

Nomination / Referral

Students may be nominated/referred for the gifted and talented program at any time by teachers, counselors, parents, or other interested persons.

~~Screening and Identification Process~~

The District shall provide assessment opportunities to complete the screening and identification process for nominated/referred students at least once per school year.

All students who reside in the District attendance zone and attend private school/homeschool have access to the nomination, assessment, and selection process for a fee to be determined by the district.

Parental Consent

The District shall obtain written parental consent before any special testing or individual assessment is conducted as part of the screening and identification process. All student information collected during the screening and identification process shall be an educational record, subject to the protections set out in policies at FL.

Identification Criteria

~~The Board-approved program for the gifted and talented shall establish criteria to identify gifted and talented students. The criteria shall be specific to the state definition of gifted and talented and shall ensure the fair assessment of students with special needs, such as the culturally different, the economically disadvantaged, and students with disabilities.~~

Students shall be identified as gifted and talented in accordance with the following:0)

1. The definition of gifted students shall be consistent with Education Code 29.121.
2. Provisions for selection of nominated kindergarten students shall be based on a minimum of three criteria to assess the students who perform at remarkably high levels when compared to their age peers. All selected kindergarten students shall be placed in a gifted and talented program by March 1 each year.
3. Provisions for selection of nominated students in grades 1 through 12 shall be based on a minimum of three appropriate criteria that include both qualitative and quantitative measures.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

EHBB
(LOCAL)

4. The population of the program for gifted and talented students shall strive to reflect the demographic characteristics of the total District.
5. Students may be identified in English/language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies and placed in the gifted and talented program(s) that best meet(s) their educational needs.
6. A Campus Selection Committee shall be established at each campus. It shall be composed of a campus administrator and/or counselor and at least one teacher who have met the training requirements for gifted and talented programs.
7. The Campus Selection Committee shall evaluate each nominated student according to the established district criteria and shall select those students for whom placement in the gifted program is the most appropriate educational setting.
8. Students whose scores indicate a predominance of high ability scores shall be considered for placement.
9. Parents shall be informed in writing of the placement decision and, if applicable, their right to appeal this decision in writing at the campus level.
10. The Advanced Academics Department shall monitor the gifted and talented District population to ensure that gains are being made toward having the gifted and talented program reflect the demographic characteristics of the District as a whole.

Assessments

~~Data collected through both objective and subjective assessments shall be measured against the criteria approved by the Board to determine individual eligibility for the program. Assessment tools may include, but are not limited to, the following: achievement tests, intelligence tests, creativity tests, behavioral checklists completed by teachers and parents, student/parent conferences, and available student work products.~~

Assessment of students for gifted and talented programs shall include quantitative and qualitative data collected from multiple sources for each area of giftedness served by the District. Students shall be assessed in the language they understand or with nonverbally based tests.

Assessment tools may include, but shall not be limited to, the following: cognitive tests, behavioral checklists, and student work products.

Selection

A selection committee shall evaluate each nominated/referred student according to the established criteria and shall identify those students for whom placement in the gifted and talented program is the most appropriate educational setting. The committee shall be composed of at least three professional educators who have received training in the nature and needs of gifted students, as required by law, and shall be established at each campus.

Notification

The District shall provide written notification to parents of students who qualify for services through the District's gifted and talented program. Participation in any program or services provided for gifted students shall be voluntary, and the District shall obtain written permission from the parents before placing a student in a gifted program.

No Reassessment

The District shall not perform routine reassessments.

Transfer Students

Interdistrict

When a student identified as gifted by a previous school district enrolls in the District, the selection committee shall review the student's records to determine if placement in the District's program for gifted and talented students is appropriate.

The selection committee shall make a determination within 30 calendar days of the student's enrollment in the District and shall base the decision on the transferred records, observation reports of District teachers who instruct the student, student and parent conferences, and retesting with District measures if deemed necessary.

[See FDD(LEGAL) for information regarding transfer students and the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children]

Intradistrict

A student who transfers from one campus in the District to the same grade level at another District campus shall continue to receive services in the District's gifted and talented program.

Furloughs

The District may place on a furlough any student who is unable to maintain satisfactory performance or whose educational needs are not being met within the structure of the gifted and talented program. A furlough may be initiated by the District, the parent, or the student.

In accordance with administrative regulations, a furlough shall be granted for specific reasons and for a specified period of time. At the end of a furlough, the student may reenter the gifted program, be placed on another furlough, or be exited from the program.

Exit Provisions

The District shall monitor student performance in the program. If at any time the selection committee determines it is in the best interest of the student and his or her educational needs, the committee may exit a student from the program. If a student or parent requests removal from the program, the selection committee shall meet with the parent and student before honoring the request.

Appeals

~~A parent or student may appeal any final decision of the selection committee regarding selection for or exit from the gifted program. Appeals shall be made first to the selection committee. Any subsequent appeals shall be made in accordance with ENG(LOCAL) beginning at Level Two.~~

A parent/guardian or a student may appeal any decision regarding selection for or removal from the gifted program in accordance with the following:

Level One - Campus Principal/Campus Selection Committee

Level Two - Director of Advanced Academics/District Selection Committee

All appeals must be in writing within 10 days of selection or removal decision.

The decision at Level Two (Director of Advanced Academics/District Selection Committee) is final and not subject to further appeal.

Program Evaluation

The District shall annually evaluate the effectiveness of the District's gifted program, and the results of the evaluation shall be used to modify and update the District and campus improvement

plans. The District shall include parents in the evaluation process and shall share the information with Board members, administrators, teachers, counselors, students in the gifted and talented program, and the community.

Community Awareness

The District shall ensure that information about the District's gifted and talented program is available to parents and community members and that they have an opportunity to develop an understanding of and support for the program.