Advanced Academic Programs

Screening and Identification for
Level IV (Full-Time) AAP Services for Identified
Students in Grades 3-8

STUDENTS IN GRADES 2-7 MAY APPLY

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COVID-19 Critical Updates for Screening

AAP Level IV Screening Updates for 2020-21 School Year

- Due to the ongoing pandemic, there are some adjustments to the Advanced Academic Programs (AAP) Level IV screening processes for the 2020-21 school year.

- Additional information about the screening process will be shared through local school newsletters. Local schools will also communicate opportunities for parent information sessions on the AAP continuum of services and the screening processes for AAP levels II-IV.

Testing Updates – Due to COVID-19

- The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) <u>will not</u> be offered this school year. The CogAT test requires multiple sessions and it is not possible to do safely.

- The one-time retest option for the Naglieri Nonverbal Abilities Test (NNAT) or CogAT test <u>will not</u> be available this school year. School resources are limited and there is not capacity to offer retests safely.

- There will be a process for students without an abilities test on file to take the NNAT in December 2020. Local schools will determine which students require the NNAT and will reach out to families to schedule safe and socially distanced testing.

Note: While private testing that follows guidelines may be submitted, testing is only one type of data considered. All ability tests are considered within the larger context of the overall screening portfolio. FCPS does not encourage families to seek additional testing beyond what FCPS provides to all students.

Timeline for Submitting an AAP Level IV Referral (Sept 8-Dec 1)

- Referrals for AAP level IV screening will be collected between September 8 through December 1, 2020. Due to not being able to have substitutes to help during teacher input and file creation, schools will need additional time to create files. Additionally, the January date was driven largely by the CogAT results, which are not part of screening this school year.

- Referral forms are emailed to the Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART) and principal at the local school. The email will count as a digital signature for the referral.

  Note: Referrals will not be accepted past December 1, 2020*. A deadline of December 1, 2020 gives local schools time to organize and submit screening portfolios to the central office. ****This is a hard deadline.***

Parent Input

- A referral form is **required** for any student (grades 2-7) whose parent would like them screened for full-time services but is not in the 2nd grade screening pool.

- Parents will be notified by the local school if their second-grade student is in the pool by **November 1, 2020**.

- Parents whose child is in the pool may submit the referral form but are not required.

Parent Input

Optional

Parents may submit:

- the parent/guardian questionnaire
- **up to** four pages of student work samples

These optional materials should be submitted to the Advanced Academic Resource Teacher at the local school **when submitting the referral form.**

Discontinued due to COVID and the need to create digital screening files:

Awards, certificates, and letters of recommendation **will not be part of screening files**.

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Advanced Academic Programs for our students

Young Scholars Program - **All K-12 Students**

Elementary School: K-6	Middle School	High School
Critical and Creative Thinking Strategies (I)	IB Middle Years Program – Grades 6 -10 (selected schools)	
Differentiated Lessons in areas of Academic Strength (II)	Honors Courses in areas of Academic Strength/Interest Grades 7-8	• Honors Courses • Advanced Placement • International Baccalaureate • Dual Enrollment Courses • Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology
Part-Time Advanced Academic Program (III)		
Full-Time Advanced Academic Program (IV) - Grades 3-8		

Adapted from the Integrated Continuum of Special Services by Sally Reis and Levels of Service by Donald Treffinger.

QUESTION

What are full-time (level IV) AAP services?

FCPS believes it is important for all students to have access to AAP strategies and curriculum, which is available in level I services. Some learners may need a different placement to have access to a full-time program with a different pace and different intensity of access.

Full-time services provide a **differentiated curriculum to students in Language Arts, social studies, science, and mathematics** on a full-time basis. Mathematics instruction is at least one year above grade level.

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QUESTION

How can my child be screened for full-time AAP services?

Families or teachers may submit the Level IV Referral Form

Go to www.fcps.edu and search "AAP forms"

Submit the referral form to the school by the deadline on the AAP website.

QUESTION

How can my child be screened for full-time AAP services?

Grade 2 Screening Pool

Some students are automatically screened based on ability test scores.

These students are in the Grade 2 "screening pool".

QUESTION

How do students get ability test scores?

Ability tests:
- Grade 1: Naglieri Nonverbal Abilities Test (NNAT)

Students may be included in the Grade 2 screening "pool" based on their scores on the Grade 1 NNAT. These students will be automatically screened.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, FCPS will not administer the Grade 2 CogAT in 2020-2021.

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Input from the family provides information that schools may not have.

There are several ways families can support the screening process.

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Submit the **Level IV Referral Form** by the deadline on the AAP website

This form is required if the student is not in the Grade 2 screening pool.

It is helpful to submit the form if your child is in the Grade 2 screening pool.

Schools will create the screening file and families may add materials to the file.

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Parent/Guardian Questionnaire

Parent/Guardian Questionnaire:
Information about Special Needs

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Does your child have a special need you want the committee to know about?
Parents may submit a page of additional information about a student's 2e needs.

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Work Samples (up to 4 pages)

Vehicles of the Future by: John Hurwitz

Tree Recovery Truck

Urgent Fire Response Unit

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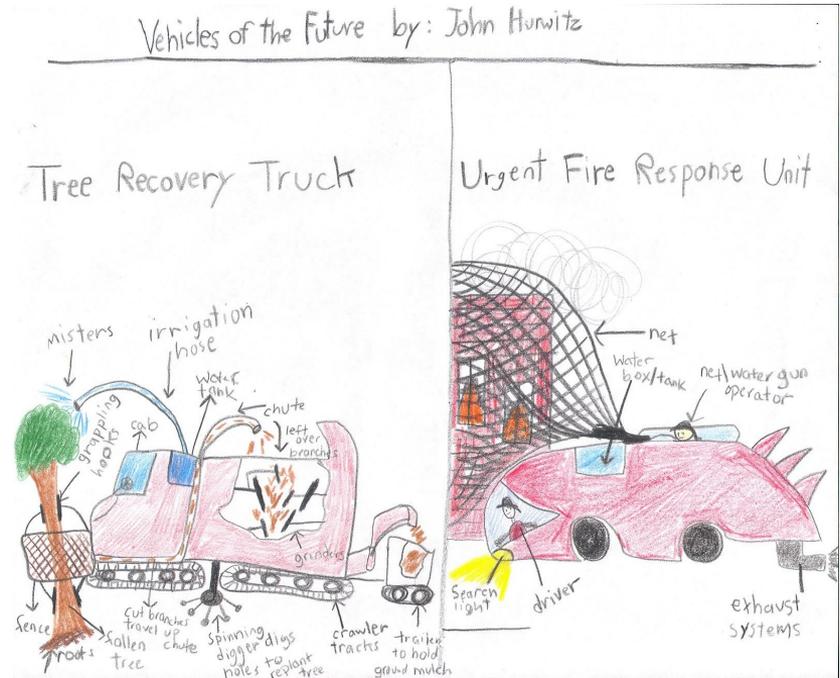
QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Work Sample Guidelines:

- 4 pages maximum
- Single-sided, 8 ½ x 11 pages
- No 3-D, no electronic samples
- Multiple pages may be copied to one page
- Copies or originals are accepted (Samples will not be returned)

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, AARTs will accept work samples in the following formats: PDF, Word, and jpg/png

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Keep in mind this is an academic program. Art samples are accepted, however, samples from multiple content areas are most helpful for the screening committee.

The committee will be looking for evidence of exceptional critical and creative thinking, reasoning, and problem solving showcased in the student work samples.

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

Ability or Achievement Test Reports

A parent/guardian may seek private testing through a <u>state-licensed</u> clinical psychologist or through **George Mason University (GMU)**.

If testing was not done at GMU, a copy of the clinical psychologist's license must be included with the full report.

QUESTION

What is the family's role in the screening process?

~~Awards, Certificates & Letters of Commendation~~
~~(up to 5 pages)~~

~~Note: FCPS Staff may not write letters of commendation.~~

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, FCPS will not collect awards and letters of commendation during 2020-2021 screening cycles.

QUESTION

What will the school do to support the screening process?

The local school committee, creates the screening file.

The school does not screen the file and make eligibility decisions. All files are screened by a central screening committee.

QUESTION

What will the school do to support the screening process?

The local school committee will provide these required items:

- Screening Summary Sheet
- Gifted Behavior Rating Scale with Commentary
- Progress Reports (1 ¼ years)
- Test Data Sheet (FCPS test scores)
- Work Samples (up to 6 total)

QUESTION

What will the school do to support the screening process?

The Gifted Behavior Rating Scale (GBRS) with Commentary

The school-based committee will complete the GBRS to rate how often the student demonstrates exceptional:

- Ability to Learn

- Application of Knowledge
- Creative/Productive Thinking
- Motivation to Succeed

compared to students of similar age/background/experience. They also write commentary with specific examples.

QUESTION

Who decides if the student is eligible for full-time services?

A central screening committee reviews all screening files.

Central committee members attend training about how to view files holistically and fairly.

Each file is read independently by at least 6 committee members.

QUESTION

Who is on the central screening committee?

The central selection screening committee is made up of FCPS staff with diverse roles such as:

- Classroom teachers
- AARTs
- Specialists
- School administrators
- School counselors
- School psychologists
- Central office staff

QUESTION

What is the most important document in the screening file?

All materials are considered by the central selection screening committee

The file is looked at holistically. The committee members do not assign more weight or value to one document over another.

QUESTION

When do eligible students begin full-time AAP services?

Spring Screening: Begin full-time AAP services beginning the next school year.

QUESTION

Who can answer questions about the AAP screening process?

Elementary Schools:
Advanced Academic Resource Teacher (AART) Mollie Tkacik
mdtkacik@fcps.edu

Middle Schools:
Director of Student Services

AAP Website:
Go to www.fcps.edu and search "AAP"

AAP Office:
Email: AAP@fcps.edu

www.fcps.edu