



Mount Arlington Public Schools 2026-2027 Gifted & Talented Identification Rubric

Mount Arlington Public Schools uses multiple measures to identify students for its gifted and talented program. The program provides learning opportunities that respond to students' abilities and interests. In grades K–2, teachers meet students' needs through differentiated instruction in the classroom. In grades 3–8, students may also participate in pull-out opportunities based on their interests and abilities.

The [New Jersey Department of Education Office of Standards](#) refers districts to standards developed by the National Association for Gifted Children to help evaluate programs and services for gifted learners. Students recommended for the program will be identified and parents will be notified by June of each school year for the following school year.

Please refer to the definitions of types of assessments at the bottom of this document.

Criteria	Type of Assessment	3 Exceeds Criteria	2 Meets Criteria	1 Approaching Criteria
Cognitive Skills Index (CSI) or CST IQ Score	Standardized, Age-Normed Cognitive Ability Score	113 or higher	110 - 112	90 - 109
NJSLA Language Arts	Standardized, NJ Standards Based Assessment	Level 5 Exceeded Expectations	Level 4 Met Expectations	Level 3 Approached Expectations
NJSLA Math		Level 5 Exceeded Expectations	Level 4 Met Expectations	Level 3 Approached Expectations
NWEA MAP Reading Growth	Standardized, Nationally Normed	Achievement at or above the 95th percentile	85th–94th percentile	50th–84th percentile
NWEA MAP Math Growth		Achievement at or above the 95th percentile	85th–94th percentile	50th–84th percentile
IXL Reading	Criterion References and Nationally Normed	Diagnostic level at least one grade above current grade	Upper half of current grade's diagnostic range	Lower half of current grade's diagnostic range
IXL Math		Diagnostic level at least one grade above current grade	Upper half of current grade's diagnostic range	Lower half of current grade's diagnostic range
Teacher Recommendation (Google Form)		Consistently demonstrates exceptional creativity, problem solving, leadership, motivation, and exceeds grade-level	Frequently demonstrates strong academic ability, creativity, and motivation; Performs above grade-level	Occasionally demonstrates higher grade-level creativity, but application is inconsistent

Scoring

11-12 points	Strongly recommend for the G&T Program
9-10 points	Considered for G&T placement
7-8 points	Monitor and provide challenging instruction; Does not yet meet criteria
6 and below	Does not meet criteria for G&T placement

Test Type Definitions:

1. **Standardized, Age-Normed Cognitive Ability Score:** A score from an assessment administered and scored in a consistent way. It measures reasoning and related cognitive skills and compares the student's performance with that of students of the same age.
2. **Standardized, NJ Standards Based Assessment:** An assessment administered and scored using consistent procedures. Its performance level shows how well a student demonstrated the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for the tested grade and subject.
3. **Standardized, Nationally Normed:** An assessment administered and scored using consistent procedures. A national percentile compares the student's performance with that of students in a national comparison group, typically in the same grade and testing season.
4. **Criterion References and Nationally Normed:** An assessment that reports both how a student performs against defined skills or grade-level expectations (**criterion-referenced**) and how the student compares with a national group of peers (**nationally normed**).