

**Purpose**

Identify and nurture gifted scholars through a continuum of services delivered in appropriate and challenging learning environments with rigor and individualization to foster creativity, leadership, and social-emotional well-being.

**Vision**

Rigorous, student-centered learning experiences and social-emotional supports delivered by collaborative teams.

**Identification**

Students are formally identified in compliance with Ohio's regulations for gifted and talented identification in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and the visual and performing arts.

**Primary Education Thinking Skills Program**

An early intervention and enrichment program is available in a number of schools to assist with the identification of gifted students from underrepresented populations. Based on research demonstrating positive outcomes from talent development programs in other urban centers, staff in this program teach critical and creative thinking skills to all students in grades K through 2 in the selected buildings.

**Service**

Students are eligible for one or more levels of service on the continuum based on areas of identification. Each winter, families will receive notice of eligibility for services for the following school year and will select the available opportunity they wish to pursue.

**Other Opportunities**

**Summer Opportunities**

An extensive list of summer opportunities and scholarships for students of all ages is provided on the district's website. <http://www.ccsch.us/SummerOpportunities.aspx>

**PACE**

Parents for Academic Challenge & Enrichment (PACE), the gifted parent group, provides parent support and education, informational updates, and other resources. <http://www.columbuspace.org>

**Category C**

**Columbus Gifted Academy**

Students in grades 3 through 8 are enrolled in their home school but attend class all day at the Columbus Gifted Academy. Mastery learning allows students to learn at their own pace, while problem-based learning helps students apply what they learn to new contexts. Students in grades 3-5 work on site full time. Students in grades 6-8 share time between the program location and community locations, such as COSI, Columbus Museum of Art, and others while engaged in a blend of independent and experiential learning. Unified Arts instruction is provided, and students may access sport teams through their home school. Students must be identified as gifted in superior cognitive ability or in both reading and math to be offered enrollment in these programs. Transportation is provided to in accordance with district transportation rules.

**Category D**

**Academic Acceleration**

Students who are significantly advanced in one or more subject areas may be referred for acceleration to the next level in a particular subject area or the next grade level. Referrals must be made at least 60 days prior to the start of the semester. Student placement will be determined in accordance with the district's acceleration policy.

**Credit Flexibility**

High school students may earn credit for high school coursework through alternative methods, such as independent study, outside courses, online learning programs, or testing out of the course. Students must file a plan with the district in accordance with district guidelines. Please visit your guidance counselor or the district's credit flexibility webpage for more details.

The Columbus City School District does not discriminate based upon sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, ancestry, familial status or military status with regard to admission, access, treatment or employment. This policy is applicable in all district programs and activities.



**COLUMBUS  
CITY SCHOOLS**



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*Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.*  
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## Continuum of Gifted Opportunities & Services Offered in Columbus City Schools

Level	Category A <i>Gifted and high achieving in all schools Informal Written Education Plan not provided</i>	Category B <i>Specific areas of gifted identification Select locations Written Education Plan provided</i>	Category C <i>Specific areas of gifted identification One location Written Education Plan provided</i>	Category D <i>Case-by-case basis in all schools Written Education Plan may be provided</i>
<i>Elementary School (Gr. K-2)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cluster grouping with differentiated instruction as needed in grades 1-6</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gifted resource room pullout taught by a gifted specialist in gr. K-2</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic acceleration</li> </ul>
<i>Elementary School (Gr. 3-5)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cluster grouping with differentiated instruction as needed in grades 1-6</li> <li>Enrichment programs as clubs and embedded in general curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gifted self-contained reading classes taught by a gifted specialist in gr. 3-5</li> <li>Gifted self-contained math classes taught by a gifted specialist in gr. 3-5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Columbus Gifted Academy program located at Everett</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic acceleration</li> </ul>
<i>Middle School</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cluster grouping with differentiated instruction as needed in gr. 6-8</li> <li>Advanced Math Pathway</li> <li>Enrichment programs as clubs and embedded in general curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arts Impact Middle School daily program</li> <li>Gifted clustered reading classes with assistance from a gifted specialist</li> <li>Gifted clustered math classes with assistance from a gifted specialist</li> <li>Gifted core enrichment taught by a gifted specialist in gr. K-2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Columbus Gifted Academy program located at Everett</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Academic acceleration</li> </ul>
<i>High School</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cluster grouping with differentiated instruction as needed in gr. 7-10</li> <li>Enrichment programs as clubs and embedded in general curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fort Hayes High School daily program</li> <li>Gifted Support Elective course for grades 9/10</li> <li>Honors, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Biomedical Pathway</li> <li>College Credit Plus</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Credit flexibility</li> <li>Academic acceleration</li> </ul>

### Category A

#### **Cluster Grouping**

Students in grades 1-10 identified as gifted are placed in the same classroom as other identified students in the same grade level. Teachers differentiate instruction based on student needs. Gifted coordinators provide resources to teachers for lesson planning.

#### **Enrichment Programs**

Challenging programs, such as Chess, Invention Convention, Math Works, Debate, and Career Café, are available to students during class or outside of school hours. Options vary by building.

#### **Advanced Math Pathway**

During 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students who are gifted or high achieving in math may be screened to take 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math during their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year and Integrated Math I during 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Placement testing coordinated by the Curriculum Department occurs in the fall and late winter. \*\*Students are considered subject accelerated in math during the 7<sup>th</sup> grade year.

### Category B

#### **Gifted Resource Room**

Students in grades K-2 identified as gifted in superior cognitive ability, creative thinking, or reading work with a gifted specialist 4 hours per week in a literacy-based pullout classroom setting.

#### **Gifted Reading/Math**

Select elementary and middle schools have gifted reading and math classes for grades 3-8. Students identified as gifted in that subject area may participate. Elementary students meet with the gifted specialist daily for their reading or math class; middle school students work with a content teacher one period per day in that subject area with a gifted specialist in the class part-time. Transportation is provided to these buildings in accordance with district transportation rules.

#### **Gifted Core Enrichment**

Students at any middle school in grades 6-8 identified as gifted in superior cognitive ability or creative thinking will be enrolled in a special section of core enrichment with a gifted specialist each day.

#### **Arts Impact Middle School/Fort Hayes High School**

Students identified as gifted in the visual or performing arts who attend Arts Impact Middle School or Fort Hayes High School have the arts embedded into the daily instructional program. Students may also access unique arts courses taught by qualified arts instructors.

### **Gifted Support Elective**

Students in grades 9 and 10 identified as gifted in superior cognitive ability or creative thinking attending any high school may opt to take an online gifted support course for elective credit. This course is taught by a gifted specialist and will focus on college and career readiness skills, social-emotional supports, and pre-Advanced Placement scholar skills.

### **Honors/Advanced Placement/ International Baccalaureate**

Most high schools offer an array of Advanced Placement courses similar to those encountered by college freshmen. International Baccalaureate courses are offered at Columbus Alternative High School, and a Biomedical Pathway is available at Eastmoor Academy. Most schools will be adding honors English Language Arts courses for grades 9 and 10 this year.

### **College Credit Plus**

Students may take college courses within the district, including through the programs listed above, or at local universities while still in high school. Contact your guidance counselor for more information.