

Admission to Gifted and Talented Classes at Pikesville High School

The Program

Gifted and Talented Education serves students who, when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment, demonstrate high potential or performance in academic, creative, or technical areas. These students require learning experiences beyond the standard curriculum.

Curriculum enrichment and acceleration are the means by which instructional experiences are differentiated to encourage the development of students' outstanding potential. The program provides research-based differentiated curricula to meet the needs of students who demonstrate advanced learning capabilities, K-12. The overarching goal of Gifted and Talented Education is to enhance students' capabilities to develop the learning and thinking characteristics of experts: advanced content knowledge organized around key ideas and principles applied meaningfully in problem solving.

Gifted and Talented program at Pikesville High School provides rigorous instruction of challenging content not only as preparation for Advanced Placement courses offered in grades 10 through 12 but also classes the student will take in college. Successful students in Gifted and Talented classes are creative, insightful, and reflective and express themselves articulately in oral discussion as well as in writing. Courses focus on an in depth understanding of content rather than just a broad overview of information so the ability to understand complex problems is critical.

Selection Process

As a result of the demands of the program, the Gifted and Talented/Advanced Placement Committee requires a transcript and a confidential teacher recommendation. Each of these will be used to assess the student's potential for success in the GT/AP program. The GT/AP Committee will carefully evaluate each application and notify the applicant's parents of its decision.

Placement into the GT/AP program is not permanent. A student may be recommended for another academic placement from a GT or AP course for failure to meet course standards and maintain an acceptable grade average.

Teacher Recommendations

Teacher recommendations must be mailed by the teacher directly to Pikesville High School, 7621 Labyrinth Road, Pikesville, Maryland 21208, ATTN: GT/AP Coordinator.