

Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG) at Evergreen Community Charter School

Evergreen's AIG Program is consistent with and is an extension of the school-wide EL Education program. It is grounded in recognized research and local expertise and provides a natural progression of options and opportunities for advanced learners. The program is flexible and comprehensive. Instruction is individualized for students' diverse needs by providing opportunities for collaboration, independence, self-reflection, and growth within the context of an evolving and cohesive educational environment. It seeks to serve students in Kindergarten through 8th grade with a half-time AIG teacher working with grades K-3 and a full-time teacher working with grades 4-8. The AIG staff for the 2023-24 school year are: AIG Coordinator - Cameron Brantley, K-3 AIG Teacher - Brittany Keeler, and 4-8 AIG Teacher - Kendall Strasser.

Evergreen AIG Identification Criteria 2022-25

Evergreen Community Charter School has three criteria for identification: aptitude, achievement, and observable behaviors. Students must meet the criteria in at least one of the Pathways listed below to qualify for formal identification as Academically Gifted Reading (AR), Academically Gifted Mathematics (AM), Academically Gifted Reading and Math (AG), Intellectually Gifted (IG), or Academically and Intellectually Gifted (AI). Measures to better ensure identification of traditionally underrepresented populations are used whenever possible. Students who have partially met the criteria for identification are entered into the Evergreen Talent Pool.

AR Pathway 1: 93rd percentile or above in 2 of 3: aptitude or reading achievement or observable behaviors

AR Pathway 2: 99th percentile in reading achievement

AR Pathway 3: in the top 10% of the grade level in reading achievement

AM Pathway 1: 93rd percentile or above in 2 of 3: aptitude or mathematics achievement or observable behaviors

AM Pathway 2: 99th percentile in mathematics achievement

AM Pathway 3: in the top 10% of the grade level in mathematics achievement

AG Pathway: one AR Pathway and one AM Pathway

IG Pathway: 97th percentile or above in aptitude

AI Pathway: one AG pathway and the IG pathway

Aptitude Criteria

*An aptitude screening assessment (SAGES-3) will be administered to all students in 2nd grade.

*Ability testing (IQ such as Wechsler) done by an outside source or for EC services are considered as a valid criterion for aptitude.

Achievement Criteria

*An achievement screening assessment for reading (Read to Achieve (RtA) approved assessment) will be administered to all K-3 students three times per year.

*Student achievement measures including SAGES-3 (K-3 mathematics), BOG (3rd reading), and EOG (3-8 mathematics and reading) assessments are compiled, analyzed, and documented annually.

Observable Behaviors Criteria

*At the beginning of the school year (September - October) in grades K-8, a qualitative measure of student behaviors using the research-based Kingore Observation Inventory (KOI) is conducted by lead teachers.

*At the end of the year (April/May), lead teachers will complete the two of the Renzulli-Hartman Scales for

Rating the Behavioral Characteristics of Superior Students: Learning Characteristics and Motivational Characteristics.

Evergreen AIG Services Summary 2022-2025

Evergreen believes the program should fit the student and not that the student should fit the program. To reflect this belief, Evergreen's AIG program seeks to meet the needs of students in Kindergarten through 8th grade with a Levels of Service approach for both students formally identified and those in the Talent Pool:

Level 1: all students (core) - EL Education, differentiated curriculum, Lexile grouping, enrichment

Level 2: many students (93rd - ~95th percentile) - Level 1 + cluster grouping, extensions

Services in Levels 1 & 2 are delivered by classroom teachers with indirect support from the AIG teacher and AIG coordinator. Services for Kindergarten and 1st grade are primarily, but not exclusively, at these levels.

Level 3: some students (~95th - ~97th percentile) - Level 2 + subject acceleration, pull-out and push-in groups

Level 4: few students (~97th - ~99th percentile) - Level 3 + independent study, grade acceleration

Services in Levels 3 & 4 are delivered by classroom teachers and directly by the AIG teacher. Services for 2-8 are primarily, but not exclusively, at these levels.

Students who have partially met the qualifying criteria for identification are entered into Evergreen's Talent Pool. Students in the Talent Pool are eligible for the same AIG services as those formally identified. Families will be notified when their student begins receiving direct services through the AIG program.

Evergreen's 2022-25 AIG Plan was approved by the Board of Directors on June 16, 2022. The full plan is available on Evergreen's website - evergreenccs.org/aig. For questions about the plan or identification, contact Cameron Brantley at cameron.brantley@evergreenccs.org or 828.298.2173x1238.