

Definition of Giftedness

The Kansas State Department of Education provides the following information related to Special Education services for gifted students in Kansas:

- "Gifted" as defined in K.A.R. 91-40-1(cc) means performing or demonstrating the potential for performing at significantly higher levels of accomplishment in one or more academic fields due to intellectual ability, when compared to others of similar age, experience and environment.

For the purpose of identifying those students who are eligible to receive Gifted Education Services, Andover School District further defines giftedness using a research-based list of attributes typically found in individuals who have a high degree of intellectual ability. Students who display many of these attributes and needs that cannot be met in the general education classroom will be evaluated for identification as a gifted learner.

The gifted learner:

- displays superior problem solving skills
- demonstrates persistent intellectual curiosity
- shows initiative and originality in intellectual work
- asks searching questions
- exhibits a high level of conceptual understanding
- displays considerable depth of knowledge in multiple areas
- demonstrates ability to generate original ideas and solutions
- shows persistence
- is able to master grade-level work easily
- exhibits a high level of critical thinking
- displays a high level of abstract thinking
- demonstrates concern for world problems and/or fairness
- exhibits high moral judgment
- displays unusually high intensity and/or depth of feeling
- displays uneven levels of development (e.g. highly intelligent, yet socially, behaviorally, or physically immature)
- expresses feelings of being different
- sets high expectations for self and others
- displays highly developed sense of humor
- needs intense and sustained academic and/or affective support

The process for identifying students who are eligible to receive Gifted Education Services in Andover is driven by data gathered from a variety of information sources.