

Advanced Academic Programs (AAP)

Overview of Services in Middle and High School



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**.

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.

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 different pacing, increased depth and complexity, and removing scaffolds.
- 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.

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. We want all students to engage in a “just right” number of advanced courses in middle and high school with the goal of most students taking at least 1 advanced course each year in middle and high school.

Advanced Academic Programs Overview

Young Scholars Model - All K-12 Students

Elementary School: K-6	Middle School	High School
Access to Rigor (Level I)	IB Middle Years Program – Grades 6 -10 (selected schools)	
Subject Specific Advanced Differentiation (Level II)	Honors Courses in areas of Academic Strength/Interest Grades 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honors Courses • Advanced Placement (AP)
Part-Time Services (Level III) Grades 3-6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Baccalaureate (IB) • Dual Enrollment Courses
Full-Time Services - Grades 3-8 (Level IV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology 	

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

Advanced Academic Services in Middle School

Honors AAP Classes

Full-Time AAP Classes

Honors Classes

(in all 26 middle schools)

Open Access
to Honors
courses-
available in
four core
subjects

Students
select Honors
in
1, 2, 3, or 4
core classes

Students learn
with others
who also
selected
advanced
courses

Teachers
differentiate
to meet
students'
academic
needs

Teachers
participate
in **AAP**
**Professional
Learning**

Students eligible for full-time AAP services may choose to stay at their base school and take Honors courses.

Full-Time AAP Center

(14 of 26 middle schools are designated centers)

Students are found eligible through a **central screening process**

Students access advanced curriculum for **4 core subjects**

(mathematics placement is based on readiness)

Students are in classes with other eligible students--**academic peer group**

(mathematics class may be a mix)

Teachers **differentiate** to meet students' academic needs

Teachers participate in **AAP Professional Learning**

Honors Classes

- Open enrollment: students and families self-select classes in areas of strength or interest
- Increased depth and complexity in specific subject areas
- Students learn with other students who have chosen to be challenged academically in that subject area
- Students may enroll in 1, 2, 3, or 4 Honors courses
- Offered in all middle schools

Full-Time AAP Services

- Students are found eligible through central screening process
- Increased depth, complexity, and pace in all subjects
- Students identified as having high intellectual ability are clustered in classes with peers
- Students are in advanced classes for all 4 core subject areas (math class is based on readiness)
- 14 schools are designated as centers

Looking forward to High School

What are the AAP opportunities in high school?

Open enrollment opportunities:

- [Honors](#) (grades 9-12)
- [Advanced Placement \(AP\) courses](#) (primarily in grades 11-12)
- [International Baccalaureate \(IB\) courses](#) (grades 11-12)
- [Dual-enrollment courses](#) (grades 11-12)

Looking forward to High School

Additional opportunities for which students can register or apply:

- [FCPS High School Academies and Specialized Programs](#) (for juniors and seniors)
- [Summer Residential Governor's Schools](#) (rising 11 and 12)
- [Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology](#) (apply in grade 8)

Who to Contact

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