

Gifted Identification Referral Procedure

For more specific information, please see the *District Policy and Plan for the Identification and Service of Children Who Are Gifted* booklet, available on the Mercer County Educational Service Center website.

Ohio Gifted Definition

Children in grades kindergarten through 12 may be identified as gifted in Ohio when they perform at remarkably high levels of accomplishment in comparison with other children of the same age, experience, and environment, as described in the Ohio Revised Code and in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-15. A gifted child may exhibit *one or more* of these abilities: superior cognitive ability; specific academic ability in mathematics, reading, writing, or a combination of those skills, science, and/or social studies; creative thinking ability; and/or visual or performing arts ability.

Pre-Assessment Data Review

The objective of pre-assessment is to determine a “pool” of students by locating those who may need screening and/or assessment to determine their needs. Sources of information may include, but are not limited to: grades, progress reports, test data including State and local assessment results, portfolios, checklists, rating scales, interviews, child products, performances, auditions, exhibits, and observations.

Referrals

Referrals are made by completing the Gifted Identification Referral Form found on the district website. Students may be referred by teachers, parents, by child self-referral, or by others with knowledge of the child’s ability. Return completed forms to the District Gifted Intervention Specialist.

Testing

1. Screening

- a) Tests such as the Iowa Assessments and the Cognitive Abilities Test are examples of approved tests used for whole-group screening.
- b) Upon the receipt of an individual student referral and with a parent’s signed permission, gifted personnel/school psychologists/trained individuals will provide assessments for screening.
- c) If the screening results are obtained from an approved identification instrument and meet the Ohio criteria for gifted identification, the identification decision is made and the student’s educational needs are determined.

2. Assessment

If the screening results are obtained from an approved screening-only instrument or from an identification instrument on which the student is within the district-specified range below the identification score, assessment for possible identification occurs. Parent permission for assessment must be obtained unless it was previously acquired for screening.

Identification

- a) Parents are notified of assessment results within 30 days of the receipt of the results.
- b) Identification scores and a student’s gifted identification remain in effect for the remainder of the student’s K-12 school experience.
- c) Identification is an ongoing process. Referrals will be accepted at any time throughout the year. There will be at least two opportunities a year for assessment for gifted identification.