

Highly Capable Identification and Assessment Communication- 2024-2025

Family/Caregivers: Referral and Universal Screening Information

Dear K-8 Families/Caregivers,

We are pleased to share the upcoming timeline and details for the Highly Capable referral and identification process during the 2024-2025 school year, to begin services in Fall 2025. This process is essential in ensuring that we identify and support students who would benefit from highly capable learning opportunities.

Please note: The K-8 Highly Capable Program Review Committee, launched in Fall 2023, has made recommendations that the district is currently reviewing as part of an ongoing evaluation of LWSD services. As the committee's work progresses, we remain committed to providing a timely identification and assessment process for our families. The identification process and service models will be aligned with these recommendations, and we will share updates with our community as they are finalized.

Referral and Universal Screening Timeline

- **December 2–15, 2024:** Referral window for Grades K, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and Opt-out window for Universal Screening years of Grades 2, 5 opens in Skyward.
- **January–March 2025:** Universal Screening for Grades 2 and 5. CogAT assessment for all referred students in non-universal screening years (K, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8) and Middle School students.

Skyward Opt-in/Opt-out Process

Starting December 2 at 12:01 a.m., log into Skyward to complete the following:

- **Referral Years (K, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8):** Opt-in and provide permission to place. Individual forms for each student should be completed to opt them into review/potential assessment.

[Highly Capable Identification - Directions for Skyward Referrals - Grades K, 1,3,4,6,7,8 ONLY.pdf](#)

- **Universal Screening Years (Grades 2, 5):** Students must be opted out if they are not to participate in assessment. We encourage families to check their child's account to confirm permission to place.

[Highly Capable Identification - Directions for Skyward Universal Screening Grades 2 and 5 ONLY.pdf](#)

- **Form submissions are considered complete only after clicking "Submit."** You will receive a confirmation message.

Note: Permission to place is a one-time action that can be changed later by contacting AccPro@lwsd.org.

Private and Homeschool Students

Private and homeschool families can participate in the referral process with the following details:

- \$75 fee for assessments, staffing, and processing.
- Referral forms must be completed by **December 15, 2024** - [Referral/Appeal/Portfolio Process - Lake Washington School District](#) (please note that forms will open on December 2, 2024)
- Data submissions for each student's comprehensive portfolio review will be accepted from **December 2–22, 2024**. Email information to AccPro@lwsd.org.
- Specific assessment windows for private and homeschool students will be shared by the end of January 2025.

Assessment Details

- **Universal Screening (Grades 2 and 5)**: Administered in classrooms, supported by K5HC teachers. Full CogAT assessment (1.5 hours) includes Non-Verbal, Verbal, and Quantitative sections.
- **Referral Years (K, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8)**: Students begin with a screening, and if further evaluation is needed, CogAT subtests may be administered.

Due to the magnitude of assessments being administered, as well as the staffing and flexibility in scheduling required, Accelerated Programs will not be able to provide specific assessment dates to families in advance. To support your child, please ensure they are well-rested and have a nutritious breakfast during testing windows.

We appreciate your partnership and patience as we finalize this important work to support highly capable students. Updated information will be shared through district communications as it becomes available.

Regards,

Accelerated Programs Department
Lake Washington School District