

## **Gifted and Talented Education: Eligibility**

The following section explains eligibility criteria for the gifted and talented program.

### **Assessment and Screening**

A student may be nominated by a parent, teacher, administrator, peer or self. Once the nomination form has been generated, the assessment/screening process involves several components:

#### **Parent Component**

Parent provides information through the use of a "Parent Checklist".

*(Must be returned within two weeks to ensure testing.)*

Parents must give written permission for assessment/screening to occur.

Parents must give permission for the student to be served if the child meets the eligibility criteria.

#### **Teacher Component**

Teacher completes a "Teacher Checklist" which provides information regarding the student's level of acquired knowledge, motivation, and creativity as observed in the classroom setting.

#### **District Designated Testing Staff**

Personnel from SISD will administer several tests to the student. The tests measure knowledge the student has acquired from the school setting, and ability to perform divergent thinking, and reasoning ability.

All information is gathered and plotted on a "Student Profile" sheet. This information is given to appropriate individuals, trained in the nature and needs of gifted students, to review and determine student eligibility in the Gifted and Talented Program.

### **Determination of Program Eligibility**

To determine whether a student is eligible for participation in the Gifted and Talented Program, the following process is utilized:

- All assessments/screening information is plotted on a "student profile" sheet;
- On the profile is an indication of district expectations for consideration for participation in the Gifted and Talented Program;
- Students must score at or above the district expectations in at least three indicators to be eligible for the Gifted and Talented Program; one criterion must be qualitative, and the other two criteria must be quantitative;
- The information is provided to the Campus Placement Committee. Each campus has a committee composed of at least three members.

- The Campus Placement Committee reviews the information on the profile and determines if the Gifted and Talented Program is the appropriate educational setting for that student.
- The student's campus and parents are notified in writing of the decision of the Campus Placement Committee;
- Parents are provided with a copy of the Appeals Process;
- Eligible students are placed in the Gifted and Talented Program the following semester.

## **Testing Calendar**

District staff will implement a testing schedule to ensure better communication of procedures with the campus, to create an appropriate testing environment and to make better use of time for students.

The first few weeks of school are focused on reviewing information from students new to Salado ISD enrolled with prior qualifications of a Gifted and Talented Program in the previous school district.

The month of September and the month of January are "windows" of time where nomination forms will be accepted and processed for testing to begin. All nomination forms can be requested from Laura Novotny at Salado Junior High. All completed nomination forms must be given to Novotny to begin the assessment/screening process. Contact information for Mrs. Novotny can be found at the end of this document.

Testing will be completed prior to Thanksgiving Break for fall nominations and Spring Break for spring nominations.

Students that enroll during the semester may have passed the "window" to request testing. If scores from the previous school do not qualify them for the program, they can be tested and enter the program upon the campus principal's discretion if new test results qualify them for the program.

## **Related Policy to Gifted and Talented Students**

Policy regarding Transfer Students, Furloughs, Exit Provisions, and Appeals can be found online at [www.saladoisd.org](http://www.saladoisd.org) under EHBB (LOCAL).

Policy regarding Special Programs can be found online at [www.saladoisd.org](http://www.saladoisd.org) under EHBB (LEGAL).

## **Curriculum and Program**

Information related to grade specific curriculum and program for Gifted and Talented students can be requested from the campus principal.

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