

ADVANCED LEARNING PLACEMENT FOR STUDENTS (ALPS)

2020-2021 ELEMENTARY APPLICATION for PLACEMENT in the 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

WHAT IS ALPS?

- ALPS is the Advanced Learning Placement for Students program. It is a magnet school program for children who master academic skills quickly and who require specialized learning experiences beyond the regular curriculum.
- Students attend school full-time in one of four ALPS magnet schools where they engage in appropriately paced and rigorous curriculum with an emphasis on critical thinking, depth, complexity, and creativity.
- ALPS serves students in grades 1-9.

WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR ALPS?

- Any kindergarten through 8th grade student interested in participating in the ALPS program beginning in the 2021-2022 school year.
- Current 3rd and 6th grade ALPS students who wish to continue in the program in 4th grade and 7th grade.
- Please note: Testing is for **Space Availability Only** for new students testing for 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 8th, and 9th grades.

WHICH SCHOOLS CURRENTLY HOUSE THE ALPS PROGRAM?

- Jordan Hills Elementary (New) 8892 South 4800 West, West Jordan
- Riverton Elementary 13150 South 1830 West, Riverton
- Westland Elementary 2925 West 7180 South, West Jordan
- Elk Ridge Middle School 3659 West 9800 South, South Jordan (7th and 8th grade only in 2021-2022)
- Hidden Valley Middle School 15410 Harmon Day Drive, Bluffdale (7th and 8th grade only in 2021-2022)
- Joel P. Jensen Middle School 8105 South 3200 West, West Jordan (7th, 8th, and 9th grade)
- Oquirrh Hills Middle School 12949 South, 2700 West, Riverton (9th grade only in 2021-2022)
- Of note: ALPS will move from Jordan Ridge Elementary to Jordan Hills Elementary, beginning in the 2021-2022 school year.

TESTING DATES

- Testing will be conducted in an electronic format during the school day at students' schools in February – March of 2021.
- Testing dates for applicants currently outside of Jordan District will be scheduled during the same time-frame.
- Current 6th grade students will participate in pilot universal CogAT testing in November – December of 2020.

PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

- An optional "Ask About ALPS" information meeting will be offered for parents new to ALPS on the following dates:
 - Wednesday, November 18, 2020 / 6:00-7:00 p.m.
 - Wednesday, December 2, 2020 / 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- The meeting will be held via Zoom. Please see <https://gandt.jordandistrict.org> for links to the meeting.

ALPS APPLICATION

- The ALPS application is available online at <https://gandt.jordandistrict.org>
- The application form can be saved to your computer, then filled-in and printed for submission to the Jordan School District Teaching and Learning Department.
- Please save the application to your computer as your information will not be saved on the online form.

TESTING FEE

- A \$35 testing fee is due with each ALPS application. Please make your check or money order payable to Jordan School District ALPS or pay by debit/credit card (not American Express) in the Teaching and Learning Department (address below).
- If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, you are eligible for a fee waiver. Please attach a copy of the verification letter from Nutrition Services with your application.

Application Due Date: Friday, December 18, 2020

Please submit your application to the Teaching and Learning Department in the Jordan Auxiliary Services Building:
7905 S Redwood Road Entrance D, West Jordan, UT 84088



ALPS TESTING AND PLACEMENT PROCESS

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE

QUALIFYING FOR ALPS

The ALPS placement process is composed of three parts:

- A parent recommendation in the form of this application
- Above grade-level Iowa Assessment in reading and math
- On grade-level Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)

Students who qualify for the ALPS program, on average, place in the 90th percentile in national scoring.

ALPS TESTING

The assessments will be administered to Jordan District applicants during the school day and at the school they attend. The testing will be administered between mid-January through February 28, 2021.

If your child does not currently attend a Jordan District school, alternative testing arrangements will be made. You will be contacted in January with scheduling options.

Jordan District is continuing to pilot universal CogAT testing for all 6th grade students in the fall of 2020. There is no fee for this testing. However, it is still necessary to submit an application if you are interested in your child participating in the ALPS program in 7th grade.

TEST RESULTS AND PLACEMENT NOTIFICATION

Middle School Applicants:

- Notification for 7th grade placement will be sent in early January 2021.
- Notification for 8th and 9th grade placement will be sent in early March of 2021.

Elementary Applicants:

- Placement notification will be sent for all elementary grade placement in early April 2021.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact the ALPS office with any questions you may have:

Rebecca Smith, Administrator
801-567-8368

Camille Kartchner, Administrative Assistant
801-567-8138

Frankie Walton, Teacher Specialist
801-567-8319

Taryn Cox, Teacher Specialist
801-567-8468

ALPS APPLICATION

Advanced Learning Placement for Students

Testing for Placement in the 2021-2022 School Year

Office Use Credit Card Receipt _____

Cash _____ Check # _____

Boundary School: _____

Student #: _____

Application Date: ____/____/____

Student Information

What grade is the student in currently? K ___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 ___ 7 ___ 8 ___

Please Note: Students must be enrolled in and on course to complete an accredited kindergarten program prior to the 2021-2022 school year in order to participate in the ALPS testing process for placement in first grade in the 2021-2022 school year.

Student Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Sex: M ___ F ___

Ethnicity: (Mark all that apply) American Indian or Alaskan Native ___ Asian ___ Black or African American ___

Hispanic/Latino ___ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander ___ White ___ Other ___

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

School Currently Attending _____

Is the applicant currently in ALPS? Y ___ N ___ If yes, which school? _____

Does the applicant have siblings in ALPS? Y ___ N ___ If yes, in which school(s)? _____

Does the applicant have siblings who are testing for ALPS? Y ___ N ___ If yes, for which grade(s)? _____

Elementary School Choice

Please initial your first-choice school: Jordan Hills _____ Riverton _____ Westland _____

If there is no space available in your first-choice school, will you be willing to accept placement in another school?

_____ No, I only want to be considered for placement in my first-choice school.

_____ Yes, I will be willing to accept placement in a school other than my first choice.

If yes, please indicate your 2nd and 3rd choice schools: Jordan Hills _____ Riverton _____ Westland _____

Designated ALPS Middle School

Elk Ridge: Copper Mountain, Elk Ridge, Mountain Creek, South Jordan

Hidden Valley: Fort Herriman, Hidden Valley, Oquirrh Hills, South Hills

Joel P. Jensen: Joel P. Jensen, Sunset Ridge, West Hills, West Jordan

Of note: If you would like to attend ALPS at a middle school other than the school designated for your boundary area, you must apply for a permit to the middle school. Please contact the middle school of choice for more information.

Parent/Guardian Information

Email Address _____

Please enter the email you check most often. This will be the primary way we will contact you throughout the testing process.

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell/Work _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell/Work _____

Do you reside in Jordan School District? Y ___ N ___ If yes, what is your boundary school? _____

Please note: Qualified applicants residing outside of Jordan District will be offered placement only after all qualifying Jordan District residents have been placed.

Special Considerations

Does your child currently have an IEP, 504, or receive special education services? Y ___ N ___

What was the first language that your child learned to speak? _____

Which language is used most often by your child? _____

What language is most often spoken in your home? _____

List any special circumstance you would like to declare. _____

Office Use

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

November 2020

PARENT RECOMMENDATION

Student Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Name(s) _____

What gifted and talented traits have you observed in your child? (Check boxes and/or write on the lines.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Has an expanded vocabulary | <input type="checkbox"/> Has keen powers of observation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asks many questions; is inquisitive | <input type="checkbox"/> Expresses ideas well |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is interested in how things work | <input type="checkbox"/> Has long-term recall of information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shows persistence | <input type="checkbox"/> Likes to solve puzzles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Displays creativity and originality | <input type="checkbox"/> Likes independence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adapts to new situations | <input type="checkbox"/> Has a highly developed sense of humor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices relationships | <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematically inclined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibits quick mastery of skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Makes connections |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Can be very sensitive | <input type="checkbox"/> Can exhibit perfectionist tendencies |
-
-
-
-

What additional talents and/or interests does your child exhibit? (Check boxes and/or write on the lines.)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sciences | <input type="checkbox"/> Service-oriented | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports |
-
-
-
-

MUTUAL AGREEMENT

ALPS TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Teachers will be licensed as an educator with a Gifted and Talented Endorsement or be working towards obtaining a Gifted and Talented Endorsement.
- Teachers will attend networking meetings and other professional development opportunities.
- Teachers will use ALPS Curriculum, which is a combination of on and above-grade level Utah Core Standards, higher level thinking skills, problem-solving training, integration, and differentiation.
- Teachers will implement a program which allows each child to work to his/her potential.
- Teachers will allow each child to express himself/herself creatively and constructively by providing a variety of processes and products from which students can choose.
- Teachers will share expertise by teaching some units to other classes as appropriate.
- Teachers will encourage the pursuit of in-depth study at an appropriate independent level.
- Teachers will attempt to maintain the health and safety of each child.
- Teachers will provide a positive and inclusive learning environment.
- Teachers will meet with parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences, and be available for consultation by appointment.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Parents will attend Parent/Teacher Conferences and communicate with the teacher at other times as needed.
- Parents will ensure student attendance is regular and on time.
- Parents will help their children become responsible for homework assignments.
- Parents will notify the ALPS office if they decide not to have their children participate in ALPS.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students will follow the Code of Conduct at the ALPS school.
- Students will maintain satisfactory classwork or better.
- Students will maintain satisfactory behavior or better.
- Students will attend school regularly and be on time.
- Students will be a responsible member of the class, the grade, and the school community.

I have read and understand the Mutual Agreement.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

ALPS STUDENT REEVALUATION POLICY

Although the Advanced Learning Placement for Students (ALPS) program attempts to screen candidates carefully, it sometimes becomes necessary to reevaluate a student's placement in the program. At times it is in the best interest of the student to return to his/her neighborhood school. For this reason, the following procedures have been established.

A STUDENT'S PLACEMENT IN THE ADVANCED LEARNING PLACEMENT FOR STUDENTS (ALPS) PROGRAM MAY BE REEVALUATED FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- Noncompliance with established policies of the Jordan School District and ALPS schools
- Consistent, unsatisfactory academic ratings
 - *Standard – Satisfactory or higher academic achievement and homework completion*
- Habitual disorderly behavior
 - *Standard – Satisfactory citizenship or above*
- Continued lack of self-motivation and independent work habits
- Consistent noncompliance with the provisions of the Mutual Agreement contained in the ALPS application

PROCESS FOR REEVALUATION OF ALPS STUDENTS

- Parents of a student with any of the concerns listed above will be contacted by the teacher, principal, or counselor. Appropriate interventions will be implemented. If documented interventions are unsuccessful, a formal conference will be scheduled at a mutually agreeable time.
- The concern(s) will be discussed, and a period of three weeks will be allowed after the conference to resolve the concern(s). Expected behavior will be agreed upon by the student, parent(s), teacher, principal and/or counselor, and the Jordan District Gifted and Talented Consultant.
- After the probationary three-week period, a second conference will be scheduled at a mutually agreeable time.
- If the problem(s) have not been resolved, the student's place in the program will be reviewed by the ALPS teacher, principal and/or counselor, parent(s), and the Jordan District Gifted and Talented Consultant.
- After reviewing the information, the above team will endeavor to come to a consensus and make a decision in the best interest of the student.

PROCESS FOR APPEAL

- 20-21 Parents may request an appeal hearing at the Jordan School District Office within three school days if there is dismissal notification. In the event of an appeal, the student may remain at the ALPS school pending the resolution of the appeal.
- The Jordan School District Appeals Committee will hear presentations by the ALPS staff and parent(s). The Appeals Committee will make the final decision.

I have read and understand the Reevaluation Policy.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____