

## Initial Placement Guidelines for 2023-2024 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.

In May, teachers will review the initial placement decision and additional spring data to make a final placement recommendation.

Please note that the initial 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: Jennifer Burton ([burtonjw@fultonschools.org](mailto:burtonjw@fultonschools.org))
- 6-12 English Language Arts: Kelley Webb ([webbk@fultonschools.org](mailto:webbk@fultonschools.org))
- Mathematics: Susan Baker ([bakers1@fultonschools.org](mailto:bakers1@fultonschools.org))
- Science: Steven Moody ([moodys@fultonschools.org](mailto:moodys@fultonschools.org))
- Social Studies: Crystal Flowers ([flowersc1@fultonschools.org](mailto:flowersc1@fultonschools.org))
- World Language: Jamie Patterson ([patterson@fultonschools.org](mailto:patterson@fultonschools.org))
- Talented and Gifted: Shannan LaPorte ([laportes@fultonschools.org](mailto:laportes@fultonschools.org))

Middle School Initial Placement Guidelines 2023-2024

Middle School Mathematics Initial Placement Guidelines for 2023-2024 School Year				
Current Grade Level	Student's Current Course	Student's Current Performance	Next Year Placement	Course Number
Grade 5	Math 5 On-Level (5.1/5.2)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6 Math 5.1 Average < 80% Parents may opt for students to take Math 6 Enhanced but must commit to additional math support. Required letter included with initial placement information.	Math 6	27.0210000
		Math 5.1 Average $\geq$ 80% Parents may opt for students to take Math 6 On-Level. Required letter included with initial placement information.	Math 6 Enhanced	27.0210045
	Math 5 Advanced (5.2/6.1)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Math 6 Enhanced	27.0210045 TAG eligible 27.2210045
	Math 6 (5 <sup>th</sup> grade accelerated students taking 6.1/6.2)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Math 7	27.0220000 TAG eligible 27.2220000
Grade 6	Math 6 On-Level (6.1/6.2)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Math 7	27.0220000
		Students will only be considered for Math 7 Enhanced in May through the continuous achievement process.	Math 7 Enhanced	27.0220045 TAG eligible 27.2220045
	Math 6 Enhanced (6.1/6.2/7.1)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7 <b>AND</b> Math 6 Enhanced Semester 1 Average < 80% Parents may opt for students to take Math 7 Enhanced but must commit to additional math support. Required letter included with initial placement information.	Math 7	27.0220000
		Anticipated promotion to Grade 7 <b>AND</b> Math 6 Enhanced Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 80% Parents may opt for students to take Math 7 On-Level. Required letter included with initial placement information.	Math 7 Enhanced	27.0220045 TAG eligible 27.2220045
		Anticipated promotion to Grade 7 <b>AND</b> Math 6 Enhanced Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 80% <b>AND</b> Student completes self-paced Math 7 Semester 2 course or FVS Grade 7 Math B	Math 8	27.0230000 TAG eligible 27.2230000
	Math 6 Advanced (6.2/7.1/7.2)	Semester 1 Average < 75%	Math 7 Enhanced	27.0220045 TAG eligible 27.2220045
		Semester 1 Average 75-90%	Math 8	27.0230000 TAG eligible 27.2230000
		Semester 1 Average > 90% <b>AND</b> Student Interest	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
	Math 7 On-Level (6 <sup>th</sup> grade accelerated students)	Math 7.1 Average < 90%	Math 8	27.0230000 TAG eligible - 27.2230000
		Math 7.1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> Student Interest	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
	Math 7 Advanced (6 <sup>th</sup> grade accelerated students)	Math 7.1 Average < 90%	Math 8	27.0230000 TAG eligible - 27.2230000
		Math 7.1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> Student Interest	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2

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Grade 7	Math 7 On-Level	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	Math 8	27.0230000
		Students may elect to enroll in Enhanced Grade 8/Algebra I	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
	Math 7 Advanced	Math 7.1 Average < 80%	Math 8	27.0230000
		Math 7.1 Average ≥ 80% <b>AND</b> Student Interest	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	27.09110H1/27.09110H2 TAG eligible 27.29110H1/27.29110H2
	Math 7 Enhanced (7.2/8.1/8.2)	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	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
	Math 8 On-level (7 <sup>th</sup> grade accelerated students)	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	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
	Math 8 Advanced (7 <sup>th</sup> grade accelerated students)	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Enhanced Algebra H (Grade 8 & Algebra)	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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Middle School ELA Initial Placement Guidelines for 2023-2024 School Year				
Current Grade Level	Student's Current Course	Student's Current Performance	Next Year Placement	Course Number
Grade 5	Language Arts 5 On-Level	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Language Arts 6 On-Level	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 On Level	23.0110000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Language Arts 6 Advanced	23.0110040 TAG Eligible 23.2110040
	Language Arts 6 (5 <sup>th</sup> grade Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 6	Language Arts 7 On-Level	23.0120000 TAG eligible 23.2120000
		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
Grade 6	Language Arts 6 On-Level	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Language Arts 7 On-Level	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 On-Level	23.0120000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Language Arts 7 Advanced	23.0120040 TAG eligible 23.2120040
	Language Arts 7 On-Level (6 <sup>th</sup> grade Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Language Arts 8 On-Level	23.0130000 TAG eligible 23.2130000
		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
	Language Arts 7 Advanced (6 <sup>th</sup> grade Accelerated Students)	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Language Arts 8 On-Level	23.0130000 TAG eligible 23.2130000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Language Arts 8 Advanced	23.0130040 TAG eligible 23.2130040
Grade 7	Language Arts 7 On-Level	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	Language Arts 8 On-level	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
	Language Arts 7 Advanced	Semester 1 Average < 80%	Language Arts 8 On-level	23.0130000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Language Arts 8 Advanced	23.0130040 TAG eligible 23.2130040
	Language Arts 8 On-Level (7 <sup>th</sup> grade Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lit/Comp	23.0610000
		Students will only be considered for 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lit/Comp Honors in May through the Final Placement Guidelines.	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lit/Comp Honors	23.0610040 TAG Eligible 23.2610040
	Language Arts 8 Advanced (7 <sup>th</sup> grade Accelerated Students)	Anticipated promotion to Grade 8	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lit/Comp	23.0610000
		Students will only be considered for 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lit/Comp Honors in May through the Final Placement Guidelines.	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lit/Comp Honors	23.0610040 TAG Eligible 23.2610040

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Middle School Reading and World Language Initial Placement Guidelines for 2023-2024 School Year				
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 <b>OR</b> 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 <b>AND</b> Grade 5 Reading teacher recommendation	Grade 6 World Language Course	ASL - 64.0070000 Chinese - 62.0070000 French - 60.0070000 German - 61.0070000 Japanese - 62.0270000 Latin - 61.0370000 Spanish - 60.0670000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0670008
	Reading 5 Advanced	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR <b>OR</b> 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 <b>AND</b> Grade 5 Reading teacher recommendation	Grade 6 World Language Course	ASL - 64.0070000 Chinese - 62.0070000 French - 60.0070000 German - 61.0070000 Japanese - 62.0270000 Latin - 61.0370000 Spanish - 60.0670000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0670008
	Reading 6 Accelerated	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR <b>OR</b> 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 <b>AND</b> Grade 5 Reading teacher recommendation	Grade 6 World Language Course	ASL - 64.0070000 Chinese - 62.0070000 French - 60.0070000 German - 61.0070000 Japanese - 62.0270000 Latin - 61.0370000 Spanish - 60.0670000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0670008
Grade 6	Reading 6	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR <b>OR</b> Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 5	Reading 7	23.0150000 Remedial 23.1150000
		At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 5 <b>AND</b> Grade 6 Reading teacher recommendation	Grade 7 Beginning World Language Course	ASL - 64.0080000 Chinese - 62.0080000 French - 60.0080000 German - 61.0080000 Japanese - 62.0280000 Latin - 61.0380000 Spanish - 60.0680000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0680008

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	Grade 6 World Language	Semester 1 Average < 70%	Reading 7 <b>OR</b> Grade 7 Beginning World Language Course	23.0150000 <b>OR</b> ASL - 64.0080000 Chinese - 62.0080000 French - 60.0080000 German - 61.0080000 Japanese - 62.0280000 Latin - 61.0380000 Spanish - 60.0680000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0680008
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 70%	Grade 7 Continuous WL Course	ASL - 64.0080009 Chinese - 62.0080009 French - 60.0080009 German - 61.0080009 Japanese - 62.0280009 Latin - 61.0380009 Spanish - 60.0680009 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0680008
	Not Currently Enrolled in Reading 6 or Grade 6 World Language (as a core course)	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR <b>OR</b> Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 5	Reading 7	23.0150000 Remedial 23.1150000
		At/Above Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 5	Grade 7 Beginning World Language Course	ASL - 64.0080000 Chinese - 62.0080000 French - 60.0080000 German - 61.0080000 Japanese - 62.0280000 Latin - 61.0380000 Spanish - 60.0680000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0680008
Grade 7	Reading 7	i-Ready < 35%ile Mid-Year NPR <b>OR</b> Below Grade Level on GMAS Reading Indicator for Grade 6	Reading 8	23.0160000 Remedial 23.1160000
		Semester 1 Average ≥ 80%	Reading 8 <b>OR</b> Grade 8 No Credit World Language	23.0160000 <b>OR</b> ASL - 64.0090000 Chinese - 62.0090000 French - 60.0090000 German - 61.0090000 Japanese - 62.0290000 Latin - 61.0390000 Spanish - 60.0690000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008
	Grade 7 Beginning or Continuous WL Course	Semester 1 Average < 70%	Reading 8 <b>OR</b> Grade 8 No Credit World Language	23.0160000 <b>OR</b> ASL - 64.0090000 Chinese - 62.0090000 French - 60.0090000

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				German - 61.0090000 Japanese - 62.0290000 Latin - 61.0390000 Spanish - 60.0690000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008
	Grade 7 Beginning WL Course	Semester 1 Average ≥ 70%	Level 1 Beginning WL Course	ASL - 64.0310000 Chinese - 62.0110000 French - 60.0110000 German - 61.0110000 Japanese - 62.0310000 Latin - 61.0390000 Spanish - 60.0710000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0790000
	Grade 7 Continuous WL Course	Semester 1 Average ≥ 70%	Level 1 Continuous WL Course	ASL - 64.0310000 Chinese - 62.0110009 French - 60.0110009 German - 61.0110009 Japanese - 62.0310009 Latin - 61.0390009 Spanish - 60.0710009 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 <b>OR</b> 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	ASL - 64.0090000 Chinese - 62.0090000 French - 60.0090000 German - 61.0090000 Japanese - 62.0290000 Latin - 61.0390000 Spanish - 60.0690000 Spanish for Native Speakers – 60.0690008

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Middle School Science Initial Placement Guidelines for 2023-2024 School Year				
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 <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> Science Fall Interim in the Top 10% (Cut Score will be published to schools immediately following the administration) <b>AND</b> Teacher recommendation (5 <sup>th</sup> grade Science) * Non-gifted students placed into mixed model classroom with TAG students must meet the same criteria as TAG students.	TAG Earth Science	Tag Eligible 40.2610000
Grade 6	Earth Science	Anticipated promotion to Grade 7	Life Science	26.0110000
		TAG eligible <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> Lexile 1115L or higher on the Fall 6 <sup>th</sup> grade Achieve3000 diagnostic assessment <b>AND</b> teacher recommendation (Earth Science teacher) * 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.	TAG Life Science	TAG Eligible 26.2110000
	TAG Earth Science	TAG eligible <b>AND</b> 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 <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> Lexile 1120L or higher on the Fall 7 <sup>th</sup> grade Achieve3000 diagnostic assessment <b>AND</b> teacher recommendation (Life Science teacher) <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 80% in Math * 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.	TAG Science of the Physical World	TAG Eligible 40.2170000
		Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 80% <b>AND</b> 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 <b>AND</b> 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 <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 80% <b>AND</b> 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



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Middle School Social Studies Initial Placement Guidelines for 2023-2024 School Year				
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
		Eligible for TAG <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> i-Ready Comprehension of Informational Text at "late 5 <sup>th</sup> " during the December Administration <b>AND</b> Teacher Recommendation * 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 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 <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> i-Ready Comprehension of Informational Text at "late 6 <sup>th</sup> " during the December Administration <b>AND</b> teacher recommendation (6 <sup>th</sup> Social Studies Teacher) * 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 Social Studies 7	TAG Eligible 45.2080000
	TAG or Mixed Model Social Studies 6	TAG eligible <b>AND</b> 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 <b>AND</b> Semester 1 Average $\geq$ 90% <b>AND</b> i-Ready Comprehension of Informational Text at "late 7 <sup>th</sup> " during the December Administration <b>AND</b> teacher recommendation (7 <sup>th</sup> Social Studies Teacher) * 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 <b>AND</b> 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