

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 Academy's focus is to emphasize 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 – 2024-2025

Students enrolled at the GTA in grades 6-8 for the 2024-2025 academic year will continue to matriculate through the program following the established criteria. This includes annually completing an Intent to Return Form and other established procedures and deadlines pertaining to the 8th Grade Geometry Pathway and out-of-district enrollment.

Incoming Cohorts for 2024-2025 and Beyond Timeline

Starting with the 2024-2025 incoming classes, enrollment for the Gifted and Talented Academy is capped at 150 students per grade level. This adjustment is designed to maintain the high quality of education and personalized attention that has become a hallmark of our program. This shift will allow us to continue providing an exceptional learning environment and ensure every student receives the support and resources they need to thrive.

Process for Admission:

All GT identified students wishing to attend the GTA will submit a GTA Interest Form between October 1-25 and enter a 150-seat lottery. (**Students must indicate interest in the 8th Grade Geometry Pathway on their GTA Interest Form to be eligible for GP testing*). Once the 150-seat lottery is complete, students receiving admission will be contacted to participate in GP testing. GP 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 2025-2026 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.