

# *Is an Advanced Academic Course (AAC) right for me?*

Are you up for the challenge of AAC?

AAC add depth to the already rigorous grade level curriculum. These courses will take a **commitment** of strong effort to see success. A student who has a low work ethic or is not academically motivated may be more successful in a non-AAC.

Do you have time to commit to AAC academics?

AAC are demanding of **time**. Reading and writing assignments, as well as projects and regular homework can be expected. If you already have commitments on your time from extracurricular activities or other outside of school responsibilities, you will need to make sure you are able to create a balance and make time for your academic work.

At what pace do you learn new material?

The pacing of some AAC courses is **very fast**. If you generally pick up new learning quickly, AAC may be a good fit. If you generally need a few interventions before picking up new material, a non-AAC course may be more appropriate for you.

Do you intend to take AP courses/tests when available?

AAC are designed to prepare students for the AP courses offered in FBISD. If you are committed to the study of a subject through **HS up to AP level**, and hope to take the associated **AP test** to try to earn college credit, then AAC is the place for you.

Would your current teacher recommend AAC for you?

Your current teacher knows you and your learning style. You may want to have a conversation with him/her to see what his/her recommendation is for your learning path.

Your current skill set and your motivation are both important considerations!

What are your grades like in the subjects for which you are considering AAC?

If your grades in the subject for which you are considering AAC have consistently been very good (85+) then you are thinking in the right direction. Students who have lower grade averages in a content area may want to consider staying with non-AAC course for that content.

What are your STAAR scores like in the subjects for which you are considering AAC?

Students considering AAC for ELA or SS should look at their Reading and Writing STAAR scores. Students considering AAC for Math or Science should look at their Math STAAR scores. Students at or close to mastery may want to consider AAC.

Your current ability and your motivation are both important considerations!

The State of Texas has set high standards for all students through the vertically aligned curriculum for all courses K-12. All courses follow the state curriculum, are rigorous and can be very challenging. Advanced Academic Courses (AAC) add another level of depth to the state curriculum. Both non-AAC and AAC can lead to college level work before graduation and give students opportunities for growth and learning.