

## Glossary of Terms Related to High Ability Programs

**Accelerated Learning** - Pacing students through the curriculum at a rate appropriate to their advanced ability. Students may or may not be formally identified as high ability to participate in some forms of accelerated learning.

**Advance College Project (ACP)** – An Indiana University dual credit program. See Dual Credit below.

**Advanced Placement** - Any of over 30 courses endorsed by the College Board in which a secondary student can earn college credit by successfully meeting criteria established by higher education institutions on a nationally given and scored Advanced Placement examination. Students also earn high school credit upon successful completion of the course(s).

**Bridges** – Noblesville Schools' name for its high ability program in grades 6 – 8.

**Cluster Grouping** – Grouping of several high ability students in a regular classroom with students from a variety of ability or achievement levels.

**Differentiation** - Adapting the curriculum to meet the unique needs of learners by making modifications in complexity, depth, and pacing. It may include selecting, rather than covering all, the curriculum areas dependent on the individual needs of students. In Indiana Administrative Code, "Differentiated" means providing tiered levels of services for all educational needs.

**Domain** - As used in Indiana Code, "domain" includes the following areas of aptitude and talent, general intellectual, general creative, specific academic, technical and practical arts, visual and performing arts, and interpersonal.

**Dual Credit** - Students earn both high school and college credit while enrolled in a course.

**Early Entrance** - Students begin their elementary school or college education prior to the designated chronological age of entrance.

**Enrichment** - Activities that supplement the core curriculum. Such activities are generally not specified in the curriculum and are selected by the teacher and/or students in a given classroom.

**FOCUS** – Noblesville Schools' name for its high ability program in grades 3 – 5.

**Flexible Grouping** - Grouping students by ability or readiness level. Groups can be formed and reformed to meet varied instructional purposes. Ability grouping is not synonymous with "tracking."

**Flexible Cluster Grouping** - Grouping of several high ability students in a classroom. The makeup of the remainder of the class is dependent on the percentage of high ability students in the room. If <50% of the class is high ability, the remainder of the class comprises students of average, low average, or low ability or achievement. If >50% of the class is high ability, the remainder of the class comprises students of average or high average ability or achievement.

**Grade Skipping** - Students progress through grade level instruction skipping one or more grades.

**Heterogeneous/Homogeneous Grouping** - Grouping heterogeneously generally occurs by chronological age level and without regard for the diverse needs of students, their learning styles, or their interest. Homogeneous grouping is based on common criteria such as the students' interests, special needs, or academic abilities.

**High Ability Student** - In Indiana Code "high ability student" means a student who performs at, or shows the potential for performing at, an outstanding level of accomplishment in at least one (1) domain when compared to other students of the same age, experience, or environment, and is characterized by exceptional gifts, talents, motivation, or interests. (Indiana Code 20-36-1-3)

**Nomination** - A referral process for consideration of a student into a specialized program.

**Off-Grade Level Tests** - A test one or more grade, or age, level(s) above the student's actual grade placement or age used to assess a student's ability or achievement.

**Program for High Ability Students** - According to Indiana Administrative Code, "Program" means educational services differentiated in depth and breadth designed to meet the needs of one (1) or more high ability students through activities, such as compacting, acceleration, enrichment, problem solving, and creative thinking.

**Push-in Student** – A student who nearly qualified for high ability identification. The student’s instructional reading or writing level may be above the grade-level benchmark. Push-in students are sometimes included in high ability instruction.

**Self-Contained Classroom** - A programmatic term defining a homogeneous setting of students with common needs and/or abilities. The class can include multiple grades or ages.

Adapted in part from the Indiana Association for the Gifted (IAG) *Resource Guide for Indiana Parents and Teachers, 2nd Edition*

### Related Books

**Genius Denied, Jan and Bob Davidson**

**Gifted Kids Survival Guide for Ages 10 and Under, July Galbraith**

**Helping Gifted Children Soar, Carol A. Strip**

**Light Up Your Child’s Mind, Sally Reis and Joseph Renzulli**

**Parenting Gifted Kids, James R. Delisle**

**The Survival Guide for Parents of Gifted Kids, Sally Yahnke Walker**

### Related Websites

Ball State Center for Gifted Studies and Talent Development <a href="http://www.cms.bsu.edu/academics/centersandinstitutes/giftedstudies/families">www.cms.bsu.edu/academics/centersandinstitutes/giftedstudies/families</a>	National Society for the Gifted and Talented <a href="http://www.nsgt.org">www.nsgt.org</a>
Indiana Association for the Gifted <a href="http://www.iag-online.org">www.iag-online.org</a>	Noblesville Schools <a href="http://www.noblesvilleschols.org">www.noblesvilleschols.org</a>
Indiana Department of Education Office of High Ability Education <a href="http://www.doe.in.gov/highability">www.doe.in.gov/highability</a>	Northwestern Center for Talent Development <a href="http://www.ctd.northwestern.edu">www.ctd.northwestern.edu</a>
Mensa <a href="http://www.mensa.org">www.mensa.org</a>	Hoagies’ Gifted Education Page <a href="http://www.hoagiesgifted.org">www.hoagiesgifted.org</a>
National Association for Gifted Children <a href="http://www.nagc.org">www.nagc.org</a>	Purdue Gifted Education Resource Institute <a href="http://www.geri.purdue.edu">www.geri.purdue.edu</a>
Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted <a href="http://www.sengifted.org">www.sengifted.org</a>	Davidson Institute for Talent Development <a href="http://www.davidsongifted.org/">http://www.davidsongifted.org/</a>

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