

Highly Gifted Mathematics Frequently Asked Questions

Due to the overwhelming interest, GTA enrollment has changed, beginning with the incoming 5th-grade class for the 2024-2025 academic year. The enrollment process will affect participation in Highly Gifted Math.

1. What is Highly Gifted Math (HGM), and why is the district offering this class?

The HGM program is an accelerated mathematics course of study that starts in 5th grade and challenges students with greater depth and rigor to help prepare them for AP classes and post-high school education/work. The HGM program culminates with students in 8th grade taking HGM Geometry. In 9th grade, HGM students are eligible to take Pearland Advanced Program (PAP) Algebra 2. HGM math is not the same as PAP Math.

2. Is the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program available at all campuses?

The HGM program is only available through the GT Academy at Sablatura Middle School and Pearland Junior High West.

3. How does my student show interest in the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program?

Students must indicate interest in HGM on their GT Academy Interest Form. Students who have completed the GT Academy Interest Form and have been notified about enrollment in the academy will receive additional information prior to HGM testing, which is scheduled for February 3rd, 2024.

4. What if my student is enrolling in Pearland ISD from home school, private school, or a school outside of Texas?

Students who were not enrolled in a Texas public school and/or do not have STAAR exam data available may still qualify for the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program. Other state tests and nationally normed assessments may be used to meet the eligibility requirements. Please send all relevant data to Rachel Donkor in Advanced Academics for review when you submit your HGM online application. Data can be emailed to Donkorr@pearlandisd.org.

Students enrolled in Pearland ISD after October 27th, 2023, are not able to participate HGM program for the 2023-24 school year. If space allows, students may complete an interest form the following school year.

5. What if my student was not enrolled in Pearland prior to the GT Academy Interest Form?

Students enrolled in Pearland ISD after October 27th, 2023, are not able to participate in the HGM program for the 2023-24 school year. If space allows, students may complete an interest form the following school year.

6. When will I find out if my student has been accepted to the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program?

Test Date	Notice Date
Saturday, February 3 rd , 2024	Friday, February 16 th , 2024

* Testing has been moved to February to allow students more time with 4th-grade material.

7. What if my student qualifies for Highly Gifted Math (HGM), but they are not zoned to Sablatura Middle School or Pearland Junior High West?

The HGM program only exists at the GT Academy at Sablatura Middle School and Pearland Junior High West. **Students must** be enrolled in the GT Academy for the 2024-25 school year, or they cannot participate in the HGM program.

8. If my student did not qualify for the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program, can I appeal the decision?

A parent/guardian may appeal the decision regarding admission to the HGM program. To file a Level 1 appeal, please complete the Pearland ISD Gifted and Talented Program [Appeal Form: Level One](#). The appeal form must be submitted to Advanced Academics within 10 business days of the date of the initial denial notification.

Appeals only apply to those who have been notified about GT Academy enrollment, tested for HGM, and received a denial letter for the HGM program.

9. If my student did not qualify for the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program in 4th grade, can they apply again?

Students in the GT Academy who tested for HGM during their 4th grade year and did not qualify for participation in the HGM program may express interest again during their 5th grade year for the program in 6th grade. Due to the accelerated course of study during the 5th grade year that the student will have missed, these students will be required to successfully complete a Credit by Exam (CBE) for 6th-grade math or TTU K-12 Math 6 (A and B) course during the summer after their 5th-grade year. **Please see the [Testing/Accountability Department website](#) for more information on the CBE application process and deadline, and contact the campus counselor to schedule.**

The deadline to notify Advanced Academics about your interest in HGM for your current 5th-grader is Friday, January 27th, 2024. To notify, please email Rachel Donkor (Donkorr@pearlandisd.org) or Stacy Mueller (muellers@pearlandisd.org).

Please note that HGM is only at the GT Academy, and participation in the program is contingent on enrollment in the academy.

10. What other options are there for acceleration in mathematics?

Pearland Advanced Program (PAP) math courses are available starting in 5th grade at all middle school campuses. The PAP course of study results in students in 8th grade taking PAP Algebra 1. In 9th grade, PAP students are eligible to take PAP Geometry. Please refer to the Pearland ISD Math Course Sequencing document on the Pearland ISD website for more details.

11. Can my student withdraw from the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program?

Yes. Students who exit the program will be placed in the next highest available math course in the school year they withdraw. Students who withdraw for any reason cannot re-enter the program that same school year. Students who withdraw from the HGM program for any reason must re-qualify prior to re-entering the program the next school year.

12. If my student previously qualified for the Highly Gifted Math (HGM) program but declined the invitation or withdrew from the program, can they re-enter the program at a later date?

Students who withdraw from the HGM program for any reason must re-qualify prior to re-entering the program the next school year. Students who withdraw for any reason cannot re-enter the program that same school year.

13. For which 5th-grade math class should I register my student?

Students will need to enroll in PAP Grade 5 Math; this course is open to all students. If your student qualifies for the Highly Gifted Math program, Advanced Academics will communicate this to the GT Academy, and they will change your student's enrollment to the appropriate course.

14. Can my student take PAP Algebra 1 at our attendance-zoned junior high?

Yes. Students who successfully complete 6th grade in the Highly Gifted Math program, which includes 7th and 8th grade TEKS may choose to return to their attendance zoned junior high campus to take PAP Algebra 1 in 7th grade. GT students are clustered in foundational curriculum classes at all junior high schools. All PAP Algebra 1 classes use the state TEKS as the basis for instruction, and all students must take the End of Course Exam.

15. Can my student take PAP Geometry at our attendance zoned junior high?

If a junior high campus has a certified teacher and the required minimum number of students eligible for Geometry as their next articulated math course, Geometry will be taught at the junior high campus. If Geometry cannot be made available at the junior high campus, students may take Geometry during first period at their attendance zoned high school. At this time, we believe transportation will be provided at the end of first period from the student's attendance zoned high school to the various Junior High Campuses.

Pearland ISD Highly Gifted Math Course Pathway

Highly Gifted Math Learner	
Grade 5	HGM5 5th TEKS 6th TEKS 6th STAAR
Grade 6	HGM6 7th TEKS 8th TEKS 8th STAAR
Grade 7	HGM Algebra I Algebra 1 EOC
Grade 8	HGM Geometry
Grade 9	PAP Algebra 2
Grade 10	PAP Precalculus
Grade 11	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC
Grade 12	*PAP Linear Algebra and PAP Multivariable Calculus *PAP Logic and PAP Combinatorics *AP Statistics *AP Computer Science A