

**Identification Criteria\***  
**Ohio Revised Code Section 3324.03**

(A) A student shall be identified as exhibiting superior cognitive ability if the student did either of the following:

- Scored two standard deviations above the mean on an approved individual standardized intelligence test administered by a licensed psychologist
- Accomplished one of the following:
  1. Scored at least two standard deviations above the mean, minus the standard error of measurement, on an approved standardized group intelligence test.
  2. Performed at or above the 95th percentile on an approved individual or group standardized basic or composite battery of a nationally normed achievement test.
  3. Attained an approved score on one or more above-grade level standardized, nationally normed approved tests.

(B) A student shall be identified as exhibiting superior specific academic ability if the student performs at or above the 95th percentile at the national level on an approved individual or group standardized achievement test in the specific field. A child may be identified as gifted in more than one specific academic ability.

(C) A student shall be identified as exhibiting superior creative thinking ability if the student scored one standard deviation above the mean on an approved individual or group intelligence test and also did one of the following.

1. Attained a sufficient score, as established by the Department of Education, on an approved test of creative ability.
2. Exhibited sufficient performance, as established by the Department of Education, on an approved checklist of creative behaviors.

(D) A student shall be identified as exhibiting superior visual or performing arts ability if the student has done both of the following:

1. Demonstrated through a display of work, audition, exhibition, or performance, superior ability in a visual or performing arts area.
2. Exhibited sufficient performance, as established by the Department of Education, on an approved checklist of behaviors.

**\*Criteria must have been met within the preceding 24 months.**

**WRITTEN EDUCATION PLANS**

Written Education Plans (WEPs) will be created yearly to guide student services. Goals for each student for each service will be included. Progress towards the goals will be evaluated through both academic and informal means and will be shared with parents quarterly by the person/persons responsible for delivering the service prescribed. This will be reported with grade cards. Parents and staff responsible for providing services will be given copies of the student's WEP and will be reviewed yearly.

**ACCELERATION**

Hamilton Local allows academic acceleration if appropriate for the students in our district including early entrance to kindergarten, whole grade acceleration ("grade skipping"), acceleration in individual subject areas and early high school graduation. Parents considering acceleration should contact the district gifted coordinator or their child's principal for information about referring the child for evaluation or acceleration opportunities.

**DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Allyson Price, Gifted Coordinator**

775 Rathmell Road Columbus, Ohio 43207

**Phone:** 614-491-8044 Ext. 1241

**Fax:** 614-491-5564

**Email:** [aprice@hamilton-local.k12.oh.us](mailto:aprice@hamilton-local.k12.oh.us)

[www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us](http://www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us)

**Hamilton Local  
Schools**



[www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us](http://www.hamilton-local.k12.oh.us)

Approved October 12, 2009

**Information for Parents**

**District Policy for the  
Identification and Services  
of  
Students Who are Gifted**

## DEFINITION

“Gifted” means students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment and who are identified under section [3324.03](#) of the Ohio Revised Code.

## SCREENING & ASSESSMENT

The District uses a multi-factored approach to screen students who perform or show potential for performing at high levels of accomplishment in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creativity, and visual or performing arts. This assessment is provided to students on an equal basis regardless of culture, economic status, disability or English proficiency. Testing will be done in the student’s native language unless it is not feasible to do so.

Hamilton Local Schools uses only assessments that can be found on the Ohio Department of Education’s list of approved tests and are administered by qualified personnel. \*See our assessment brochure for further information.

Parents/Guardians are notified in writing of the results within 30 days of the district receiving the scores.

Identification of transfer students will be upheld as long as the scores provided by other districts or trained personnel are from assessments on the approved list from the Ohio Department of Education. Any non-identified child transferring into the district will be assessed within 90 days of the transfer at the request of a parent. Parents shall contact the building principal.

## REFERRAL & ASSESSMENT

The District insures there are ample and appropriate scheduling procedures for assessments and reassessments using multiple factors and approved assessment instruments. Opportunities for assessment are solicited district-wide in October and April of each year. In April, Whole Grade-level testing occurs at 2nd grade with screening in the 1st grade. In the case of a request for evaluation, contact Miss Price, the Gifted Coordinator to obtain and submit referral forms. Upon referral, the District will follow the procedures as outlined in our assessment brochure.

## PROCESS FOR APPEALING

Parents have the opportunity to appeal any decision about the results of any screening and assessment procedures or the placement of a student in any program for receipt of services. Appeals regarding identification or service decisions may be made through the building principal. The appeals must be made in writing and outline the nature of the concern.

## CRITERIA FOR SERVICES

The District ensures equal opportunity for all students identified as gifted within each building to receive any services offered by the district. Hamilton Local offers a “continuum of services” to serve the diverse needs of gifted students. We try to use a variety of approaches to address the unique learning needs of each gifted student, including: differentiated instruction in regular classrooms; individual learning projects, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and offering advanced courses. Services also may include individualized opportunities such as mentorships, internships and educational options. For information about gifted service offerings and placement criteria, contact the building principal or district gifted coordinator.

## SERVICES

**Elementary** - In collaboration with the Coordinator the classroom teachers provide resources and activities to enrich students learning and higher thinking. Cognitive and Reading and Math identified third grade students are grouped for instruction to better meet individual students needs.

**Intermediate** - 4th, 5th and 6th identified students are grouped for Reading and/or Math instruction and are provided services either through teachers in a regular classroom setting.

**Middle School** - 7th and 8th grade students are grouped for Reading and/or Math instruction and are provided services by the regular classroom teacher.

**High School** - A variety of options are available at the High School level: Honors and Advanced Placement Courses, Distance Learning, Post Secondary Enrollment, and Competitions.

## HOMEWORK

Students participating in any gifted services while outside the general education classroom will be allowed a modified assignment schedule. Where at all possible, students will be excused from assignments they miss while participating in any regularly scheduled pull-out opportunity. Only critical assignments will need to be made up and opportunities to make up assessments will be provided.

## WITHDRAWAL

If at any time, a student or parent chooses to withdraw from gifted programs or services, a written request should be submitted to the building principal. If a child requests to withdraw, parents will be notified.

Parents should contact the building principal for any questions related to placement decision.