional skills.

To earn the IB Career-related Certificate, students will complete IB DP courses, a career-related study, and the four components of the IB CP core.

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You can find out more about the IB Career-related Program by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching "IB CP".

HIGH SCHOOL Grades 11-12 (in selected schools)

Dual Enrollment Courses

Dual enrollment courses are taught at the high school by an FCPS teacher. College credit is offered through agreements with a college or university.

Students must meet the requirements set by the college or university to enroll in the course. They will work with their high school to register for the course.

Each high school determines if they will offer dual enrollment courses based on their needs.

Dual enrollment courses are taught at the high school by an FCPS teacher. College credit is offered through agreements with a college or university.

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Each high school determines if they will offer dual enrollment courses based on their needs.

You can find out more about Dual Enrollment by going to www.FCPS.edu and searching “Dual Enrollment”.

Who to Contact

Elementary Schools:

- Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART)

Middle and High Schools:

- Director of Student Services
- School Counselor

AAP Office:

- 571-423-4740
- AAP@fcps.edu

If you have questions about the FCPS Advanced Academic Programs Overview, please contact your child's school.

In elementary schools, you may contact the Advanced Academic Resource Teacher or "AART." In secondary schools, Directors of Student Services and school counselors can provide more information about advanced academic programs. You may also call the AAP office at 571-423-4740, or send an email to AAP@fcps.edu

For more information: www.fcps.edu

The screenshot shows a web browser at the URL <https://www.fcps.edu>. The page features a navigation bar with links for LANGUAGE, SEARCH, FULL MENU, ABOUT FCPS, SCHOOLS, ACADEMICS, CALENDAR, CONTACT US, and SCHOOL BOARD. Below the navigation bar is a dark blue menu with links for FCPS 24-7 Learning, SIS, G Suite, Library, Lunch Menus, MySchoolBucks, and Employee Resources. A search box is visible with the text "Search FCPS" and a red arrow pointing to the "SEARCH" button. Below the search box, the text "AAP" is entered, with a red arrow pointing to the search field. At the bottom of the search box are two buttons: "Search" and "Cancel".

1. Select **SEARCH** on the home page

2. Enter **AAP** in search field

For more information about Advanced Academic Programs, go to www.fcps.edu and search "AAP"



www.fcps.edu