Initial Placement Guidelines for 2024-2025 Course Recommendations for Core Content Areas in Grades 6-12

In January, teachers of pre-requisite courses are responsible for making appropriate course recommendations for the next school year based on current and past performance.  In making recommendations, teachers are encouraged to consider student interests, overall course load, and the district placement guidelines.  Schools are encouraged to review and share data with students and parents regarding data points and student behaviors that indicate overall student success in advanced courses.  In considering student interests and overall course load, teachers may or may not recommend a student for an advanced, honors, or Advanced Placement course; however, a student who meets the criteria outlined in the district placement guidelines should not be prevented from taking the course.

In determining placement for students who fall short of the criteria, overall aptitude demonstrated by the preponderance of evidence from past performance and teacher feedback should be considered, always bearing in mind what is in the best interests of the student.  Parents may sign a waiver for placement in an advanced, honors, or Advanced Placement course if a student does not meet the district placement guidelines.  Parents should not be asked to sign a waiver if a student meets the district placement guidelines but is not recommended by the teacher.

In May, teachers will review the initial placement decision and additional spring data to make a final placement recommendation.

Please note that the initial placement guidelines do not include guidance for acceleration in English Language Arts and Mathematics.  Acceleration requires skipping curriculum, and the decision should be guided by the Continuous Achievement 36 Week Review Process in May.

Waivers are not available for middle school TAG classes as additional state funding is collected for TAG students enrolled in these courses.  Alternative placement criteria are applied by the TAG teacher to determine if an additional TAG class is appropriate for a TAG student.

For assistance in using the guidelines, please contact the appropriate Learning and Teaching content specialist:

* K-5 English Language Arts: Kerri-Ann Williams ([williamsk6@fultonschools.org](mailto:williamsk6@fultonschools.org))
* 6-12 English Language Arts: Kelley Webb ([webbk@fultonschools.org](mailto:webbk@fultonschools.org))
* Mathematics: Susan Baker ([bakers1@fultonschools.org](mailto:bakers1@fultonschools.org))
* Science: Steven Moody ([moodys@fultonschools.org](mailto:moodys@fultonschools.org))
* Social Studies: Crystal Flowers ([flowersc1@fultonschools.org](mailto:flowersc1@fultonschools.org))
* World Language: Jamie Patterson ([patterson@fultonschools.org](mailto:patterson@fultonschools.org))
* Talented and Gifted: Jessica Sevin ([sevin@fultonschools.org](mailto:sevin@fultonschools.org))

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| **Middle School Mathematics Initial Placement Guidelines for 2024-2025 School Year** | | | | | |
| **Current Grade Level** | **Student's Current Course** | **Student's Current Performance** | **Next Year Placement** | **Course Number** | |
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| Grade 7 | Math 7 On-Level | Anticipated promotion to Grade 8 | Math 8 | 27.0230000 | |
| Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Algebra H following a parent/teacher conference. | Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra) | 27.09110H1/27.09110H2  TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2 | |
| Math 7 Enhanced | Semester 1 Average < 90% **OR** ≥ 90% and Not Interested in Acceleration | Math 8 | 27.0230000 | |
| Semester 1 Average < 90% Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Algebra H following a parent/teacher conference. | Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra) | 27.09110H1/27.09110H2  TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2 | |
| Semester 1 Average ≥ 90% **AND** Student Interest | Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra) | 27.09110H1/27.09110H2  TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2 | |
| Math 8  (Grade 7 accelerated students) | Semester 1 Average< 80% | Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra) | 27.09110H1/27.09110H2  TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2 | |
| Semester 1 Average≥ 80% | Algebra: Concepts & Connections H | 27.08110H1/27.08110H2  TAG eligible  27.28110H1/27.28110H2 | |
| Enhanced Algebra: C&C Honors | Semester 1 Average < 70% **OR** Student plans to decline high school credit at the end of the year. | Algebra: Concepts and Connections H | 27.08110H1/27.08110H2  TAG eligible  27.28110H1/27.28110H2 | |
| Semester 1 Average ≥ 70% | Geometry: Concepts and Connections Honors | 27.0821040  TAG Eligible 27.281040 | |
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| **Middle School ELA Initial Placement Guidelines for 2024-2025 School Year** | | | | |
| **Current Grade Level** | **Student's Current Course** | **Student's Current Performance** | **Next Year Placement** | **Course Number** |

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| Grade 7 | Language Arts 7 On-Level | Anticipated promotion to Grade 8 | Language Arts 8 On-level | 23.0130000 |
| Students will only be considered for Language Arts 8 Advanced in May through the continuous achievement process. | Language Arts 8 Advanced | 23.0130040  TAG eligible 23.2130040 |
| Language Arts 7 Advanced | Semester 1 Average < 80% | Language Arts 8 On-level | 23.0130000 |
| Semester 1 Average ≥ 80% | Language Arts 8 Advanced | 23.0130040  TAG eligible 23.2130040 |
| Language Arts 8 On-Level  (7th grade Accelerated Students) | Anticipated promotion to Grade 8 | 9th Grade Lit/Comp | 23.0610000 |
| Students will only be considered for 9th Grade Lit/Comp Honors in May through the Final Placement Guidelines. | 9th Grade Lit/Comp Honors | 23.0610040  TAG Eligible 23.2610040 |
| Language Arts 8 Advanced  (7th grade Accelerated Students) | Anticipated promotion to Grade 8 | 9th Grade Lit/Comp | 23.0610000 |
| Students will only be considered for 9th Grade Lit/Comp Honors in May through the Final Placement Guidelines. | 9th Grade Lit/Comp Honors | 23.0610040  TAG Eligible 23.2610040 |

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| **Middle School Reading and World Language Initial Placement Guidelines for 2023-2024 School Year** | | | | |
| **Current Grade Level** | **Student's Current Course** | **Student's Current Performance** | **Next Year Placement** | **Course Number** |
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| Grade 7 | Reading 7 | i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR **OR** ELA Unit Assessment Average < 70% | Reading 8 | 23.0160000  Remedial 23.1160000 |
| i-Ready ≥ 35%ile Mid-Year NPR **AND** ELA Unit Assessment Average ≥ 70% **AND** Grade 6 Reading Teacher Recommendation | Grade 8 No Credit World Language  **OR**  Reading 8 Advanced | French - 60.0090000  Japanese - 62.0290000  Spanish - 60.0690000  Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008  **OR** 23.0160040 |
| Grade 7 Beginning or Continuous WL Course | Semester 1 Average < 70% | Grade 8 No Credit World Language  **OR**  Reading 8 Advanced | French - 60.0090000  Japanese - 62.0290000  Spanish - 60.0690000  Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008  **OR** 23.0160040 |
| Grade 7 Beginning WL Course | Semester 1 Average ≥ 70% | Level 1 Beginning WL Course | French - 60.0110000  Japanese - 62.0310000  Spanish - 60.0710000  Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0790000 |
| Grade 7 Continuous WL Course | Semester 1 Average ≥ 70% | Level 1 Continuous WL Course | French - 60.0110009  Japanese - 62.0310009  Latin - 61.0390009  Spanish - 60.0710009  Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0790000 |
| Not Currently Enrolled in Reading 7 or Grade 7 World Language (as a Core Course) | i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR **OR** Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 6 | Reading 8 | 23.0160000  Remedial 23.1160000 |
| At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 6 | Grade 8 No Credit World Language | French - 60.0090000  Japanese - 62.0290000  Latin - 61.0390000  Spanish - 60.0690000  Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008 |

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| **Middle School Science Initial Placement Guidelines for 2024-2025 School Year** | | | | | |
| **Current Grade Level** | **Student's Current Course** | **Student's Current Performance** | **Next Year Placement** | **Course Number** | |
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| Grade 7 | Life Science | Anticipated promotion to Grade 8 | Science of the Physical World | 40.0170000 | |
| Semester 1 Average ≥ 90% **AND** teacher recommendation (Life Science teacher) **AND** Semester 1 Average ≥ 80% in Math | Advanced Science of the Physical World | 40.0170040 | |
| TAG eligible **AND** Semester 1 Average ≥ 90% **AND** teacher recommendation (Life Science teacher) **AND** Semester 1 Average ≥ 80% in Math  \* See TAG Procedures Manual for alternative placement guidelines  \* Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. | TAG Science of the Physical World | TAG Eligible 40.2170000 | |
| Semester 1 Average ≥ 80% **AND** recommended for Enhanced Algebra H or Algebra: Concepts and Connections H | Physical Science Honors (High School Course) | 40.01100H1/40.01100H2  TAG Eligible 40.21100H1/40.21100H2 | |
| Advanced Life Science | Semester 1 Average ≥ 80% | Advanced Science of the physical world | 40.0170040 | |
| Semester 1 Average ≥ 80% **AND** recommended for Enhanced Algebra H or Algebra: Concepts and Connections H | Physical Science Honors (High School Course) | 40.01100H1/40.01100H2 | |
| TAG Life Science | TAG eligible **AND** Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%  \* \* See TAG Procedures Manual for required intervention and probation procedures before placing in on level  \* Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. | TAG Science of the Physical World | TAG Eligible 40.2170000 | |
| TAG eligible **AND** Semester 1 Average ≥ 80% **AND** recommended for Enhanced Algebra H or Algebra: Concepts and Connections H  \* \* See TAG Procedures Manual for required intervention and probation procedures before placing in on level  \* Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. | Physical Science Honors (High School Course) | TAG Eligible 40.21100H1/40.21100H2 | |
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| **Middle School Social Studies Initial Placement Guidelines for 2024-2025 School Year** | | | | |
| **Current Grade Level** | **Student's Current Course** | **Student's Current Performance** | **Next Year Placement** | **Course Number** |
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| Grade 7 | Social Studies 7 | Anticipated promotion to Grade 8 | Georgia Studies 8 | 45.0090000 |
| Semester 1 Average > 90% **AND** Teacher Recommendation (7th Social Studies Teacher)  Reading at or above grade level | Advanced Georgia Studies | 45.0090040 |
| Eligible for TAG **AND** Semester 1 Average > 90% **AND** Teacher Recommendation (7th Social Studies Teacher)  \* See TAG Procedures Manual for alternate placement guidelines  \* Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. | TAG Georgia Studies 8 | TAG Eligible 45.2090000 |
| Advanced Social Studies | Semester 1 Average > 80% | Advanced Georgia Studies | 45.0090040 |
| TAG or Mixed Model  Social Studies 7 | Eligible for TAG **AND** Semester 1 Average > 80%  \* See TAG Procedures Manual for required intervention and probation procedures before placing in on level  \* Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. | TAG Georgia Studies 8 | TAG Eligible 45.2090000 |