

Advanced Academics FAQs

What is KAP?

KAP (Katy Advanced Program) is an above-grade level academic program designed to prepare students for success in high school and Advanced Placements courses. In junior high, KAP courses are available in math, science, english language arts, and social studies.

Who can be in KAP?

Anyone! We have open enrollment for all students in junior high and high school. A gifted/talented identification is not necessary for KAP enrollment.

What's the difference between a KAP course and an Academic course?

Academic courses cover grade-level content. KAP courses cover the same content in a deeper, more complex way. You can expect KAP courses to offer a bit more challenge than the academic courses.

If my child is GT, can they take a KAP course?

Yes! GT students are required to take KAP/GT courses in their areas of identification.

Does a KAP course affect GPA?

Not in junior high. Only high school credit courses, like Algebra I, are applied toward the student's GPA in junior high. In high school, KAP and AP courses are graded on a 5-point scale.

Should my child take all KAP courses, or just one?

It depends. Students are encouraged to take the most challenging courses in which they can be successful, generally defined as a C or better. Students with strong grades in 5th grade are generally successful in KAP.

How do we sign up for KAP courses?

Students can select KAP courses during the course selection process in February.

What support is offered for students in KAP courses?

Teachers are required to offer tutorials for students who need them. Students who receive accommodations through Special Education or Section 504 are eligible to participate in KAP, so long as the accommodations do not require a modification of the curriculum.

Advanced Academics FAQs

What if my child finds KAP difficult?

KAP courses are designed to be challenging, but junior high is a safe place for students to learn to struggle productively. Students may need to seek additional support from teachers for the first time, and that's okay! Experiencing struggle early in their educational journey will allow students to develop study skills, grit, perseverance, and organizational skills that will continue to strengthen as they get older.

Should I allow my child to adjust to junior high before trying KAP courses?

It's easier for students to try KAP and then move to Academic if necessary than to do the opposite.

Do KAP classes have more homework?

Usually, yes. But parents and students typically say that the amount of homework is appropriate.

Can my child still participate in extracurricular activities?

Yes! Many athletes, cheerleaders, music students, etc. take KAP and AP courses.

What is the difference between KAP and KAP/GT?

The curriculum for most KAP and KAP/GT courses is similar. The difference lies in the teachers' approach to the courses. GT students are clustered in KAP/GT courses with teachers who have at least 30 hours of specialized training in gifted/talented education. 7th grade RLA GT differs from 7th grade RLA KAP in its pacing. GT RLA is one period long whereas KAP RLA is two periods. This means 7th graders in GT RLA are able to select one additional elective.

How will passing a Credit-By-Exam change the course progression?

Please visit the district's [Credit-By-Exam website](#) for CBE information. Contact your child's counselor to register for the exam.

What is dual credit?

Dual credit allows students to earn college credit for coursework completed while still in high school. It is available beginning in 9th grade.

Do all the schools offer the same electives?

Yes, all campuses offer the same courses.

Advanced Academics FAQs

What's the difference between Dual Credit and Advanced Placement?

Dual Credit	Advanced Placement (AP)
Curriculum designed by HCC, Course may be taught by a Katy ISD teacher or HCC professor	Curriculum designed by College Board, Course taught by a Katy ISD teacher
College credit dependent upon a passing grade in the course	College credit depending upon passing the AP exam*
GPA on 4.5 scale	GPA on 5.0 scale
Generally transferable to colleges/universities in Texas	Credit policy varies by college/university AP Credit Policy
Cost: \$65 plus books, other materials <i>HCC reserves the right to change the cost of a course.</i>	Cost: Exam fee \$102**

Can students take ACA and then switch to KAP the following year (and vice versa)?

Yes. Students select courses each February for the following year.

What does GT look like in high school?

Much like KAP/GT in junior high, GT students are clustered in KAP/GT and AP/GT courses with a GT-trained teacher. GT students are expected to take the most-advanced course available in the areas in which they are identified.

If I tested into GT in elementary but didn't take GT English in 6th grade, may I sign up for 7th GT?

No, a gap in service will require a student to be retested.

What are the electives that are high school credit courses in junior high?

Advanced Academics FAQs

Please refer to the SchoolLinks course catalog for specific course information.