



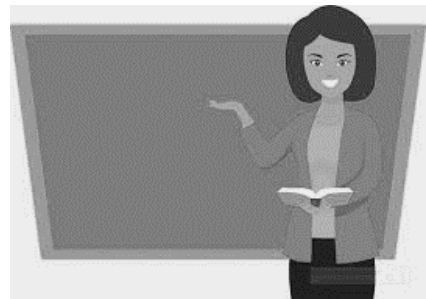
Gifted Education Programs and Services

What does it mean to be Gifted?

Gifted children and youth are students with outstanding abilities. (It used to be called gifted and talented.) These abilities are identified at preschool, elementary, and secondary levels. Gifted students need educational programs or services that are different and more challenging than what is in the general school program.

A gifted student has shown achievement or potential ability in one or more of these areas:

- general intellectual
- specific academic subjects
- creativity
- leadership, and
- visual & performing arts.



How are students identified as Gifted and Talented?

If a district or charter school offers gifted programs and services, then it MUST adopt identification procedures that:

- Assess and identify the students.
- Enable their academic acceleration.
- Prepare teachers to best meet the unique needs of gifted and talented students.

The procedures developed should be sensitive to underrepresented groups including low-income, minority, students with disabilities, and English learners.

How do I know if my child should get services?

- Be aware of your child's skills. This includes things like test scores and other areas showing advanced performance. Each child is different, and giftedness can show in different ways.
- Be aware of your district's process for identifying students and the services they offer.
- If you believe your child is not challenged enough or may need faster paced learning, communicate your concerns with the classroom teacher and/or school principal.

What kinds of programs and services are there?

Each district or charter school decides the kinds of programs and services they offer. The information can be found on their websites.

Programs can include a variety of services including:

- Early Kindergarten Admission
- Differentiated Classroom Instruction
- Enrichment Classes
- Course or Subject Acceleration
- Grade Level Acceleration
- Advanced Placement Classes
- International Baccalaureate

Where can I find more information?

MDE Website

<https://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/gifted/index.htm>

MN Council for Gifted & Talented

<https://mcgt.net/>

Nat. Center for Research on Gifted Education

<https://ncrge.uconn.edu/>

Nat. Association for Gifted Children

<https://nagc.org/>

Academic Acceleration Institute

<https://accelerationinstitute.org/>



Developed in collaboration with the SMRLS' Education Law Advocacy Project (ELAP).

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