

ADVANCED LEARNING PLACEMENT FOR STUDENTS (ALPS)
2014 APPLICATION For MIDDLE SCHOOL PLACEMENT In the 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR
For All NEW Applicants To the ALPS Program and For Current 6th Grade ALPS Students

What is ALPS?

ALPS is the Advance 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 depth, complexity, and creativity. ALPS serves students in grades 1-9.

Who should test for ALPS?

- Any kindergarten through 8th grade student interested in participating in the ALPS program beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.
- Current 3rd and 6th grade ALPS students who wish to remain in the program in 4th 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 Host the ALPS Program?

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Jordan Ridge Elementary | 2636 West 9800 South, South Jordan | Year-round Schedule |
| • Riverton Elementary | 13150 South 1830 West, Riverton | Year-round Schedule |
| • Westland Elementary | 2925 West 7180 South, West Jordan | Traditional Schedule |
| • Oquirrh Hills Middle | 12949 South 2700 West, Riverton | Traditional Schedule |

Testing Dates and Locations

- January 7 & 8, 2015 Testing for 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades at Majestic Elementary School
- January 9 & 10, 2015 Testing for 1st and 2nd Grades at Majestic Elementary School
- January 14 & 15, 2015 Testing for 7th, 8th, and 9th Grades at Oquirrh Hills Middle School

Parent Information Meeting

An optional "Ask About ALPS" information meeting will be held for parents new to ALPS.

October 21, 2014
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Auxiliary Services Building Auditorium
7905 S Redwood Road (1700 West)
(The auditorium is located at the north end of the building.)

Additional Information

Please visit <http://gandt.jordandistrict.org> for more information about the ALPS program and testing procedures.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 12, 2014

All applications must be completed and delivered to the Curriculum Department (2nd floor) in the Jordan School District office building located in Jordan Landing by 5:00 p.m. on December 12, 2014.

Application

The ALPS application is available online at <http://gandt.jordandistrict.org>. The application form can be saved to your computer, then filled-in and printed for submission via personal delivery to the Jordan School District Curriculum 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) at the front reception desk and hand-deliver the payment or payment receipt, along with the application, to Kyla Robertson in the Curriculum Department.

Please note: If you qualify for free or reduced lunch, you may be eligible for a fee waiver. Please attach a copy of the acceptance letter from Nutrition Services with your application.

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE

ALPS PLACEMENT PROCESS

Qualifying for ALPS

The ALPS placement process is composed of three parts:

1. A parent recommendation in the form of this application
2. Above grade level Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) in reading and math
3. On grade level Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)

Please note: The Teacher Rating and Student Survey are no longer part of the assessment process for placement in ALPS.

Middle School Testing Dates and Location

Students Testing For
7th, 8th, and 9th grades

Wednesday, January 14, 2015
4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
(Iowa Reading and Math Assessments)

AND

Thursday, January 15, 2015
4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
(CogAT Assessment)

Oquirrh Hills Middle
12949 S 2700 W
Riverton, UT

Students must attend both sessions of testing.

New this Year: Assessments for middle school testing will be administered online.

Important Information for Parents

- A parent or guardian is required to stay at the school during testing.
- Test times are approximate and students will finish the assessments at different times.
- For security reasons, parents are not allowed in the halls during testing. Please stay in the gymnasium and a test facilitator will bring your child to you when testing is completed.
- A parent information meeting, geared towards parents new to ALPS, will be held in the school gymnasium at 5:30 p.m. during the testing session on Wednesday and at 4:30 p.m. during the testing session on Friday.
- Please consider having your child eat a healthy snack before coming to the test site. No food or drink is allowed in the testing rooms. Restroom and water fountain drink breaks are given during testing sessions.

ALPS Testing Make-Up Day (Testing for Grades 7-9)

Make-up testing is reserved for students who are sick or who have extenuating circumstances that prevent them from testing on the original day. Only **ONE** testing session can be made up during make-up testing.

Date: Friday, January 16, 2014
Time: 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Place: Oquirrh Hills Middle School

MIDDLE SCHOOL APPLICATION

Testing for grades 7-9 for the 2015-2016 School Year
Advanced Learning Placement for Students (ALPS)

Please note: Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Office Use

Credit Card Receipt _____

Cash _____ Check # _____

Boundary School: _____

Student #: _____

Date Received: _____ Time: _____

Application Date: _____

Student Information

What grade is this student in currently? 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

Student Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Date of Birth _____/_____/_____ Sex: M _____ F _____

Ethnicity: American Indian or Alaskan Native _____ Asian _____ Black or African American _____

Hispanic or Latino _____ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander _____ White _____

Other _____ – Please Specify _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

School Currently Attending _____ Track _____

Currently in ALPS? Y _____ N _____ If yes, which school? _____

Does applicant have siblings in the ALPS program? Y _____ N _____ If yes, which school? _____

Parent/Guardian Information

E-mail Address _____
Please enter the e-mail you check most often. This will be the primary way we will contact you throughout the testing process.

Father's Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell/Work _____

Mother's Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell/Work _____

Guardian's Name (If Different Than Parents)

Name _____ Home Phone _____ Cell/Work _____

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

*Please note: If you reside outside of Jordan District you are welcome to apply for the ALPS program. However, please be aware that if your child qualifies for ALPS, he/she will only be placed in the program after all qualifying Jordan District residents have been placed.

Special Considerations

Does your child currently have an IEP 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 Only

Please note: Notification of a need for special consideration or testing accommodations must be given PRIOR TO TESTING. Students in need of special considerations that may impact the outcome of testing may have learning disabilities such as Asperger Syndrome, Autism, ADHD, etc., or language barriers. Failure to provide notification of a student's special needs prior to testing will forfeit an appeal based on that need.

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 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, and problem-solving training.
- 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 meet with parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences, and be available for consultation by appointment.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Parents will attend Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- Parents will volunteer to assist with the program either at home or at school as their schedules will allow. (Schedule to be determined with individual teachers.)
- Parents will provide transportation for their children to the ALPS school and ensure that children in carpools arrive on time and are picked up promptly.
- Parents will ensure student attendance is regular and on time.
- Parents will help their children become responsible for homework assignments.
- Parents will keep children at home when they have communicable diseases and check that work is caught up.
- Parents will cooperate with teachers to ensure the best possible education for each child.
- Parents will notify the ALPS program at the district office immediately if they decide for any reason not to have their children participate in ALPS.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students will follow the Code of Conduct in the ALPS school.
- Students will maintain satisfactory work or better.
- Students will independently maintain satisfactory behavior or better.
- Students will attend school regularly and be on time.
- Students will do their best work and turn it in 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.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

I have read and understand the Mutual Agreement.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

IF THIS PAGE IS NOT SIGNED, YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE PROCESSED

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 a traditional school program. For this reason, the following procedures have been established.

A STUDENT'S PLACEMENT IN THE ADVANCED LEARNING PLACEMENT FOR STUDENTS (ALPS) PROGRAM MAY BE JEOPARDIZED 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*
- Consistent absences or tardiness.
 - *Standard – No more than 10 unexcused absences and 10 unexcused tardies per year*
- Continued lack of self-motivation and independent work habits
- Consistent noncompliance with the provisions of the Mutual Agreement Form
- Neglecting to provide transportation to the ALPS school and/or neglecting to ensure children in carpools arrive on time and are picked up promptly

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 consensus and make a decision in the best interest of the student. If the school and Gifted and Talented Consultant recommend transfer, the student will be removed from the program.

PROCESS FOR APPEAL

- Parents may request an appeal hearing at the Jordan School District Office within three school days of the 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, appointed by the Jordan Board Administration, 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.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

I have read and understand the Reevaluation Policy.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

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Time: 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Place: Oquirrh Hills Middle School

Signature Required

- I have read and understand the dates of ALPS testing for placement in the 2015-2016 ALPS Program.
- I understand that a parent must remain at the school during testing.
- I understand that the make-up day is reserved for extreme circumstances and that only one session may be made-up that day.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

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