



Los Angeles Unified School District
Gifted/Talented Programs
Advanced Learning Options
Office of Special Education and Specialized
Programs

Gifted and Talented Education 101

Frequently Asked
Questions and
Answers

Gifted/ Talented Programs Contact Emails

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Gifted/ Talented Programs Advanced Learning Options

Office Phone
(213) 241-6500

General Inquiry Email
GATE@lausd.net

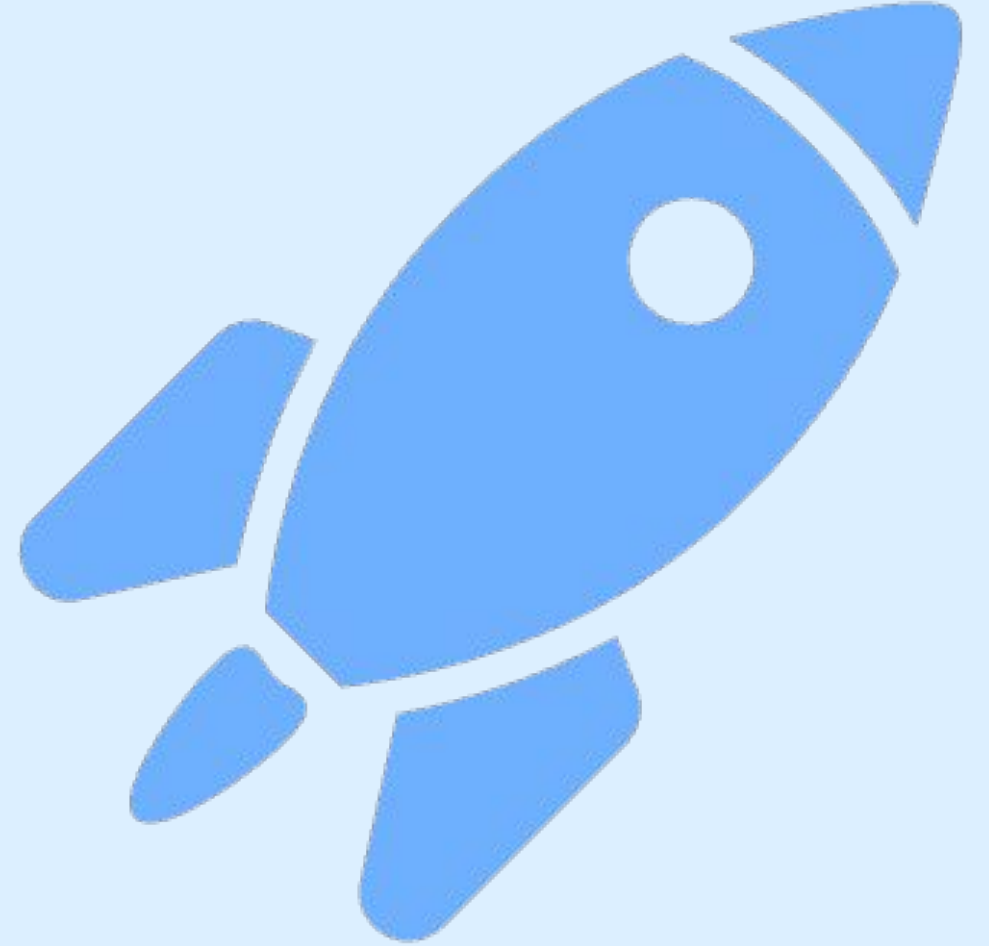
Website
gate.lausd.org

Address
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 25th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Objectives

- Families will gain a deeper understanding of gifted and talented education (GATE) within LAUSD, GATE identification, and GATE program options.
- Families will get the answers to the most frequently asked questions.

**Let's Get
started!**



What are the areas of Gifted/Talented Identification?

Gifted/Talented Programs
identifies students in seven
categories.

Categories of Identification

Intellectual Ability (Second semester kindergarten and above)

Students whose general intellectual development is markedly advanced in relation to their chronological peers; evidenced by District psychological testing (testing may begin as early as second semester of kindergarten)

High Achievement Ability (Second grade - OLSAT only and fifth grade and above)

Students who identify based on the OLSAT-8 in second grade; Students who consistently function for two consecutive years at highly advanced levels in English-language arts and mathematics; evidenced by test scores/grades)

Specific Academic Ability (Fifth grade and above)

Students who consistently function for three consecutive years at highly advanced levels in either English-language arts or mathematics; evidenced by test scores/grades

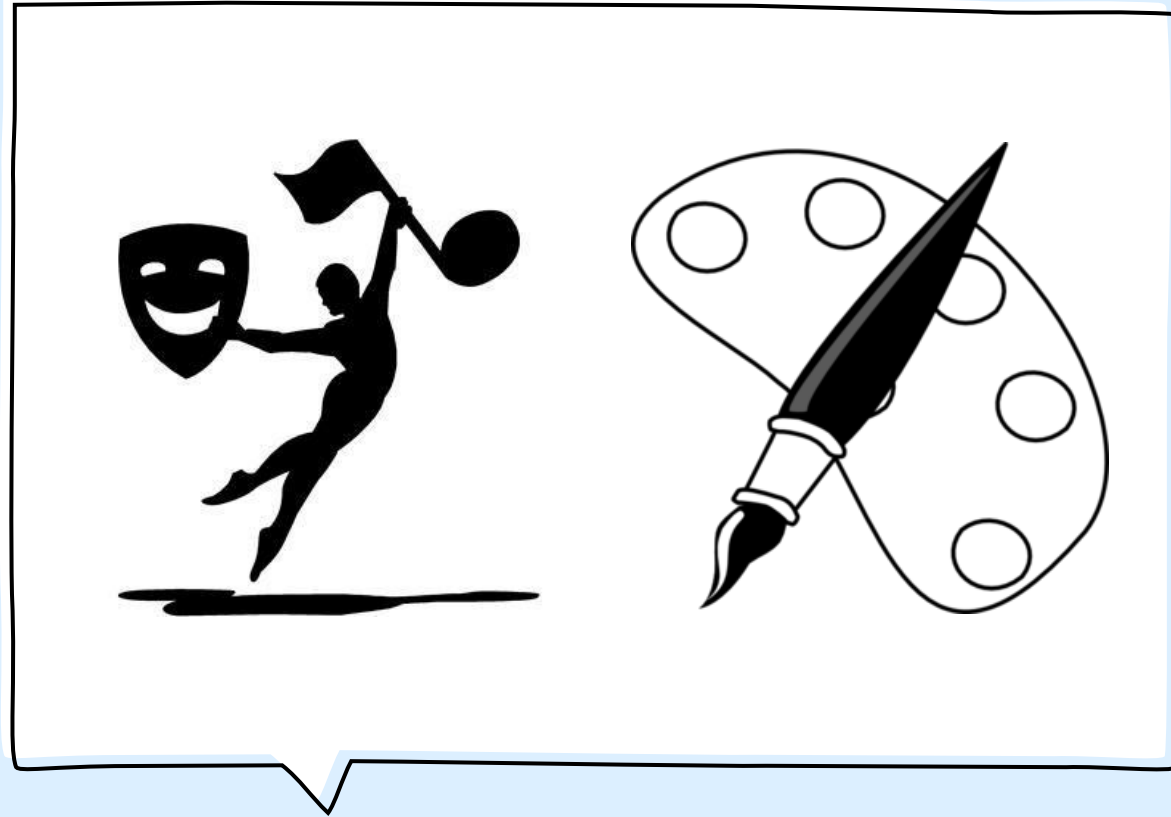
Categories of Identification

Creative Ability (Second grade and above)

Students who characteristically perceive significant similarities or differences within the environment, challenge assumptions, and produce unique alternative solutions; evidenced by district portfolio or presentation review

Leadership Ability (Second grade and above)

Students who show confidence and knowledge; influence others effectively; have problem-solving and decision-making skills; express ideas in oral or written form clearly; show sense of purpose and direction; evidenced by district portfolio or presentation review



Categories of Identification

Visual Arts Ability (Second grade and above)

Students who originate, perform, produce, or respond at exceptionally high levels in drawing and painting; evidenced by district portfolio review

Performing Arts Ability (Second grade and above)

Students who originate, perform, produce, or respond at exceptionally high levels in either dance, music (voice), or drama; evidenced by district audition

**How do I have my
child tested for
giftedness?**

All referrals are initiated at the school site. Please speak to the GATE coordinator at your child's school about initiating the screening process.

I received a notification letter that my child was found to be eligible in one of the gifted categories. What do I do now?

There is no action required for parents once their child is identified as gifted. It is strongly recommended that you follow-up with your child's teacher and the GATE Coordinator to determine how gifted/talented students are clustered with other gifted students and how the curriculum and instruction is differentiated. In addition, parents have the option to apply to a School for Advanced Studies (SAS), a gifted magnet center or the Conservatory of Fine Arts depending on the category of identification.

I've been receiving phone calls and emails from Gifted/Talented Programs. Has my child been identified as gifted?

We publicize our events by sending phone calls and emails to parents of students that are identified as gifted/talented, verified as participating in GATE programs, and those that attend Schools for Advanced Studies. Here are three ways to check if your child has been identified or verified as participating in gifted/talented programs:

1. Contact your child's school
2. Check the Parent Portal
3. Call Gifted/Talented Programs

How can I get a copy of the notification letter (for eligibility or ineligibility)?

Your child's current LAUSD school can print a copy of the notification letter for you from the "MiSiS" student information system. You can also print a copy from the LAUSD APP. The LAUSD APP is not the same as Schoology. You will not find the letter in Schoology.

How do I get to the LAUSD APP to get a copy of my child's identification letter?

1. Go to: <http://lausdapp.lausd.net>

LAUSD *Ready for the World*
UNIFIED

The **LAUSD APP** is here!
**Digital Collaboration for Students,
Parents, Educators and
Administrators.**

Login



Language

ALWAYS INFORMED



ALWAYS ENGAGED

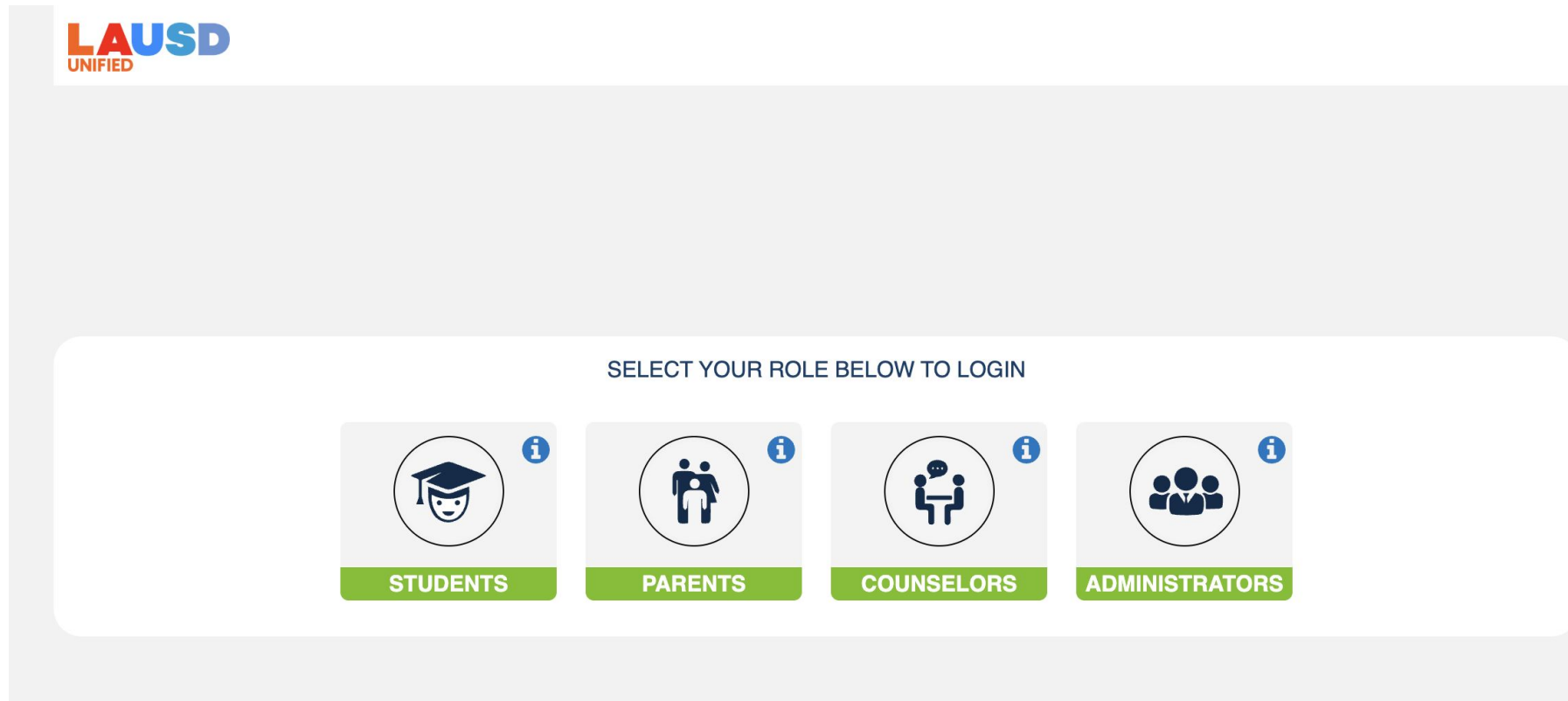


ALWAYS EMPOWERED



LAUSD APP

2. When you click the Login button, this page will appear. Select "PARENTS" and enter your username and password.



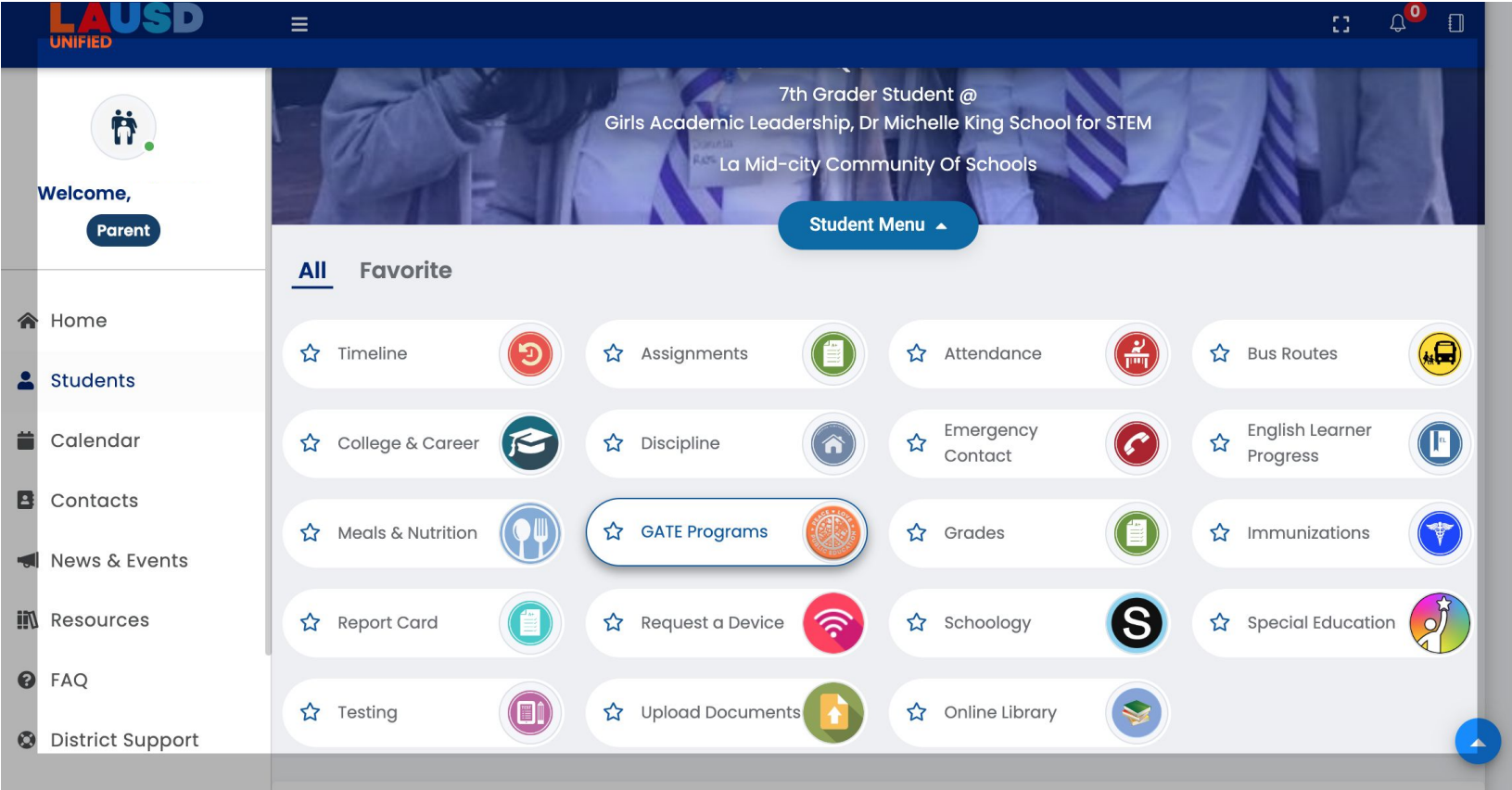
LAUSD APP

3. On the Dashboard, select "View Student Details" under the photo of your child.

The screenshot shows the LAUSD Parent Portal dashboard. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the LAUSD UNIFIED logo on the left, a hamburger menu icon in the center, and icons for full screen, notifications (with a red '0' badge), and a mobile device icon on the right. Below the header, the main content area is titled "My Dashboard" and includes a welcome message: "Welcome to your LAUSD Portal, Susanna". To the left of the main content is a sidebar with a user profile icon and the text "Welcome, Susanna" and "Parent". The sidebar contains a list of navigation options: Home, One Enrollment, Students, Calendar, Contacts, News & Events, Resources, and FAQ. The main content area features a "Tips of the Month!" section with a yellow callout box containing a megaphone icon and the text "HELPFUL TIPS". The text in the callout reads: "We are excited to support your child's learning this school year with helpful digital tools, including Google Workspace for Education. These additional services and tools from Google, require parent consent or your student will not have access to important applications such as Google Translate and YouTube (for educational videos). Please click on 'View Student Details' in the student(s) card below to review and sign the Google Parental Consent form to ensure your student will have access on the first day of school." Below the tips section is a "My Students" section with a "View Students" link and two placeholder images of residential neighborhoods.

LAUSD APP


4. Click on "Student Menu" and the orange circle "GATE Programs."



LAUSD APP

5. Once on the Gifted/Talented Programs Information page, click on the bottom right corner for the GATE Letter.

The screenshot shows the LAUSD UNIFIED Parent Portal app interface. The top navigation bar is dark blue with the LAUSD UNIFIED logo on the left, a hamburger menu icon, and icons for full screen, notifications (with a red '0' badge), and a mobile device icon. Below the navigation bar is a banner image of students in white lab coats. Text on the banner reads: "Girls Academic Leadership, Dr Michelle King School for STEM" and "La Mid-city Community Of Schools". A blue "Student Menu" button with a dropdown arrow is positioned over the banner. On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with a "Welcome, Parent" header and a profile icon. The menu items are: Home, Students (highlighted), Calendar, Contacts, News & Events, Resources, FAQ, and District Support. The main content area is titled "Gifted/Talented Programs Information" and features a table with the following data:

Student Name	Program Type	GATE Category	Assessment Date	Status	GATE Letter
	Gifted/Talented	Academic Ability - Language Arts	10/15/21	Eligible	

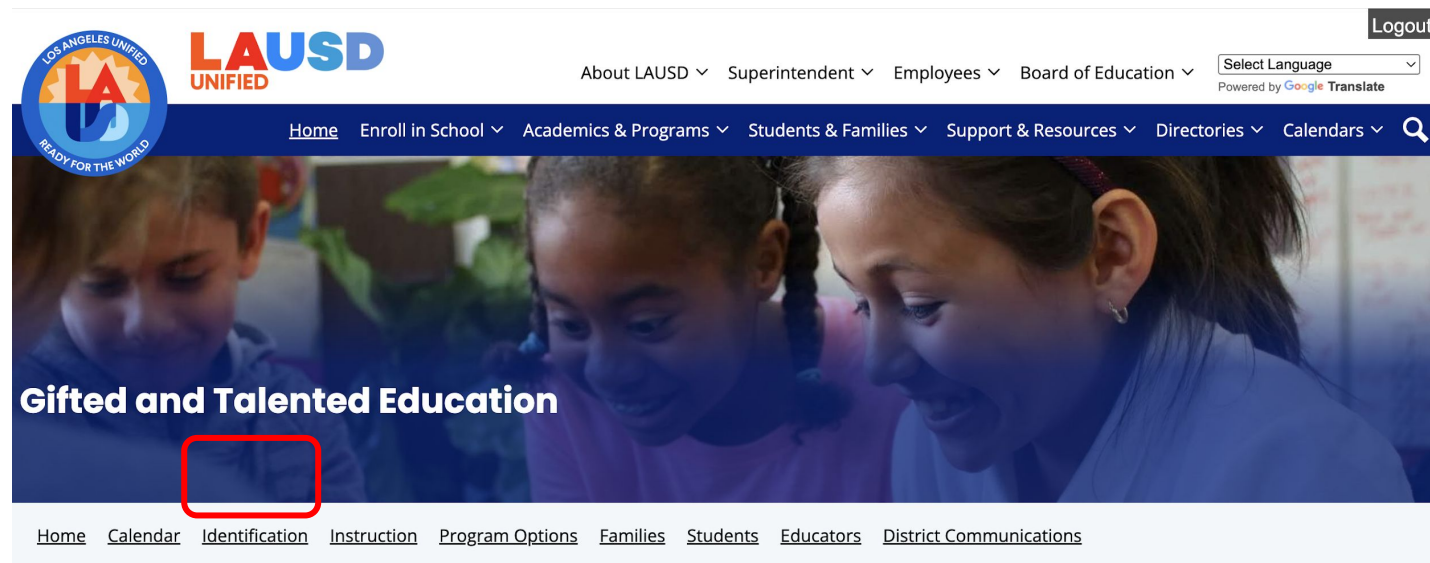
At the bottom right of the table area, there are links for "Related FAQ" and "Print". The footer of the app displays "© 2023 - LAUSD Parent Portal Environment:Production" and a blue circular button with an upward-pointing arrow.

**How can I get a
copy of my child's
test results?**

Results can be requested from our office
by completing the "Parent Request for
Assessment Results" form found on our
website.

GATE Website

1. Go to gate.lausd.org and select the "Identification" tab.
(Note: this appears differently on a mobile phone.)



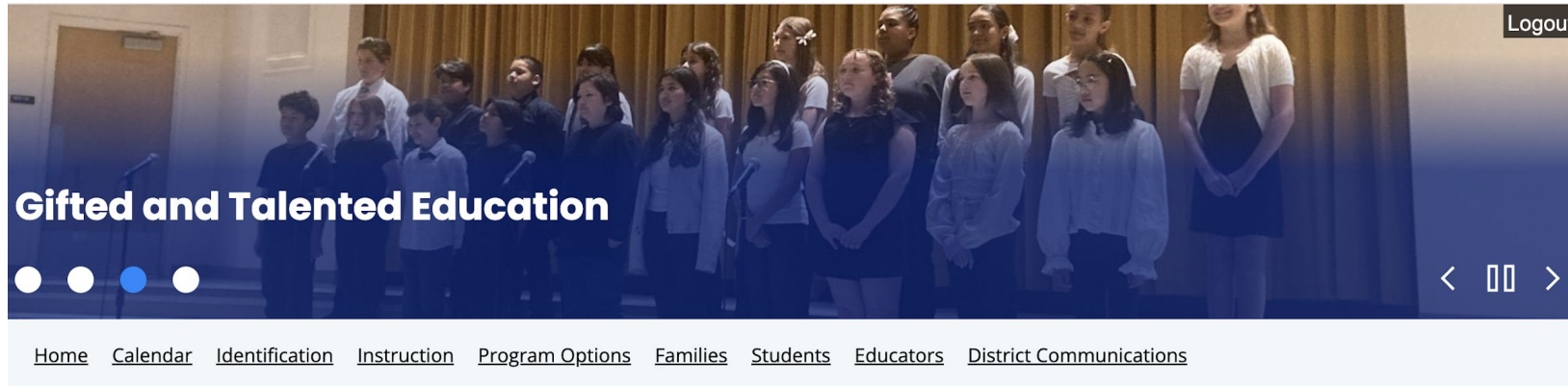
The screenshot shows the LAUSD website's Gifted and Talented Education page. At the top left is the LAUSD logo with the tagline 'READY FOR THE WORLD'. To the right is a 'Logout' button and a language selection dropdown. Below this is a dark blue navigation bar with links for Home, Enroll in School, Academics & Programs, Students & Families, Support & Resources, Directories, and Calendars. The main content area features a large image of three students looking at a book, with the text 'Gifted and Talented Education' overlaid. At the bottom, a white navigation bar contains links for Home, Calendar, Identification, Instruction, Program Options, Families, Students, Educators, and District Communications. A red rectangular box highlights the 'Identification' link in this bottom navigation bar.

Welcome to Gifted/Talented Programs

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) is proud to offer a robust Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) program to support the unique needs of gifted, talented, and advanced learners in kindergarten through 12th grade. Over 70,000 LAUSD students receive GATE services – including rigorous, differentiated instruction, social-emotional support, and talent development – in schools and programs throughout the District. This website is a resource for students, families, educators, leaders, and community members to

GATE Website

2. This is an image of the Identification page of our website. You will see the link to “Request Your Child’s Assessment Scores.”



Identification Information

- [GATE Identification Process](#)
- [Identification Categories](#)
- [How to Prepare Your Child for Testing in the Intellectual Ability Category](#)
- [Request Your Child's Assessment Scores](#)

Prochure: Parent/Guardian Informational Guide

GATE Website

3. Once on the Request page, you will need to click on the “Click here” link to download the request form. There is a Spanish version of the form further down the page.

[Home](#) [Calendar](#) [Identification](#) [Instruction](#) [Program Options](#) [Families](#) [Students](#) [Educators](#) [District Communications](#) [Logout](#)

Request Your Child's Assessment Scores

Requesting Your Child's Gifted/Talented Assessment Results

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act -- In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, parents or guardians may receive a copy of their child's gifted/talented assessment results through written request. The student's name, birth date, exact request, approximate date and location of assessment, and the email or home address where information should be sent must be included. Parent signature is required.

[Click here](#) to obtain the Parent/Guardian Request for GATE Identification Assessment Results - **Intellectual, Visual Arts, or Performing Arts** in English

[Click here](#) to obtain the Parent/Guardian Request for GATE Specialized Program Eligibility Assessment Results - **Individualized Honors Program (IHP) or Early College Program** in English

Email your request to Gifted/Talented Programs at GATE@lausd.net or you may mail your request by U.S. Mail. Requests will be processed within 5 business days of receipt.



Office of the Chief of Special Education, Equity and Specialized Programs
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 25th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017
Office: (213) 241-6500 | Email: GATE@lausd.net | Website: <https://achieve.lausd.net/GATE>

PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUEST FOR ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Date: _____

To whom it may concern,

This is to request a copy of my child's assessment results in the following category:

- Intellectual Ability
- Visual/Performing Arts Ability
Demonstration in Visual Arts
Audition in Dance Drama Voice

Student Last Name: _____

Student First Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

District ID: _____

Current School: _____

Grade: _____

School where tested: _____

Date of Assessment: _____

Parent Name: _____

Residence Address: _____

City/Zip Code: _____

**Request form for
Intellectual Ability,
Visual Arts, and
Performing Arts**

PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUEST FOR GIFTED/TALENTED ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Date: _____

To whom it may concern,

This is to request a copy of my child's assessment results in the following program:

Individualized Honors Program (IHP) Early College Program

Student Last Name: _____

Student First Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

District ID: _____

Current School: _____

Grade: _____

School Where Tested: _____

Date of Assessment: _____

Parent Name: _____

Residence Address: _____

City/Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Email Address: _____

**Request form for IHP
and Early College
Program**

What is the difference between being identified as gifted in the Intellectual Ability category versus the High Achievement category?

The Intellectual Ability and High Achievement offer students different pathways to gifted identification.

- The Intellectual Ability category identifies students whose general intellectual development is markedly advanced in relation to their chronological peers.
- The High Achievement Ability category identifies students in grades 5 and above who consistently function for two consecutive years at highly advanced levels in both English-Language Arts/reading (elementary), English (secondary), and mathematics. Students in second grade may be identified in High Achievement Ability based on the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT-8).

My child was identified as gifted in the High Achievement category. Should they be tested in the Intellectual category?

If a student shows potential that he/she may be highly gifted, then an Intellectual Ability category referral may be submitted by the school.

What does Highly Gifted mean?

The term “highly gifted” refers to students who receive a 99.9 percentile rank on the Intellectual Ability assessment given by a District GATE Psychologist. No other identification category has a highly gifted designation. Highly gifted students may apply to Highly Gifted Magnets.



My child received a score of 99 on the OLSAT-8. Does that mean my child is highly gifted?

No. The OLSAT-8 is an achievement/aptitude test used to determine eligibility in the High Achievement Category. The only assessment that can determine if a child is highly gifted is an intellectual assessment.

If your child scored in the 99th percentile rank on the OLSAT-8, then the school should refer your child for Intellectual Ability testing automatically.

What does highly gifted applicable (HGA) mean?

Students who receive a 99.5 - 99.8 percentile rank on the Intellectual assessment are considered "highly gifted applicable" and may also apply to Highly Gifted Magnets if space is available.

How can I have my child tested for highly gifted?

There is no separate test for highly gifted identification. The results of an intellectual ability assessment will determine eligibility as well as determine distinction between gifted, highly gifted applicable (HGA) or highly gifted (HG).

My child was identified as gifted in the High Achievement category. My child then took the Intellectual assessment and was found to be ineligible. Is my child still considered gifted by the District or does my child lose that designation?

A student's eligibility as gifted does not change once they are identified even if they are found to be ineligible in another category. Students can be identified in one or more gifted categories. Your child's designation as gifted will remain in the District system throughout their time in LAUSD.

My child was assessed by a private psychologist and found to be intellectually gifted. Will the District accept these results?

No. For identification in the Intellectual category, assessments must be administered by an LAUSD designated GATE psychologist. Private assessment results may be used as part of the screening process to support the child's referral.

Can my child be identified in more than one category?

Yes. It is possible for a student to be identified in more than one category. It is not uncommon for a student to be identified in High Achievement and Intellectual Ability. We also have many students that are identified in Intellectual Ability and one of the arts categories. Students can also be identified in more than one art category.

How can I have my child tested for identification in Math (or Reading)?

Students are automatically identified as gifted in math (or reading). That category is called Specific Academic Ability. Eligibility in this category is based on test scores and report card grades. There is no referral process unless your child is new to our District and meets the criteria based on scores from their previous District. In that case, please speak to the GATE Coordinator at your child's school.

What support services should my school offer my child now that my child is identified as gifted/talented?

All schools must cluster students and provide differentiation within the regular school day. Teachers of gifted and talented students differentiate the core curriculum through various means: flexible student groups, interest centers, learning centers, adjusting questions, use of above-grade-level resources, independent study projects, different levels of assignments, mentorships, and/or honors and advanced placement courses.

Are there different school options for gifted students?

Gifted students identified in Intellectual, High Achievement, Specific Academic, Creative and Leadership Ability can stay at their resident school or apply one of the following options:

- Schools for Advanced Studies
Including Single Gender Academies and Individualized Honors Programs (IHP)
- Gifted Magnets

Additional options:

- Honors classes are offered in middle and high schools
- Advanced Placement classes are offered at the high school level
- Early College Program

Note that only students identified as highly gifted or highly gifted applicable can apply to Highly Gifted Magnets.

What is Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS)?

SAS demonstration sites are resident schools that receive the SAS designation for their exemplary Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) implementation. By providing high-quality differentiated instruction with an emphasis on depth, complexity, acceleration and novelty, SAS sites offer high-level academic opportunities that meet the unique educational needs of K-12 gifted learners, identified in the Intellectual, High Achievement, Specific Academic, Creative and Leadership Ability categories or verified based on critical thinking/achievement.

What is an Individualized Honors Program (IHP)?

Two Schools for Advanced Studies offer a high honors pathway for student performing two to three grade levels above in core content areas. This Individualized Honors Program (IHP) was founded in 1970 at Walter Reed Middle school. The program was established at Mark Twain Middle School in 2020. The IHP offers challenges not generally offered in an honors level middle school course of study. There is an additional assessment to qualify for the lottery for this program.

How is a School for Advanced Studies (SAS) different from a Gifted Magnet?

- Magnet Programs are Court-Ordered voluntary integration opportunities available to students in grades K-12 living within the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).
- Currently there are 53 Gifted Magnets and 4 Highly Gifted Magnets.
- Gifted Magnets begin in first grade and Highly Gifted Magnets begin in second grade. SAS sites begin in kindergarten.
- Gifted/Highly Gifted Magnets offer self-contained classes.
- Both place emphasis on developing higher-level thinking skills in a demanding academic program for students

What options are there for students identified as talented in the arts?

Once a student is identified as talented in the Visual and/or Performing Arts, they will receive an invitation to participate in the Saturday Conservatory of Fine Arts. In addition, the local school should differentiate the instruction in the student's area of talent.

If my child auditions in the performing arts in the area of dance and does not qualify, can they be assessed again?

Students can be reassessed the following school year in these categories:

- Visual Arts
- Performing Arts (Dance, Voice, Drama)
- Creative Ability
- Leadership Ability

**Where can I get
more information
to support my
child?**

Our website has many resources for
parents.

gate.lausd.org

**Thank
You**

Mahalo

Kiitos

Tack

Toda

Grazie

Obrigado

Thanks

Takk

Gracias

Merci



Gifted/ Talented Programs Advanced Learning Options

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