

ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)



AVID's mission is to close the opportunity gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society.

WHAT IS AVID?

- AVID is a select group of students in grades 7-12 at all of our Keller ISD middle and high schools. The AVID Elective class targets students in the academic middle, who have the desire to go to college and are capable of completing a rigorous curriculum using the will to work hard. The AVID Elective is driven by the WICOR method, which stands for writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading. AVID WICOR strategies are also used in content-area classes (English language arts, math, science, and social studies).

Who is an AVID student?

Students who have the desire and determination to attend a four-year college and:

- Willingness to undertake demanding preparation for college
- No disciplinary incidents
- Have between a 2.0 and 3.5-grade point average
- Have a good attendance record
- In addition to the above also meets the selection criteria of the Campus AVID Site Team

Expectations

The AVID program requires hard work and perseverance and is effective only if participation is voluntary. Students must be committed to:

- Enroll in AVID as an elective class
- Enroll in a rigorous course of study to include Pre-AP, Dual, or Advanced Placement courses
- Study at least one to two hours a day and complete all assignments
- Maintain organization through an AVID binder or electronic means that includes class notes, study material, assignments, and completed work
- Participate in AVID tutorial groups
- Assist teachers and students in maintaining a positive learning environment
- Participate in AVID field trips and activities
- Take the PSAT and SAT or ACT in high school
- Apply for scholarships and/or financial aid in the senior year
- Consistently planning and preparing for college admissions
- Developing leadership skills
- Developing success strategies and study skills for lifelong learning

What are AVID tutorials?

One of the pillars of the AVID program is the tutorial groups where students are supported in their rigorous coursework through the help of college-level tutors. It is not a place where students do homework or have others review class content if they were absent or not paying attention. Students should be prepared with their notes, completed or partially completed homework, and completed Tutorial Request Forms. The goals of a tutorial are:

1. To teach students the skills needed to work collaboratively to solve problems.
2. To empower students to answer their own questions by posing questions, which helps students to think more deeply about what they are learning.
3. To guide students in high-level discussions as a means of developing vocabulary, enhancing discussion skills, and fostering thought processes that enable students to succeed in their classes.
4. To reinforce writing skills through a review of notes, learning logs, essays, etc.

What role do AVID families play in AVID?

The involvement of family is a priority in AVID. AVID families want their children to succeed and are an integral part of the learning team. As part of admission into the AVID program, families are informed of the rigorous AVID curriculum and are required to sign a document of commitment to support their students. Family members are kept informed about program events and expectations through newsletters, telephone calls, and parent meetings. Family meetings help build a strong adult peer group through which families can encourage one another, share information, and become more involved in the overall school program.

AVID COURSE LIST

- **AVID I**
TEDS: N1290001
KISD: 5762
Credit: 1
Grade: 9-12
Required prerequisite: Application process
Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) is an academic elective course that prepares students for college readiness and success. Each week, students receive instruction that utilizes a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum provided by AVID Center, tutor-facilitated study groups, motivational activities, and academic success skills. In AVID, students participate in activities that incorporate strategies focused on writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading to support their academic growth. Additionally, students engage in activities centered around exploring college and career opportunities and their own agency.
- **AVID II**
TEDS: N1290002
KISD: 5763
Credit: 1
Grade: 10-12
Required prerequisite: Application process
During the 10th grade AVID elective course, students will refine the AVID strategies to meet their independent needs and learning styles. Students will continue to refine and adjust their academic learning plans and goals, increasing awareness of their actions and behaviors. As students increase their rigorous course load and school/community involvement, they will refine their time-management and study skills accordingly. Students will expand their writing portfolio to include analyzing prompts, supporting arguments and claims, character analysis, and detailed reflections. Students will also analyze various documents in order to participate in collaborative discussions and develop leadership skills in those settings. Students will expand their vocabulary use, continuing to prepare for college entrance exams. Text analysis will focus on specific strategies to understand complex texts. Lastly, students will narrow down their colleges and careers of interest based on their personal interests and goals. *This course will count as a student's 21st century skill requirement for graduation.*
- **AVID III**
TEDS: N1290030
KISD: 5764
Credit: 1
Grade: 11-12
Required prerequisite: Previous enrollment in AVID elective class prior to grade 11 for at least 1 year; enrollment in at least one advanced, AP, or dual credit course in the 11th grade.
- The 11th grade AVID Elective course is the first part in a junior/senior seminar course that focuses on writing and critical thinking expected of first- and second-year

college students. In addition to the academic focus of the AVID seminar, there are college-bound activities, methodologies, and tasks that should be undertaken during the junior year to support students when they apply to four-year universities and confirm their postsecondary plans.

- **AVID IV**

TEDS: N1290033

KISD: 5766

Credit: 1

Grade: 12

Required prerequisite: 2 years of previous AVID courses; enrollment in at least one advanced, AP, or dual credit course in the 12th grade.

The 12th grade AVID elective course is the second part in a junior/senior seminar course that focuses on the writing and critical thinking expected of first- and second-year college students. Students will complete a final research essay project with research skills gained in their junior year in AVID. In addition to the academic focus of the AVID senior seminar, there are college-bound activities, methodologies, and tasks that should be achieved during the senior year that support students as they apply to four-year universities and confirm their postsecondary plans. All AVID seniors are required to develop and present a portfolio representing their years of work in the AVID program, as well as complete the requirements for the seminar course.