

Placement Guidelines for 2025-2026 Course Recommendations for Core Content Areas in Grades 6-12

In January, teachers of pre-requisite courses are responsible for making appropriate course recommendations for the next school year based on current and past performance. In making recommendations, teachers are encouraged to consider student interests, overall course load, and the district placement guidelines. Schools are encouraged to review and share data with students and parents regarding data points and student behaviors that indicate overall student success in advanced courses. In considering student interests and overall course load, teachers may or may not recommend a student for an advanced, honors, or Advanced Placement course; however, a student who meets the criteria outlined in the district placement guidelines should not be prevented from taking the course.

In determining placement for students who fall short of the criteria, overall aptitude demonstrated by the preponderance of evidence from past performance and teacher feedback should be considered, always bearing in mind what is in the best interests of the student. Parents may sign a waiver for placement in an advanced, honors, or Advanced Placement course if a student does not meet the district placement guidelines. Parents should not be asked to sign a waiver if a student meets the district placement guidelines but is not recommended by the teacher.

Please note that the placement guidelines do not include guidance for acceleration in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Acceleration requires skipping curriculum, and the decision should be guided by the Continuous Achievement 36 Week Review Process in May.

Waivers are not available for middle school TAG classes as additional state funding is collected for TAG students enrolled in these courses. Alternative placement criteria are applied by the TAG teacher to determine if an additional TAG class is appropriate for a TAG student.

For assistance in using the guidelines, please contact the appropriate Learning and Teaching content specialist:

- K-5 English Language Arts: Kerri-Ann Williams (williamsk6@fultonschools.org)
- 6-12 English Language Arts: Kelley Webb (webbk@fultonschools.org)
- Mathematics: Susan Baker (bakers1@fultonschools.org)
- Science: Steven Moody (moodys@fultonschools.org)
- Social Studies: Crystal Flowers (flowersc1@fultonschools.org)
- World Language: Jamie Patterson (patterson@fultonschools.org)
- Talented and Gifted: Jessica Sevin (sevin@fultonschools.org)

Middle School Placement Guidelines 2025-2026

Mathematics				
Current Grade Level	Student's Current Course	Student's Current Performance	Next Year Placement	Course Number
Grade 5	Math 5	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Math 6	27.0210000
		Students will only be considered for Math 6 Advanced in May through the continuous achievement process.	Math 6 Advanced	27.0210040
	Math 5 Advanced	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Math 6	27.0210000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Math 6 Advanced	27.0210040 TAG eligible 27.2210040
		Students will only be considered for Math 7 in May through the continuous achievement process.	Math 7	27.0220000 TAG eligible 27.2220000
Math 6 (Grade 5 Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Math 7	27.0220000 TAG eligible 27.2220000	
Grade 6	Math 6	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Math 7	27.0220000
		Students will only be considered for Math 7 Advanced in May through the continuous achievement process.	Math 7 Advanced	27.0220040 TAG eligible 27.2220040
	Math 6 Advanced	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Math 7	27.0220000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Math 7 Advanced	27.0220040 TAG eligible 27.2220040
		Students will only be considered for Math 8 in May through the continuous achievement process.	Math 8	27.0230000 TAG eligible 27.2230000
	Math 7 (Grade 6 Accelerated Students)	Semester 1 Average < 90% OR ≥ 90% and Not Interested in Double Acceleration	Math 8	27.0230000 TAG eligible 27.2230000
		Math 7.1 Average ≥ 90% AND Student Interest	Enhanced Algebra H	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
Grade 7	Math 7	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	Math 8	27.0230000
		Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Algebra H following a parent/teacher conference.	Enhanced Algebra H	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
	Math 7 Advanced	Semester 1 Average < 90% OR ≥ 90% and Not Interested in Acceleration	Math 8	27.0230000
		Semester 1 Average < 90% Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Algebra H following a parent/teacher conference.	Enhanced Algebra H	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 90% AND Student Interest	Enhanced Algebra H	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
	Math 8 (Grade 7 accelerated students)	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Enhanced Algebra H	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Algebra: Concepts & Connections H	27.08110H1/27.08110H2 TAG eligible 27.28110H1/27.28110H2

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English/Language Arts (ELA)				
Current Grade Level	Student's Current Course	Student's Current Performance	Next Year Placement	Course Number
Grade 5	Language Arts 5	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Language Arts 6	23.0110000
		Students will only be considered for Language Arts 6 Advanced in May through the continuous achievement process.	Language Arts 6 Advanced	23.0110040 TAG Eligible 23.2110040
	Language Arts 5 Advanced	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Language Arts 6	23.0110000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Language Arts 6 Advanced	23.0110040 TAG Eligible 23.2110040
	Language Arts 6 (Grade 5 Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Language Arts 7	23.0120000 TAG eligible 23.2120000
Grade 6	Language Arts 6	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Language Arts 7	23.0120000
		Students will only be considered for Language Arts 7 Advanced in May through the continuous achievement process.	Language Arts 7 Advanced	23.0120040 TAG eligible 23.2120040
	Language Arts 6 Advanced	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Language Arts 7	23.0120000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Language Arts 7 Advanced	23.0120040 TAG eligible 23.2120040
	Language Arts 7 (Grade 6 Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Language Arts 8	23.0130000 TAG eligible 23.2130000
Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Literature & Composition I following a parent/teacher conference. The texts in Enhanced Literature & Composition I may include content that is considered mature for a younger student.		Enhanced Literature & Composition I H	23.06140H1/23.06140H2 TAG Eligible 23.26140H1/23.26140H2	
Grade 7	Language Arts 7	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	Language Arts 8	23.0130000
		Students will only be considered for Language Arts 8 Advanced in May through the continuous achievement process.	Language Arts 8 Advanced	23.0130040 TAG eligible 23.2130040
		Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Literature & Composition I H following a parent/teacher conference. The texts in Enhanced Literature & Composition I H may include content that is considered mature for a younger student.	Enhanced Literature & Composition I H	23.06140H1/23.06140H2 TAG Eligible 23.26140H1/23.26140H2
	Language Arts 7 Advanced	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Language Arts 8	23.0130000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Language Arts 8 Advanced	23.0130040 TAG eligible 23.2130040
		Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Literature & Composition I H following a parent/teacher conference. The texts in Enhanced Literature & Composition I H may include content that is considered mature for a younger student.	Enhanced Literature & Composition I H	23.06140H1/23.06140H2 TAG Eligible 23.26140H1/23.26140H2
Language Arts 8 (7 th grade Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	Literature & Composition I H	23.06160H1/23.06160H2 TAG Eligible 23.26160H1/23.26160H2	

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Reading and World Language				
Current Grade Level	Student's Current Course	Student's Current Performance	Next Year Placement	Course Number
Grade 5	Reading 5 On-Level	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR OR Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 4	Reading 6	23.0140000 Remedial 23.1140000
		At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 4 AND Grade 5 Reading teacher recommendation	Grade 6 World Language Course	French - 60.0070000 Japanese - 62.0270000 Spanish - 60.0670000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0670008
	Reading 5 Advanced	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR OR Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 4	Reading 6	23.0140000 Remedial 23.1140000
		At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 4 AND Grade 5 Reading teacher recommendation	Grade 6 World Language Course	French - 60.0070000 Japanese - 62.0270000 Spanish - 60.0670000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0670008
	Reading 6 Accelerated	At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 4 AND Grade 5 Reading teacher recommendation	Grade 6 World Language Course	French - 60.0070000 Japanese - 62.0270000 Spanish - 60.0670000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0670008
Grade 6	Reading 6	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR OR ELA Unit Assessment Average < 70%	Reading 7	23.0150000 Remedial 23.1150000
		i-Ready ≥ 35%ile Mid-Year NPR AND ELA Unit Assessment Average ≥ 70% AND Grade 6 Reading Teacher Recommendation	Grade 7 Beginning World Language Course	French - 60.0080000 Japanese - 62.0280000 Spanish - 60.0680000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0680008
	Grade 6 World Language	Semester 1 Average < 70%	Grade 7 Beginning World Language Course OR Reading 7 Advanced	French - 60.0080000 Japanese - 62.0280000 Spanish - 60.0680000 Spanish for Native Speakers - 60.0680008 OR 23.0150040
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 70%	Grade 7 Continuous WL Course	French - 60.0080009 Japanese - 62.0280009 Spanish - 60.0680009 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0680008
		i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR OR Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 5	Reading 7	23.0150000 Remedial 23.1150000

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	Not Currently Enrolled in Reading 6 or Grade 6 World Language (as a core course)	At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 5	Grade 7 Beginning World Language Course	French - 60.0080000 Japanese - 62.0280000 Spanish - 60.0680000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0680008
Grade 7	Reading 7	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR OR ELA Unit Assessment Average < 70%	Reading 8	23.0160000 Remedial 23.1160000
		i-Ready ≥ 35%ile Mid-Year NPR AND ELA Unit Assessment Average ≥ 70% AND Grade 6 Reading Teacher Recommendation	Grade 8 No Credit World Language OR Reading 8 Advanced	French - 60.0090000 Japanese - 62.0290000 Spanish - 60.0690000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008 OR 23.0160040
	Grade 7 Beginning or Continuous WL Course	Semester 1 Average < 70%	Grade 8 No Credit World Language OR Reading 8 Advanced	French - 60.0090000 Japanese - 62.0290000 Spanish - 60.0690000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008 OR 23.0160040
	Grade 7 Beginning or Continuous WL Course	Semester 1 Average ≥ 70%	Level 1 WL Course	French - 60.0110000 Japanese - 62.0310000 Spanish - 60.0710000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0790000
	Not Currently Enrolled in Reading 7 or Grade 7 World Language (as a Core Course)	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR OR Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 6	Reading 8	23.0160000 Remedial 23.1160000
		At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 6	Grade 8 No Credit World Language	French - 60.0090000 Japanese - 62.0290000 Spanish - 60.0690000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008

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Science				
Current Grade Level	Student's Current Course	Student's Current Performance	Next Year Placement	Course Number
Grade 5	Science 5	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6 * See TAG Procedures Manual for alternate placement guidelines	Earth Science	40.0610000
		TAG eligible AND Semester 1 Average \geq 90% AND Science Unit Assessment Average \geq 90% AND Teacher Recommendation (5 th grade Science Teacher) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At/Above grade level in reading on I-Ready winter diagnostic * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. 	Advanced Science/TAG Earth Science	Tag Eligible 40.2610000
Grade 6	Earth Science	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Life Science	26.0110000
		TAG eligible AND Semester 1 Average \geq 90% AND Teacher Recommendation (Earth Science teacher) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At/Above grade level in reading on I-Ready winter diagnostic See TAG Procedures Manual for alternative placement guidelines * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. 	Advanced Science/TAG Life Science	TAG Eligible 26.2110000
	TAG Earth Science	TAG eligible AND Semester 1 Average \geq 80% * See TAG Procedures Manual for probation procedures before placing in on level * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students.	TAG Life Science	TAG Eligible 26.2110000
Grade 7	Life Science	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	Science of the Physical World	40.0170000
		TAG eligible AND Semester 1 Average \geq 90% AND Teacher Recommendation (Life Science teacher) AND Semester 1 Average \geq 80% in Math <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At/Above grade level in reading on I-Ready winter diagnostic See TAG Procedures Manual for alternative placement guidelines * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. 	Advanced/TAG Science of the Physical World	TAG Eligible 40.2170000
		Semester 1 Average \geq 80% AND recommended for Enhanced Algebra H or Algebra: Concepts and Connections H	Physical Science Honors (High School Course)	40.01100H1/40.01100H2 TAG Eligible 40.21100H1/40.21100H2
	TAG Life Science	TAG eligible AND Semester 1 Average \geq 80% * * See TAG Procedures Manual for required intervention and probation procedures before placing in on level * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students.	TAG Science of the Physical World	TAG Eligible 40.2170000
		TAG eligible AND Semester 1 Average \geq 80% AND recommended for Enhanced Algebra H or Algebra: Concepts and Connections H * * See TAG Procedures Manual for required intervention and probation procedures before placing in on level * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students.	Physical Science Honors (High School Course)	TAG Eligible 40.21100H1/40.21100H2

Social Studies				
Current Grade Level	Student's Current Course	Student's Current Performance	Next Year Placement	Course Number
Grade 5	Social Studies 5	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6 • See TAG Procedures Manual for alternate placement guidelines	Social Studies 6	45.0070000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible for TAG AND Semester 1 Average $\geq 90\%$ AND i-Ready Comprehension of Informational Text at "late 5th" during the December Administration AND Teacher Recommendation At/Above grade level in reading on I-Ready winter diagnostic See TAG Procedures Manual for alternate placement guidelines * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. 	Advanced/TAG Social Studies 6	TAG Eligible 45.2070000
Grade 6	Social Studies 6	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Social Studies 7	45.0080000
		Eligible for TAG AND Semester 1 Average $\geq 90\%$ AND Teacher Recommendation (6 th Social Studies Teacher) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At/Above grade level in reading on I-Ready winter diagnostic See TAG Procedures Manual for alternate placement guidelines * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. 	Advanced/TAG Social Studies 7	TAG Eligible 45.2080000
	TAG or Mixed Model Social Studies 6	TAG eligible AND Semester 1 Average $\geq 80\%$ * See TAG Procedures Manual for required intervention and probation procedures before placing in on level * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students.	TAG Social Studies 7	TAG Eligible 45.2080000
Grade 7	Social Studies 7	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	Georgia Studies 8	45.0090000
		Eligible for TAG AND Semester 1 Average $\geq 90\%$ AND Teacher Recommendation (7 th Social Studies Teacher) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * See TAG Procedures Manual for alternate placement guidelines * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students. 	TAG Georgia Studies 8	TAG Eligible 45.2090000
	TAG or Mixed Model Social Studies 7	Eligible for TAG AND Semester 1 Average $\geq 80\%$ * See TAG Procedures Manual for required intervention and probation procedures before placing in on level * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students.	TAG Georgia Studies 8	TAG Eligible 45.2090000