

**GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT PROGRAM****Program Coordinator**

The Superintendent or designee shall appoint the school principal for each school site to serve as the gifted and talented education (GATE) program coordinator responsible for implementation of program services at that school site.

**Identification of Gifted and Talented Students**

Identification of students eligible for placement in the GATE program is a shared responsibility of principal, teachers, and other staff members at the student's school of attendance

Students may be recommended for the GATE program by administrators, teachers, counselors, other staff, or parents/guardians. Parent/guardian consent shall be obtained before administering any assessments for the sole purpose of identifying students for this program or for placing a student in the program and the parent/guardian shall be informed of their ability to opt out of any such testing.

Identification is made under three state-established criteria selected by the district to provide an equal opportunity for all students to be considered for participation in the Gifted and Talented Education Program. The three categories are:

1. Intellectual Ability. A student demonstrates extraordinary intellectual development or a potential for extraordinary intellectual development.
2. High Achievement. A student consistently produces advanced ideas and products and/or attains exceptionally high scores on achievement tests.
3. Specific Academic (secondary only). A student functions at highly advanced academic levels in a particular subject area.

The identification process consists of five steps: search, assessment, documentation, review, and identification and placement. Assessment occurs at grades 2 and 5. All students eligible for testing must have a completed Parent Information form with parent signature before assessment takes place.

School psychologists accomplish the first step. Each psychologist contacts his/her assigned schools and arranges dates and times for testing at the school site. They may also arrange staff and/or parent in-service meetings at this time.

The Superintendent or designee shall select students for the program using the Multiple Criterion Matrix based on their demonstrated or potential ability for high performance in categories identified by the Board of Education, as evidenced by any of the following indicators:

1. School, class, and individual student records
2. Group tests, including summary and evaluation by a credentialed school psychologist

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## 3. Interviews and questionnaires of teachers, parents/guardians, and others

*(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)*

*(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)*

*(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)*

The Superintendent or designee shall base selection decisions upon the evaluation of pertinent evidence by the principal or designee, a classroom teacher familiar with the student's work, and, when appropriate, a credentialed school psychologist and/or other expert. These persons may review screening, identification, and placement data and shall meet when necessary to resolve any differences in assessment and recommendations. Evidence of a student's abilities, shall be considered through the use of the Multiple Criterion Matrix including but not limited to economic, linguistic, and cultural characteristics of the student's background.

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

*(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)*

**Transfer Students**

A student who transfers into the district shall be considered for the GATE program if he/she was identified as a gifted and talented student in his/her previous district or school or is recommended for the program. The Superintendent or designee or GATE Team at the school of enrollment may verify that the GATE program would be an appropriate placement for the student by examining evidence of the student's abilities based on any of the indicators listed above.

**Retesting**

Because students who do not initially meet district criteria for the GATE program may become eligible at a later grade level, the district may re-examine student eligibility whenever the district receives a referral or the Superintendent or designee determines it to be in the student's best interest.

GATE retesting criteria include:

1. A score of 85<sup>th</sup> percentile or above on the first administration of the Raven or commensurate in the Multiple Criterion Matrix
2. Two Level 4 (Exceeds) scores from the Smarter Balanced Assessment (Math and ELA)

Regulation  
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**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
San Diego, California