

**Montgomery County Schools
Districted Procedural Safeguards and Policies
Gifted and Talented Program**

Parents and/or students (Grades K-12) may petition for identification or may appeal nonidentification or appropriateness of services.

1. The appealing party shall submit in writing to the Gifted/Talented Coordinator specifically why s/he believes the screening results are not accurate or the service options (as outlined in the Gifted Student Service Plan) are not appropriate and why an exception should be made or a reconsideration given.
2. The Gifted/Talented Coordinator shall compile student data and present that along with the petition or appeal to the school's Gifted Committee. The information presented shall include a recommendation accompanied by available substantiating evidence.
3. The Committee shall hear appeals, make a recommendation and respond in writing to the appealing party within ten working days of receipt of the appeal and accompanying information. If the appeal concerns nonavailability of appropriate options, the Committee shall consult with the school council.
4. If the Committee rules in favor of the appealing party, the following options shall apply as appropriate:
 - a. S/he may participate in the program as soon as the parent or guardian signs the required permission forms.
 - b. A change in either the Service Plan or provision of services (if available) shall be made in a timely manner.
5. If the Committee rules against the appealing party, a further written appeal may be made to the Superintendent, who must respond in writing within ten working days of receipt of the appeal.
6. Should the Superintendent uphold the decision of the Committee, the appealing party may petition the Board of Education, which will have the final decision in the case. The Board shall make a determination at the next regular meeting following receipt of the appeal.