

# NNAT Fact Sheet

Each year Tacoma Public Schools Highly Capable Services provides universal screening for all second-grade students using the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT). The NNAT may also be used to screen students in other grades who do not have a cognitive score on file or new students transferring into Tacoma Public Schools from other districts.

## What is the NNAT?

The NNAT is a nationally approved cognitive screener that uses shapes and figures instead of pictures or words to assess a student's thinking, problem solving, and reasoning abilities as opposed to what he or she has learned in school.

## Why does Tacoma Public Schools use this screener to help identify highly capable students?

The NNAT does not require spoken or written language, making it useful for our diverse population of students, including English language learners. It enables an accurate assessment of a student's cognitive ability and meets the legal requirements of the state of Washington.

## Is the NNAT an IQ test?

The NNAT differs from an IQ test because it lacks a verbal component. Also, the scoring method is different than an IQ test.

## Where does the screening take place?

The screening will take place at the child's school and is generally done in a group setting with the other students in the child's class by a qualified test proctor.

## How long does the screening take?

It will take about 60 minutes from start to finish, which includes instructions, time for practice problems, and 30 minutes for the screening itself.

## How should my child prepare?

Since the screening assesses the child's cognitive ability, problem solving, logic, and reasoning, no preparation is needed.

## When will I find out my student's results?

Results of the screening are mailed to parents/guardians within approximately 60 school days.

If screening indicates that a student may be eligible for Highly Capable Services, the eligibility is determined by a full review by the Multidisciplinary Selection Committee (MDSC) as required by the state of Washington. The MDSC considers screening results and assessments such as iReady scores and district and state assessments as applicable. Parent or guardian permission is required before the MDSC will review and make program placement decisions.