

Instruction**GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT PROGRAM**

The Governing Board believes that all students deserve an education that challenges them to meet their full potential. The Board shall provide gifted and talented students opportunities for learning commensurate with their particular abilities and talents.

Programs for gifted and talented students may include special day classes, part-time groupings and cluster groupings which shall be planned and organized as an integrated, differentiated learning experience within the regular school day. These programs may be augmented or supplemented with other differentiated activities related to the core curriculum using such strategies as independent study, acceleration, postsecondary education, and enrichment. (Education Code 52206)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)
(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)
(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)
(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)
(cf. 6177 - Summer School)

The Board shall determine the most appropriate curricular components for participating students. Each participating student's program shall include an academic component and, as appropriate, instruction in basic skills. (Education Code 52206)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure the full participation of eligible students regardless of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or economic background.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

Staff development shall be provided to support teachers of gifted and talented students in understanding the unique learning styles and abilities of these students and in developing appropriate instructional strategies.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

The Board shall regularly evaluate the effectiveness of the district's program in meeting the needs of gifted and talented students.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

District program planning, implementation and evaluation shall involve parents/guardians, staff, community members and students.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

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GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT PROGRAM (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48800-48802 Enrollment of gifted students in community college

51740 Instruction by correspondence

51745-51749.3 Independent study programs

52200-52212 Gifted and Talented Pupil Program

76001 Enrollment in community college

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1633 Instruction by correspondence

3820-3870 Gifted and Talented Pupil Program

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

California Association for the Gifted: <http://www.cagifted.org>

National Association for Gifted Children: <http://www.nagc.org>

Policy

adopted: November 16, 1999

Revised: November 13, 2001

Revised: December 16, 2003

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California

Instruction

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT PROGRAM

Definitions

A gifted and talented student is one who is identified as possessing demonstrated or potential abilities that give evidence of high performance capability in categories selected by the Governing Board. (Education Code 52201)

A highly gifted student is one who has achieved a measured intelligence quotient of 150 or more points on an assessment of intelligence administered by qualified personnel or has demonstrated extraordinary aptitude and achievement in language arts, mathematics, science, or other academic subjects, as evaluated and confirmed by both the student's teacher and principal. Highly gifted students shall generally constitute not more than one percent of the student population. (Education Code 52201)

A cluster grouping is one in which students are grouped within a regular classroom setting and receive appropriately differentiated activities from the regular classroom teacher. (5 CCR 3840)

Acceleration means that students are placed in grades or classes more advanced than those of their chronological age group and are provided special counseling and/or instruction outside the regular classroom in order to facilitate their advanced work. (5 CCR 3840)

(cf. 5123 - Promotion/Acceleration/Retention)

Postsecondary education opportunities offer students the opportunity to attend classes conducted by college or community college or to participate in Advanced Placement programs. (5 CCR 3840)

(cf. 6141.5 - Advanced Placement)

Enrichment activities are supplemental educational activities that augment students' regular educational programs in their regular classrooms. Students use advanced materials and/or receive special opportunities from persons other than the regular classroom teacher. (5 CCR 3840)

Program Plan

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a written plan for the district's program which includes the components specified in 5 CCR 3831. At the site level, parents are involved in the planning and evaluation of programs for gifted students via the Site GATE Advisory Committee and the School Site Council. Representatives for each school site are involved in the District GATE Advisory Committee and assist with the application process.

Identification of Gifted and Talented Students

Students shall be selected for the program based on their demonstrated or potential ability for high performance in one or more of the following categories: (Education Code 52202, 5 CCR 3822)

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GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT PROGRAM (continued)

1. Intellectual, creative, specific academic, or leadership ability
2. High achievement
3. Talent in visual or performing arts

The Superintendent or designee shall design methods to seek out and identify gifted and talented students from varying linguistic, economic and cultural backgrounds. (5 CCR 3820)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 6174 - Education for English Language Learners)

Evidence of students' capability may include any of the following: (5 CCR 3823)

1. School, class and individual student records
2. Individual tests, including summary and evaluation by a credentialed school psychologist
3. Group tests
4. Interviews and questionnaires by a teacher, parent/guardian or others
5. Student products, comments from peers, and opinions of professional persons

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)
(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

Such evidence shall consider the economic, linguistic and cultural characteristics of students' background. (5 CCR 3823)

Prior to making a final determination of a student's eligibility, the pertinent evidence shall be evaluated by the student's principal or designee (GATE Liaison) , a classroom teacher familiar with the student's work, and, when appropriate, a credentialed school psychologist. A person recognized as an expert in the gifted and talented category under consideration, and/or a person who has in-depth understanding of the student's linguistic or cultural group, shall participate in the evaluation of the evidence unless there is no doubt as to the student's eligibility. These persons shall meet as necessary to resolve any differences in assessment and recommendations. (5 CCR 3824)

The Superintendent or designee shall make the final determination of a student's eligibility.

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The Superintendent or designee may also identify as gifted and talented any student who has transferred from a district in which he/she was identified as a gifted and talented student. (Education Code 52202)

(cf. 5118 - Transfers)

The Superintendent or designee may establish an identification and placement committee to review evidence of students' capacities and make recommendations regarding the eligibility of individual students.

Written parental consent shall be secured before students participate in the program. (5 CCR 3831)

Community College Enrollment

With parental consent, a principal may recommend students of any age or grade level for part-time enrollment in community college courses. (Education Code 48800)

Special part-time students may enroll in up to 12 units per semester, or the equivalent, in a community college. Such students shall receive credit for community college courses that they complete at a level jointly determined appropriate by the Board and community college district board. (Education Code 48800, 76001)

Any student's parent/guardian may petition the Board to authorize the student to attend a community college as a special full-time student if he/she believes the student would benefit from advanced scholastic or vocational work that would thereby be available. (Education Code 48800.5)

If the Board denies a request for special part-time or full-time enrollment at a community college for a student who is identified as highly gifted and talented as defined above, the Board shall issue its written recommendation and the reasons for the denial within 60 days. The written recommendation and denial shall be issued at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting that falls at least 30 days after the request has been submitted. (Education Code 48800, 48800.5)

Regulation

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