

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Avondale GATE Magnet School

Is the K-1 application and the GATE application the same application?

No. There is a separate application for the K-1 applicants. Please ensure you are completing the correct application.

Can I submit my application early?

No. Applications can only be submitted during the application window. The application window can be found on [GATE's website](#) in January of each year.

Will my application be accepted if I submit after the application window deadline?

No.

Where can I find the application timeline?

The application timeline for each school year will be updated and posted on [GATE's website](#) by mid Fall (November) for the following school year. Scroll down and click on the section titled application information.

If I miss the scheduled tour dates, what should I do?

A virtual tour can be found on [GATE's website](#). Scroll down and click on the "Virtual Tour" tab.

How will I know if I successfully submitted my application?

After submission of application, the primary email address listed on the application will receive an email confirmation. If you do not receive a confirmation, please check your spam folder. If you do not locate the confirmation in the spam folder, you will need to complete the application again and verify the email address is correct before hitting submit.

Can I contact the school to verify my application was submitted?

We ask that you please do not contact the school to verify your application was submitted. We ask that you please review the confirmation email for verification of application.

If you do not find the confirmation email in your inbox, please look in your spam folder.

If I fail to submit required documents, will I be contacted?

No. If an applicant fails to submit required documents with their application, they will not be contacted to request the missing information. As stated in the application, ***Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.***

If I acquire documents after submitting my application, can I email them to the school?

No. Emailed documents will not be accepted. Please make sure you have ALL your documents before hitting submit. If you acquire documents after submitting an application, you will need to complete the application again in order to submit the documents.

Will a report card suffice as a behavior report?

No. A report card will not suffice as a behavior report. A behavior report is a document that is obtained from your child's school's Student Information System (SIS). It details their behavior/discipline for the years requested on the application. If your child does not have any behavior/disciplinary actions in the SIS, the school will need to provide a letter on the school's letterhead including the dates of enrollment, stating there is no discipline for the student, and be signed by a school official.

What if my school or school district does not do NWEA, i-Ready or STAR?

If you do not have a NWEA, i-Ready, or STAR report to submit because your school or school district does not do any of the listed assessments, the applicant will have to register to take the NWEA at GATE. Applicants who pass the screener will receive an invitation to register for the NWEA. Please select a date that best fits your schedule.

What is NWEA and how is it administered?

The NWEA is a nationally normed, standardized achievement test which measures what students know and informs what they're ready to learn next by using a computer adaptive test that adjusts to the ability and knowledge of the student.

Additional information regarding NWEA can be found at <https://www.nwea.org>.

My child is a 1st grader and took the NWEA, i-Ready or STAR at his or her school. Will my child still need to register to take the NWEA?

Yes. All current 1st graders will need to register to take the NWEA test at GATE. 1st grade applicants who pass the screener will receive an invitation to register for the NWEA.

Where can I find the dates to take the NWEA test if I am unable to provide an assessment report from my school?

Applicants who pass the screener will receive an invitation to register for the NWEA.

What is the CogAT test?

The CogAT is a nationally standardized cognitive abilities assessment which measures reasoning and problem solving skills. This assessment measures the cognitive development of each student. GATE uses this screening test to help identify giftedness in students.

Additional Information regarding CogAT can be found at https://riversideinsights.com/cognitive_abilities_test.

How is the CogAT given?

The test is online. The total time, including the student "warm up", is approximately 60 minutes but this depends on the student.

If I need to change my testing date, can I contact the school to have my date changed?

No. We strongly recommend that you coordinate all schedules/calendars before selecting a date. Dates can not be changed by calling the school. If you need to change your testing date, you will need to resubmit your testing date request.

When can I expect to hear from the school after a testing session?

The school will send an email to the primary email address approximately 7 school days after the testing session to notify you of the results and/or next steps. Final decision notifications will be sent out within two weeks of the **last** testing session date.

What happens if the number of applicants exceeds the number of available slots?

If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available slots for a particular grade level, GATE must accept eligible applicants in the following order:

- Students who reside in the same household as students enrolled under section 105 or 105c in the immediately preceding school year, semester, or trimester.
- Other students are selected according to a random lottery, which must also be used to establish a waiting list.

Any questions or concerns that can not be answered in the FAQ, please email gate.applicants@avondaleschools.org.