

Berkshire Local Schools Gifted Identification Plan

DEFINITION

“Gifted” means students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience or environment and who are identified under division (A), (B), (C), or (D) of section 3324.03 of the Ohio Revised Code.

DISTRICT IDENTIFICATION PLAN

Berkshire Local Schools screens and identifies students who perform or show potential for performing at high levels of accomplishment in the areas of superior cognitive ability, specific academic ability, creative thinking ability, and/or visual and/or performing arts. The district follows the operating standards established in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-15 for identifying and serving students who are gifted.

WHOLE-GRADE SCREENINGS FOR GIFTED IDENTIFICATIONS

Students in Berkshire Local Schools will have multiple opportunities throughout their educational career to be screened for a potential gifted identification, as laid out in the following chart below. Notification of new gifted identifications will take place within 30 days of the release of the screening results.

Screening Instrument	Identifications	Grade(s)
IOWA Assessment, Complete Battery, Form G	Specific content (math, reading, social studies, and science) and superior cognitive	2, 5, 6, 7, 8
MAP Growth 2-5	Specific content (math and reading)	3
Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT), Form 7	Superior cognitive *students receiving a 115 or higher will also be screened for Creativity using the Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales, Second Edition (GATES-2)	2, 4
The ACT	Specific content (math, reading, English, and science)	11

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS ASSESSMENTS

Students in Berkshire Local Schools may be identified for a Visual and Performing Arts identification through an individual referral process. The assessment process for Visual and Performing Arts is a lengthy, multiple step process, involving referral (STEP 1), the Gifted and Talented Evaluation Scales, Second Edition (GATES-2) for Artistic Ability (STEP 2), and with qualifying scores on the GATES-2, students will complete a performance task by the qualified arts teacher using a state approved rubric (STEP 3). All students in choir, band, music, and art teachers will be considered for referral in grades 2-12.

INDIVIDUAL REFERRAL PROCESS

Students in Berkshire Local Schools may be individually referred for identification for up to 2 opportunities per year (including whole grade screenings). These referrals can be initiated via self-referral, teacher recommendation, parent/ guardian request, or by other pertinent professionals. Upon referral, the student will be screened within 90 days of the referral, and parents/guardians will be notified within 30 days of the initial screening. Requests can be made to our gifted liaison, Stephanie Franks, at stephanie.franks@berkshireschools.org.

OUT OF DISTRICT SCORES

Berkshire Local Schools accepts scores, completed within the preceding 24 months on assessment instruments approved for use by the Ohio Department of Education, provided by other schools and/or trained personnel outside the school district.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

New students transferring into the Berkshire Local schools district may be assessed within 90 days of the transfer at the request of the parent/guardian. Parents/guardians can contact our gifted liaison via email at stephanie.franks@berkshireschools.org.