

Office of Gifted and Talented

Scales for Identifying Gifted Students (SIGS) Fact Sheet



What is SIGS?

The Scales for Identifying Gifted Students, or SIGS, is a norm referenced rating scale designed to assist school districts in the identification of students as gifted. The primary purpose of the SIGS is to assist in the identification of students as gifted in the following seven areas:

- General Intellectual Ability
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Creativity
- Leadership

Each area has 12 statements. Respondents decide how often the student they are rating exhibits each behavior in comparison to their age group's peers.

- Never exhibits the behavior
- Rarely exhibits the behavior
- Exhibits the behavior about the same
- Exhibits the behavior somewhat more
- Exhibits the behavior much more in comparison

Identifying Students

Identifying students for gifted services includes using multiple criteria and multiple measurement approach. Using reliable and valid instruments is an important part of the identification process.

Who Completes the SIGS?

Teachers and parents of students in the screening pool. Parents complete the Home Rating Scale (HRS) and teachers complete the School Rating Scale (SRS). For valid ratings, the respondent should have had daily contact with the student for at least the last 6 weeks. When possible, the mother and father should complete the rating scales together, otherwise the parent that has the most contact should respond.

How Do I Get a Copy of the SIGS?

When considering a student for gifted and talented services, teachers are given a copy of the School Rating Scale (SRS) by our G&T teacher. If the student meets the criteria for Round 1, the gifted specialist will invite the student to Round 2 and send home a copy of the Home Rating Scale (HRS).

