

Barber Middle School

2021-2022

Advanced Content FAQs

1. What are AC classes?

'AC' stands for "Advanced Content." Advanced Content classes address the unique characteristics and learning needs of intellectually high achieving students by providing an opportunity to participate in classes which extend and enrich the core curriculum.

2. Is AC the same as TARGET from elementary school?

No. TARGET is an elementary school program for gifted-identified students. There is no TARGET equivalent in middle school, but the Advanced Content program provides specialized instruction for both gifted-identified and high achieving students.

3. What is the difference between 'gifted identified' and 'high achieving' AC students?

Students who are identified 'gifted' (see CCSD gifted requirements) receive priority spots in AC classes based on areas in which they excel. Georgia requires that gifted-identified students are served in AT LEAST ONE advanced content class. High achieving students are not identified gifted, but they do show an ability to handle more rigorous curriculum. After gifted students are placed in AC classes, high achieving students are considered for available openings based on the school's AC placement criteria.

4. Why has the selection criteria changed from previous years?

Recent changes in AC criteria focus on examination of the 'whole child' and allow for increased opportunity to qualify for AC classes.

5. If my child is placed into AC classes, are there additional requirements?

AC students must maintain an 80% class average. Students who do not maintain an 80% class average may be placed on academic probation.

5. Can a teacher recommend my child for AC classes?

Elementary teachers have specific requirements for recommending students for AC classes. Once a student is in middle school, recommendation for an **advanced math class** cannot be accommodated after the first semester of 6th grade due to course prerequisites. All other content area recommendations can be evaluated on a semester basis in all grade levels.

6. My student is coming in from outside of the district, how should we handle this process?

Contact the school to determine next steps.

If you have further questions, you can contact Barber's Advanced Content coordinator, Melanie Alexander: Melanie.Alexander@cobbk12.org