

Advanced Academics
Pearland ISD



The Gifted & Talented Academy

at Leon Sablatura and Pearland Junior High West

Purpose

The Gifted and Talented Academy (GTA) provides engaging, differentiated learning opportunities and challenges for students identified as gifted and talented in Pearland ISD.

Program Mission

The Gifted and Talented Academy will implement an instructional program designed to provide challenging learning opportunities in an environment modified for gifted and talented learners. The focus of the Academy is to place an emphasis on the development of the unique academic, social and emotional needs of our students through critical and creative thinking experiences.

Our practices guide the development and application of advanced knowledge and skills in preparing learners to achieve their highest potential.

Current Cohorts – 2023-2024

Students currently enrolled at the GTA in grades 5-8 for the 2023-2024 academic year will continue to matriculate through the program following the previously established criteria. This includes annually completing an Intent to Return Form and other established procedures and deadlines pertaining to HGM and out-of-district enrollment.

Incoming 5th Grade Cohort for 2024-2025 and Beyond Timeline

Due to overwhelming interest, Pearland ISD has made the decision to limit GTA enrollment beginning with the incoming 5th grade cohort for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Process for Admission:

All GT identified students wishing to attend the GTA will submit a GTA Interest Form between October 1-27 and enter a 150-seat lottery. (**Students must indicate interest in Highly Gifted Math on their GTA Interest Form to be eligible for HGM testing*). Once the 150-seat lottery is complete, students receiving admission will be contacted to participate in HGM testing. HGM testing will be limited to students receiving admission. Any student that expressed interest but did not receive admission will be placed on an Academy waitlist. If spots open for any reason, the waitlist will be utilized to populate openings.

GTA for 2024-2025 and Beyond - Continuing Cohorts

Starting in January 2025, GTA students will complete an annual Intent to Return Form sent through Skyward in January. Students from the waitlist may also complete an annual GTA Interest Form to remain on the waitlist for upcoming years if they wish to be eligible for spots that may come open in subsequent years.

If an identified student transfers into PISD after the October Interest period, or if current PISD students are identified after 4th grade and wish to express interest in attending the Academy, they will need to submit a GTA Interest Form the following school year and be added to the waitlist for that cohort.