

The Talent Identification Program of Kentucky (TIP-KY®)



**TIP-KY GOAL:
Identifying and
Supporting
Academic Talent**

Components of TIP-KY



Above-Level Testing



Programming



Recognition

Why take an above-level test?

Breaks the academic ceiling for students

Helps inform both educators & families what students are ready to learn



Determines the degree of challenge needed by subject

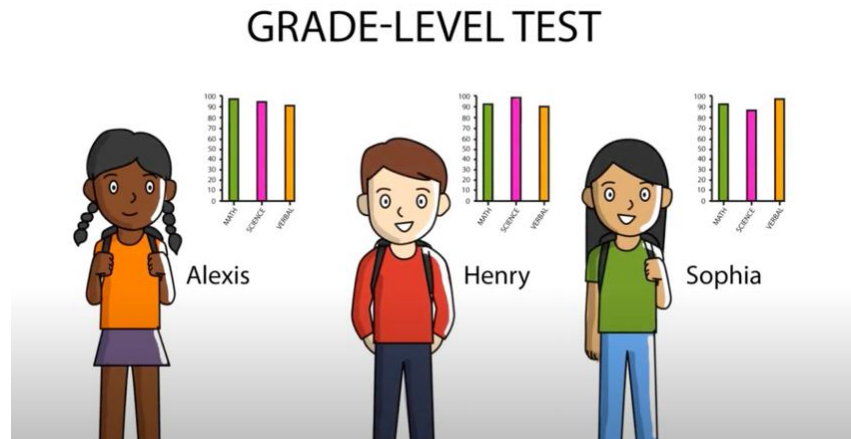
Provides data to support identifying high-ability and high-potential learners

An Educator's Perspective

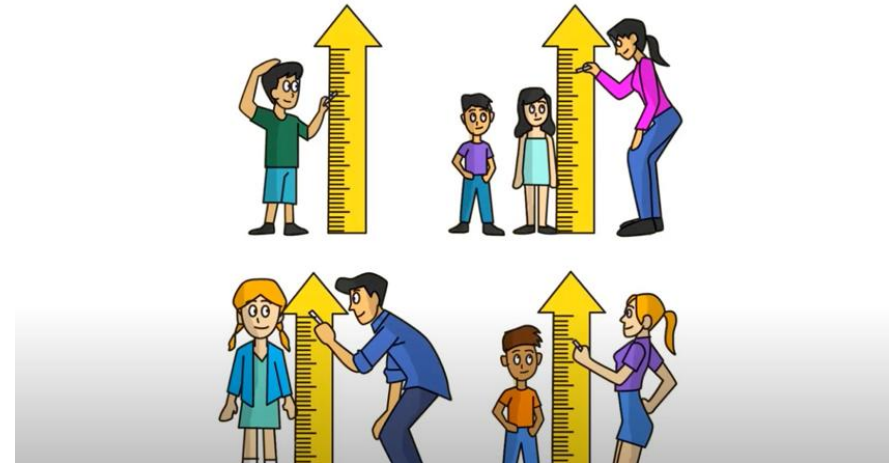
“Removing the ceiling on assessments is crucial in providing appropriate services for our high potential learners. Above-level testing paints a more vivid picture of the learner’s true abilities, which in turn serves as a foundation for school personnel to develop an effective service plan that aligns closely with the student’s individual learning needs.”

Renee Lackey, Gifted and Talented Coordinator
Elizabethtown Independent Schools

Video Resources



<https://youtu.be/xBxaViBRgpw>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mxUXev2P0k>

Available on TIP-KY website: wku.edu/gifted/tipky

What are the assessments?

Iowa Assessment (Grades 4–6)

- New Assessment!
- Online test administered at school
- Four subjects: math, science, English, and reading

ACT (Grades 7 & 8)

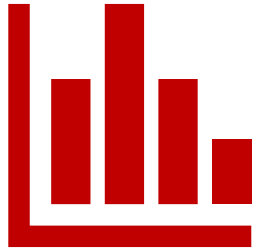
Registration process is two steps:

1. Students register with TIP-KY and receive voucher code and reporting code.
2. Students register with ACT and submit the codes when registering through the ACT website.

Note: Families pick the test date from the ACT national dates.

Who is eligible?

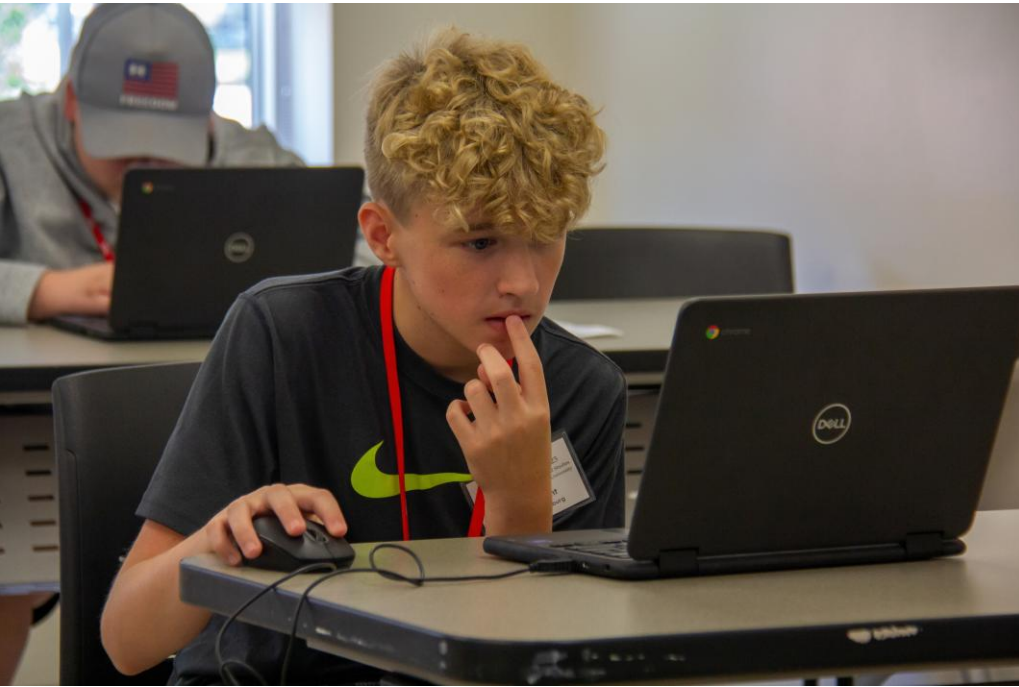
- ✓ Iowa Assessment for students in grades 4-6; ACT for students in grades 7 & 8
- ✓ Students score in top ten percent on a standardized, grade-level assessment
- ✓ The score can be in one or more areas (e.g. math and/or science and/or reading and/or English)
- ✓ There are exceptions to any rule. An educator or family member may believe a student has high-potential and would benefit from the test.



Score Interpretations

- Student's scores and score comparisons to typical students the test was designed for
- Breaks down by subject
- Offers recommendations and resources useful for the family based on each subject
- Pyramid of Educational Options links test scores to specific educational options (e.g., honors classes, mentorships, subject acceleration, grade skipping, fast-paced classes)

TIP-KY Test Dates



Upcoming ACT Test Dates:

Oct. 18, Dec. 13, 2025, and Feb. 14, 2026

Registration Deadlines:

Sept. 12, Nov. 7, and Jan. 9

Iowa Assessment: Determined by School

**For more information:
wku.edu/gifted/tipky**

**According to the Kentucky
Department of Education,
62,957 students
identified for gifted &
talented in grades 4-12**

reportcard.kyschools.us, 2023-24



**Since TIP-KY began in 2021,
4,649 students
have registered for an
above-level assessment**

Recognition Ceremony

Upcoming Date: May 22, 2026

Tests need to be completed by end of February to participate in this spring's ceremony.



Photo Credit: Clinton Lewis, Becca Clark

How do I stay informed and involved?

- ✓ Go to wku.edu/gifted and subscribe to monthly updates
- ✓ Talk to The Center for Gifted Studies staff
- ✓ Get involved with KAGE – kagegifted.org

Thank you!

Questions?

Tyler Clark: thomas.clark@wku.edu

Jennifer Wilson: jennifer.wilson@wku.edu