

The Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP) is a non-profit educational organization that is recognized as a leader in identifying and serving the educational needs of academically gifted youth. Through identification, recognition, challenging educational programs, information, advocacy and research, Duke TIP provides resources to gifted students, their parents, educators, and schools for the development of the students' optimal educational potential.

THE TALENT SEARCHES

Experts at Duke TIP have worked hard to develop and compile information to help inspire academically talented young people to learn through exciting educational opportunities. Since 1980 more than 2 million gifted youth have explored the heights of their abilities through Duke TIP's two annual talent searches and the above-level testing experience they offer students. Traditional testing often fails to measure the variation among many gifted students who reach the upper limits of scoring on grade-level exams. By taking advanced above-level tests, gifted students and their families gain a far better understanding of where the student stands in relation to his or her gifted peers and what level of educational challenge is appropriate.

The 4th and 5th Grade Talent Search provides parents with information about how they can help their children develop their talents during a pivotal stage in their growth. These high-potential youth are encouraged through online activities and print publications to challenge themselves and begin focusing on their future. Students also are formally recognized and praised for their performance, are offered the option to take an above-level test (EXPLORE), and are given a clear message that developing their intelligence can be fun and fulfilling. Registration begins in January of each year.

The 7th Grade Talent Search identifies academically qualified students and invites them to complete college entrance examinations (SAT or ACT) alongside

high-school students. Students are recognized for their test scores, provided with detailed information about their abilities, and introduced to a network of academic opportunities and resources available to them based on their scores, including educational programs offered by Duke TIP and others. Registration begins in September of each year.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Duke TIP hosts a range of Educational Programs for gifted students. These fast-paced programs are designed to meet the intellectual and social needs specific to gifted and talented students by offering them the opportunity to learn highly challenging material at a rate suited to their advanced abilities and motivation.

Summer Studies (grades 7-10) and **Field Studies and Institute** programs (grades 9-12) are residential programs held on college campuses and in field study locations around the world during the summer. Programs offer advanced-level courses in challenging and inspiring settings.

Scholar Weekends (grades 8-11) are two-day intensive courses that provide enrichment and an opportunity to meet similarly motivated students. Held on college and university campuses throughout our region, Scholar Weekends help students sharpen skills and explore pathways to college majors and careers.

The e-Studies Program (grades 8-12) offers online, interactive distance learning programs. Students connect with instructors, course material and classmates from across the country (and world) in virtual classrooms. Courses run in the fall and spring (16-week sessions), as well as summer terms (8-week session).

The Independent Learning Program gives challenging options for independent study any time, anywhere. Learn on Your Own courses come in workbook, CD-ROM, or online formats, allowing students (grades 4-12) to pursue a variety of subjects for short-term or year-long study. Students identify a mentor with expertise in a course content area and use Duke TIP materials to explore a topic of interest at their own pace.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

www.tip.duke.edu - The Duke TIP Web site contains a wealth of detailed information about the organization, services, Q & A, news, gifted education research, publications for download and many additional resources for parents, educators, and students.

Financial Aid - Many promising young scholars need financial assistance in order to take advantage Duke TIP's opportunities. The organization is committed to helping gifted students participate regardless of financial circumstances. Assistance is available for qualified students with demonstrated financial need for most Duke TIP programs. Much of this financial aid is provided by Duke TIP donors. In addition to financial aid, several partner organizations offer scholarships and services to qualified students.

Duke Gifted Letter, a free e-newsletter, provides valuable information and resources to parents navigating the educational and developmental challenges and opportunities that lay ahead for their gifted child. Available at www.dukegiftedletter.com.

The Educational Opportunity Guide Online is a comprehensive directory of summer and academic year educational programs designed to inform students, parents, and educators about the numerous educational opportunities available for gifted students. www.duketipeog.com.

Advanced Placement Manuals assist instructors in the planning and execution of successful AP courses. With suggestions for lesson plans, effective teaching strategies and aids in nine AP subjects, these manuals are important resources for both new and veteran AP instructors.

Research is an important focus of Duke University and Duke TIP. Through research the organization strives to improve the gifted education experience and the academic development of gifted students. Likewise, Duke TIP can provide information from its studies to teachers, counselors, parents, and others nationwide who also serve adolescents. The Duke TIP research team publishes articles in education and gifted journals, and maintains its position as a key gifted education data resource and an integral part of the scholarly community.