

# Allen County Schools Advanced Coursework and Accelerated Learning Plan

*Approved by the Allen County Board of Education on November 17, 2025*

## Purpose and Policy Statement

This district plan is adopted in compliance with Kentucky House Bill 190 (2025RS) to establish clear and consistent policies for promoting advanced coursework and accelerated learning. The plan applies to students in grades four (4) through twelve (12) in the core subject areas of language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science. The goal of this plan is to ensure that all students, especially those identified as gifted and talented, have access to rigorous, challenging, and appropriate academic opportunities that meet their unique educational needs and foster their potential.

## Publication and Accessibility

This plan will be published in its entirety on a publicly accessible location on the official Allen County Schools website no later than December 1, 2025. It will be reviewed annually and updated as needed to align with state guidelines and district priorities.

## Strategies and Approach by Grade Level

Allen County Schools will employ a tiered approach to advanced coursework and accelerated learning across all grade bands.

### Grades 4-6

- **Automatic Enrollment:** Students who score “Distinguished” in any subject area on the most recent Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) will be automatically enrolled in available advanced coursework for that subject. This enrollment will be communicated to the student and their parent/guardian at the start of the school year.
- **Additional Eligibility:** For all other students, eligibility for advanced coursework will be determined by a combination of criteria, which may include:
  - Formative and interim assessment data
  - Teacher and counselor recommendations
  - Student grades and academic performance
  - Student and parent interest
- **Approach:** Emphasis on early identification and in-class differentiation. Teachers will utilize pre-assessment data to identify students ready for more complex concepts.
- **Strategies:** Differentiated study experiences within the regular classroom, including advanced problem-solving, project-based learning, and enrichment activities that extend beyond the standard curriculum.
- **GT Students:** Require delivery options for reading, mathematics, science, and social studies including: Accelerated and advanced coursework AND one of the following:
  - Collaborative teaching and consultation services,

- Special counseling services,
- Differentiated study experiences for individuals and cluster groups in the regular classroom.
- Distance learning,
- Enrichment services that are not extracurricular during the school day,
- Independent study,
- Mentorships,
- Pull out resource services,
- Seminars,
- Travel study, or
- Special schools or self-contained classrooms.

## Grades 7-8

- **Automatic Enrollment:** Students who score “Distinguished” in any subject area on the most recent Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) will be automatically enrolled in available advanced coursework for that subject. This enrollment will be communicated to the student and their parent/guardian at the start of the school year.
- **Additional Eligibility:** For all other students, eligibility for advanced coursework will be determined by a combination of criteria, which may include:
  - Formative and interim assessment data
  - Teacher and counselor recommendations
  - Student grades and academic performance
  - Student and parent interest
- **Approach:** Introduction of cluster groups and collaborative teaching models. Students will have opportunities for a more formal accelerated pathway in mathematics.
- **Strategies:**
  - **Mathematics:** Students may be placed in accelerated math courses that allow them to complete pre-algebra and algebra by the end of eighth grade.
  - **All Subjects:** Teachers will collaborate to provide differentiated instruction, and small-group seminars will be available for students with a demonstrated interest in a specific topic.
- **GT Students:** Require delivery options for reading, mathematics, science, and social studies including: Accelerated and advanced coursework AND one of the following:
  - Collaborative teaching and consultation services,
  - Special counseling services,
  - Differentiated study experiences for individuals and cluster groups in the regular classroom.
  - Distance learning,
  - Enrichment services that are no extracurricular during the school day,
  - Independent study,
  - Mentorships,
  - Pull out resource services,
  - Seminars,

- Travel study, or
- Special schools or self-contained classrooms.

## Grades 9-12

- **Automatic Enrollment:** Students who score “Distinguished” in any subject area on the most recent Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) will be automatically enrolled in available advanced coursework for that subject. This enrollment will be communicated to the student and their parent/guardian at the start of the school year.
- **Additional Eligibility:** For all other students, eligibility for advanced coursework will be determined by a combination of criteria, which may include:
  - Formative and interim assessment data
  - Teacher and counselor recommendations
  - Student grades and academic performance
  - Student and parent interest
- **Approach:** Access to a wide range of advanced coursework options to prepare students for post-secondary education and career pathways.
- **Strategies:**
  - **Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:** The district will offer AP courses in all four core subjects (e.g., AP Calculus, AP Biology, AP English Language, AP US History).
  - **Dual-Credit Enrollment:** Students will have the opportunity to enroll in dual-credit courses through partnerships with local colleges and universities.
  - **Independent Study or Performance-Based Courses:** For highly motivated students, a faculty member may supervise independent study projects that delve deeply into a specific area of interest.
- **GT Students:** Require delivery options for reading, mathematics, science, and social studies, including: Accelerated and advanced coursework, AND one of the following:
  - Collaborative teaching and consultation services,
  - Special counseling services,
  - Differentiated study experiences for individuals and cluster groups in the regular classroom.
  - Distance learning,
  - Enrichment services that are not extracurricular during the school day,
  - Independent study,
  - Mentorships,
  - Pull out resource services or other targeted instruction and enrichment,
  - Seminars,
  - Travel study, or
  - Special schools or self-contained classrooms.

## **Student Withdrawal Policies**

- **Parental Consent:** Written consent from a parent or guardian is required for a student to be withdrawn or excluded from advanced coursework for which they are eligible.
- **Principal-Initiated Withdrawal:** A principal may withdraw a student from advanced coursework without written consent from a parent or guardian if the student's participation would have a significant adverse educational impact on them, such as interference with their chosen career pathway, access to technical education coursework, or other educational opportunities. Contact with the parent or guardian will be made prior to any such withdrawal.

## **SBDM Policy Requirement**

- Each school SBDM Council shall develop a policy that aligns with the district plan.
- The school will notify all students, parents, and guardians of the:
  - (a) Long-term benefits of student participation in advanced coursework; and
  - (b) Advanced coursework opportunities available at the school.

## **Review and Revision**

This plan will be reviewed and revised annually by the Allen County Schools administration in collaboration with teachers, counselors, and community stakeholders. Revisions will be made to align with updated Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) guidelines, including any recommendations for the consistent use of preliminary assessment data to identify students for advanced coursework.