

# ADVANCED LEARNING PLACEMENT FOR STUDENTS (ALPS)

## 2023-2024 APPLICATION for PLACEMENT in the 2024-2025 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, where they engage in an appropriately paced and rigorous curriculum emphasizing critical thinking, depth, complexity, and creativity.
- ALPS serves students in grades 1-9.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR ALPS?

- Any Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade student interested in participating in the ALPS program beginning in the 2024-2025 school year.
- All current 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ALPS students need to reapply for the program to participate in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Testing is for **Space Availability Only** for new students testing for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> grades.

### WHICH SCHOOLS CURRENTLY HOUSE THE ALPS PROGRAM?

Jordan Hills Elementary	Elk Ridge Middle School
Riverton Elementary	Hidden Valley Middle School
Westland Elementary	Joel P. Jensen Middle School

### TESTING DATES

- ALPS testing will be conducted from February - March 2024 during the school day at students' schools.
- Testing for applicants not attending a Jordan District school is scheduled for February 21 and February 22, 2024.
- Current Jordan District 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in universal CogAT testing during the school day. Testing is scheduled for October – December 2023. Data from this testing will be used for placement in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade ALPS program.

### PARENT INFORMATION MEETING

- An optional "Ask About ALPS" information meeting will be offered for parents new to ALPS on the following dates:
  - Thursday, November 2, 2023 / 6:00-7:00 p.m. (In-person Meeting)  
Auxiliary Services Building, 7905 S Redwood Rd, West Jordan, Entrance C
  - Wednesday, November 15, 2023 **OR** Wednesday, November 29, 2023 / 6:00-7:00 p.m. (Zoom Meetings)  
The Zoom link will be posted at [gandt.jordandistrict.org](http://gandt.jordandistrict.org) 30 minutes prior to the online meetings.

### ALPS APPLICATION

- A fillable PDF application is available at [gandt.jordandistrict.org/alps/testing/](http://gandt.jordandistrict.org/alps/testing/)
- Save the application to your computer, as your information will not be saved in the online form.

### TESTING FEE

- A **\$35 testing fee** is due with each ALPS application.
- Pay by check, money order, or credit card in the Teaching & Learning Department (7905 S Redwood Road, Entrance D).
  - Payment can also be made online through [jordansdut.governmentwindow.com/estore/district\\_office/testing.html](http://jordansdut.governmentwindow.com/estore/district_office/testing.html)
  - If paying online, include the confirmation number on your payment receipt with the application.
- Fee waivers are available for those who qualify for free/reduced lunch.
  - Attach a copy of the verification letter from Nutrition Services with your application.

### SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

- Bring your application to the Teaching and Learning Department (7905 S Redwood Road, Entrance D).  
**OR**
- Email your application to [ALPSapplications@jordandistrict.org](mailto:ALPSapplications@jordandistrict.org)
  - Save your application to your computer, as your information will not be saved in the online form.
  - Be sure to include the payment confirmation number when submitting online.

**Application Due Date: Friday, December 8, 2023**



# 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)

On average, students who qualify for the ALPS program place at or above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile in national scoring.

## ALPS TESTING

The assessments are administered to Jordan District applicants during the school day at the school they currently attend. The testing will be administered between February - March 2024.

If your child does not currently attend a Jordan District school, testing will be held on February 21 and February 22, 2024 at the Jordan District Auxiliary Services building.

## TEST RESULTS AND PLACEMENT NOTIFICATION

Middle School Applicants:

- Notification for 7<sup>th</sup> grade placement will be sent in early January 2024.
- Notification for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade placement will be sent in early March 2024.

Elementary Applicants:

- Placement notification will be sent for all elementary grade placement in April 2024.

## TRANSPORTATION

If placement is offered, parents are responsible for transportation to and from the ALPS school. Busing is not provided. Parents can choose to be included on an optional carpool list.

## 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 2024-2025 School Year

## Payment Record

Cash Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Confirmation # \_\_\_\_\_

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 in the 2023-2024 school year in order to participate in the ALPS testing process for placement in first grade in the 2024-2025 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, would you be willing to accept placement in another school?

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I only want my first-choice ALPS school. \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I am willing to accept placement in another ALPS school.

If yes, please indicate your 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice schools: Jordan Hills \_\_\_\_\_ Riverton \_\_\_\_\_ Westland \_\_\_\_\_

### Designated ALPS Middle School

Elk Ridge Middle School: Copper Mountain, Elk Ridge, Mountain Creek, and South Jordan Middle School Areas

Hidden Valley Middle School: Fort Herriman, Hidden Valley, Oquirrh Hills, and South Hills Middle School Areas

Joel P. Jensen Middle School: Joel P. Jensen, Sunset Ridge, West Hills, and West Jordan Middle School Areas

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.

### Additional Information

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

Boundary School

Student Number

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# 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  |

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**What additional talents and interests does your child exhibit?** (Check boxes 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 |

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# MUTUAL AGREEMENT

## ALPS TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Teachers will be licensed as educators 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 instructional strategies that foster higher level thinking skills, problem-solving, depth and complexity, integration, differentiation, etc.
- Teachers will implement a program which allows each child to work to his/her potential.
- Teachers will allow each child to express themselves 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.

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*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 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 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

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

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*I have read and understood the Reevaluation Policy.*

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_