How does my child qualify?

Students who score 90% or better on a standardized achievement test *or* have been recommended by a teacher, counselor, or parent are invited to participate in the Northwestern University Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS), a model that identifies students needing additional challenge by giving them above-grade-level testing. Through NUMATS students take the SAT or ACT exam either at WMU or a local school. For information or to register, please go to: ctd.northwestern.edu/numats

ATYP holds informational meetings regarding testing and the talent search model in the fall of each year. See our website for specific dates.

To qualify for the English program, students need a minimum score of 520 on the reading or writing section of the SAT, or a minimum ACT score of 46 on the combined English + Reading sections, with neither score below a 22. For math, students need a 520 on the math section of the SAT or a score of 19 on the math portion of the ACT. A 560 (SAT) or 21 (ACT) score on the math portion is needed if the student has completed Algebra I. Reasonable reading skills are also needed to qualify for math.

What are my responsibilities?

Transportation:
Parents are responsible for bringing students to class on time. Some school districts provide transportation and parents form carpools. Transportation concerns should not prevent students from testing.

Additional Supplies:
Math students will need a graphing calculator. Literature students purchase some paperback texts.

Support & Encouragement:
With your support, students are able to adjust to the demands of these accelerted courses and develop time-management and probem-solving skills, and a strong work ethic.

wmich.edu/atyp

TheLee Honors College
Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

EMAIL ATYP-info@wmich.edu

PHONE (269) 387-3553

How much does ATYP cost?

Funding:
ATYP is funded through tuition payments and the support of Western Michigan University and the larger community. Funding from tuition provides approximately 75% of the revenue, with WMU and private donors contributing the other 25%, including administrative support, classroom space, and library access.

Costs:
Tuition costs of $350 to $400 per semester per class are paid by participating public and charter schools for each enrolled student. Private schools may also pay tuition; however, if a private school does not cover the cost, families are responsible for payment.

Participation Fee:
A $50 per student per semester fee is paid by families upon registration in ATYP. This is a non-refundable fee. A fee waiver is available to qualifying families upon request.

Your student needs additional challenge. What's next?

A Parent's Guide

ACADEMICALLY TALENTED YOUTH PROGRAM

atyp

TALENT + MOTIVATION + OPPORTUNITY = SUCCESS

What is ATYP?

ATYP is the Academically Talented Youth Program at Western Michigan University's Lee Honors College. The program is designed to meet the needs of gifted *and* motivated students, beginning in middle school, who are searching for a challenging, fast-paced, and above-grade-level curriculum.

Through personalized and intense instruction and rigorous coursework, students are prepared for AP (Advanced Placement) content after two years of ATYP classes. ATYP strives to teach students based upon their intellectual capacity, not their year in school. In the fall of each year, middle school counselors are asked to identify students in their schools who might qualify for the challenge of ATYP.

What are the courses like?

Mathematics coursework emphasizes lively discussions, homework assignments that guide students to learn through reasoning, and the development of higher level thinking. Students are challenged to think analytically and to acquire new problem solving skills.

English coursework encourages students to develop the process of written communication through intensive writing assignments, revision, and the creation of an extensive portfolio. During class time, students analyze a broad range of work from established writers, have lively discussions, practice public speaking, and learn how to write collegiate-level research projects.

More information is available in specific course pamphlets.

ATYP Timeline

Fall 6th/7th Grade	Recommend Students to Participate in NUMATS
October to December 6th/7th Grade	Remind Students and Parents to Register for NUMATS
January to March 6th/7th Grade	Students Participate in Above-Grade-Level Testing
March to April 6th/7th Grade	Scores Received in ATYP Office
May 6th/7th Grade	Qualifying Students Invited to Attend Informational Meeting

Who can enroll?

Qualifying 7th or 8th grade students with motivation to learn in an above-grade-level, fast-paced curriculum. Students may begin in middle school and continue until program completion.

How heavy is the class work/homework?

Due to the accelerated nature of the course, students receive homework that supplements the classroom time. Math students submit approximately 1500 solutions to problems over the course of the semester. Literature students write, analyze, and/or discuss over 40 essays. The students peer edit and revise their own work. Most students find they spend 5–10 hours per week on homework outside of class time.

Where/when are classes offered?

ATYP Classes are held on both the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek campuses of Western Michigan University on Tuesday through Thursday. ATYP classes (Year I & II) meet one afternoon per week., and follow the local public school calendar.

Typical Course Progression

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Language Arts	Honors English 9/ Honors English 10	Honors English 11/ Honors English 12	AP Literature and Composition/ AP Language and Composition
Math	Algebra 1/Algebra 2	Geometry/ Precalculus	Calculus at Local School
Grade	7th or 8th	8th or 9th	9th or 10th