



Haywood County Schools

AIG Program



Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Where can I find additional information about the Haywood County Schools AIG Program?**

[HCS AIG Website – haywood.k12.nc.us/aig/](http://haywood.k12.nc.us/aig/)

2. **Who can refer a student for AIG evaluation?**

Students may be referred for evaluation through a formal Referral Form submitted to the AIG Department by a parent, school employee, or by the student.

3. **Will students who are referred, automatically be tested for AIG identification?**

No. When a referral is submitted, the AIG team will review the student's existing testing data. If the data meets the screening criteria, further testing for identification will take place.

4. **How are parents informed if a student qualifies for further testing in the identification process?**

If additional data is required, parents/guardians receive a consent for testing and an AIG Handbook explaining the program and due process procedures.

5. **How is a student identified as academically or intellectually gifted?**

The Identification Process includes referral, screening, and identification. Student either referred through the formal Referral Form or meeting screening qualifications on specific assessments will be considered for further testing. Students must meet the established criteria in at least 2 of the 3 following areas for identification: Aptitude Testing, Achievement Testing and/or State-normed Grade Level Assessments. See the [AIG Identification Process At-A-Glance](#) document.

6. **If a student does not qualify for services at the time of screening, will he/she ever have another chance?**

Classroom performance, along with state and district assessment data, is reviewed annually for students who have been referred but did not initially meet the identification criteria. These students are reassessed as needed. Aptitude and achievement scores will be used for student identification and placement purposes for a period of three years. Students may be administered an aptitude or achievement assessment no more than once every other year.

7. **If a student meets the qualifications for one area of identification, can he/she be considered for identification in another area?**

Identified students are continuously monitored to evaluate whether additional areas of identification may be appropriate.

8. **If a student received gifted services in another school district in NC, will he/she automatically continue those services in Haywood County?**

Haywood County Schools will honor the AIG identification for any student transferring in from a school/district within the state with an approved NC AIG plan. The AIG team (teacher, principal, assistant principal, lead teacher, AIG specialist, AIG director) will analyze test scores, performance data and teacher observations to determine

appropriate services in HCS. The AIG specialist will meet with the parent/guardian and the DEP will be updated to reflect current services.

9. If a student received gifted services in a private/charter school within the state or outside the state of NC, will he/she automatically continue those services in Haywood County?

Records will be reviewed for students transferring from a private/charter school within the state without an approved NC AIG plan or transferring from outside the state of North Carolina. These students will be required to meet HCS AIG identification criteria for placement. Additional testing will be conducted, if necessary.

10. If a student qualifies for AIG, are services required?

No. Parents may refuse services.

11. How are services documented?

The district develops and implements a [Differentiated Education Plan \(DEP\)](#) that outlines the differentiated curriculum and instructional services to be provided. This plan is reviewed and revised annually.

12. What services are provided?

Elementary and Middle School

Each DEP includes the student's identified areas of giftedness and the specific differentiated services that will be provided. These services might include differentiated instruction within the classroom, resource class, an AIG course, curriculum compacting, subject or grade acceleration, cluster grouping, consultation, and access to advanced coursework. The plan also outlines content modification, special programming, instructional strategies and enrichment activities that align with the student's learning style and interests.

High School

The four-year plan outlines specific services and options such as enrollment in Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Career and College Promise (CCP), CTE or dual enrollment courses. It may also include independent study opportunities, internships, project-based learning, or academic competitions. The plan is updated annually as the student grows and their interests and long-term goals evolve.

13. If a middle school student does not enroll in the AIG course, how are they served?

Services may include differentiated instruction within the classroom, curriculum compacting, subject or grade acceleration, cluster grouping, consultation, and access to advanced coursework. AIG specialists provide resources and professional development regarding differentiating curriculum and instruction for teachers within each school.

14. Once a student is identified for AIG services, are there ongoing requirements to continue receiving support each year?

No. Once a student is identified, they will continue to receive services in Haywood County Schools until graduation from high school.