

Gifted and Talented FAQ for BISD

What must I do to serve GT students?

A teacher who wishes to serve GT students needs to obtain 30 hours of initial training:

Day 1 – Gifted Foundation – Nature and Needs of Gifted Students (6 hours)

Day 2 – Gifted Foundation – Identification and Assessment (6 hours)

Day 3 – Gifted Foundation – Differentiation & Curriculum (6 hours)

Day 4 & 5 – 12 hours of choice topics relating to GT (training session, book study, TAGT/GT by Sea Conventions/journal reading & response, action research, program visits, AP training) Hours must be approved in advance by the Director. Documentation of GT training must be placed in a teacher's personnel folder. Teachers must provide copies of all GT training certificates to the Director.

In addition, those secondary teachers who wish to teach Pre - Advanced Placement or Advanced Placement coursework must have their 30 hours of Gifted and Talented initial training as well as Pre-AP or AP training hours.

How do I maintain my GT certification?

After obtaining the initial 30 hours of training, a teacher must get updated training each year. The calendar cycle for updating GT training is yearly from the last day of school through the last day of the next school year. The six hour update training session can be obtained in district or through ESC 20. Other options for update training include: book study, TAGT/GT by Sea Conventions, journal reading & response, action research, program visits, AP training. *Documentation of GT update hours must be submitted to the Director for placement in the teacher's personnel file.*

Where can I find the Reflection form for a book study?

The form is located on the Teachers and Staff link (http://10.11.0.6/Teachers_and_Staff/default.htm) on the BISD website.

Are we members of the ESC 20 GT Coop?

Yes, BISD has elected to join the ESC 20 GT Coop. This means that all *iLearning* sessions offered for GT credit are free of charge to BISD teachers. The GT contact at Region 20 is Dr. Gwen Frank.

Who can nominate a student for GT assessment?

Any teacher, parent, administrator, peer, community member or the student themselves may nominate.

How do I refer students for GT?

On the district website in the Family Center link (http://10.11.0.6/Family_Center/default.htm) is a program nomination form and a parent permission for testing form. These completed forms must be returned to the Director before GT assessment can be scheduled.

What happens after I nominate a student for GT testing?

The district will schedule a testing session/s for the student to complete the individual assessments. The homeroom teacher or team will receive a request for information about the student and his/her abilities. After all information is collected, a matrix will be created and sent to the campus GT identification committee. This committee will meet and decide if the student meets the GT profile. At that time, parents are notified of either acceptance into the program or that the student will be reconsidered at a later date. If a student is accepted into the program, parents must sign a consent form. Until this "consent to serve" form is completed, the student is not considered a part of the program. Students who are accepted into the program have the "permission to test" form, GT matrix and the "permission to serve" forms housed in their permanent record folder. Actual assessment documents are housed at the Central Administration Building. Once parents have returned the signed "permission to serve" form, the Director will notify the PEIMS clerk on the campus to change the student's PEIMS notation to "gifted."

How can I find out if a student has been referred in a prior grade for GT assessment?

Records for students who have been previously assessed are stored in the Central Administration Offices. These records are kept in active files for one year before storage.

To whom do I direct questions concerning the GT program in BISD?

You should direct questions regarding campus programs to your principal. All other questions may be referred to the Director.