



Gifted Referral Process-Elementary School

What does “Gifted” mean?

- ▶ The state of Ohio defines a gifted student as one who “performs or shows potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared to others of their age, experience, or environment.”
- ▶ (Source: Ohio Department of Education Website)



Referral and Placement Deadlines

- ▶ Elementary EPP Math Program (Grade 3-5)
 - ▶ Referral forms for testing are due to the Gifted Services Dept. by November 15th. Students will not be placed into the gifted EPP math program after January 5th of the current school year. Any Referrals received by April 15th will be given priority for testing by the completion of the current school year. All referrals received after April 15th will begin testing in early late summer.
- ▶ Elementary Reading Cluster (Grades 3-5)
 - ▶ Referral forms for may be submitted at any time during the year, however, we only place students into the Elementary Reading Cluster at the beginning of the school year. If a student qualifies for the Elementary Reading Cluster during the school year, they will be placed into the program for the following school year.
- ▶ Single Subject and Whole Grade Acceleration Referrals and Acceleration Placements
 - ▶ Acceleration referral forms for testing are due 60 days prior to the start of each semester. Students wanting to accelerate in a single subject or whole grade may be advanced to their accelerated placement, if qualified, provided this deadline is met. (Acceleration is a general education accommodation and a student does not have to be identified as gifted to receive an accelerated placement.)

What qualifies a student as Gifted?

► For Math EPP Program (Grades 3-5)

- A score of 95th %ile or above on an ODE approved Math achievement assessment
 - MAP 2-5, Iowa, Stanford, TerraNova
- An identification score required on Superior Cognitive Ability Assessment (Varies by test)
 - CogAT, InView, Naglieri

► Ohio State Testing (OST) can not be used for identification

► For Reading Cluster (Grades 3-5)

- A score of 95th %ile or above on an ODE approved Reading achievement assessment
 - MAP 2-5, Iowa, Stanford, TerraNova
- An identification score required on Superior Cognitive Ability Assessment (Varies by test)
 - CogAT, InView, Naglieri

► Ohio State Testing (OST) can not be used for identification

The Referral Process: The First Step

- ▶ Who can refer a student?
 - ▶ Parent
 - ▶ Teacher
 - ▶ Gifted Intervention Specialist
 - ▶ Principal
 - ▶ Counselor
 - ▶ Psychologist
 - ▶ Student (Self-Referral)



The Referral Process: Completing the Form

- ▶ Parents must give consent for screening and sign the referral form.
- ▶ If a student is found to be eligible for placement into the Gifted Program, parents must also give consent for placement (permission slip will be mailed out by Gifted Services).
- ▶ Once form is completed, please submit to Gifted Services at the WEC.
- ▶ **Referrals for EPP Math Program must be received by November 15th of the current school year.**
- ▶ Referrals for the Reading Cluster program may be submitted at any time, however students will not be moved into a Reading Cluster during the school year.
- ▶ Ohio Department of Education mandates that only 2 referrals are permitted per school year. District wide testing (CogAT, MAP) counts as one testing opportunity for the year.
- ▶ **2nd Grade CogAT screening: February**
- ▶ **4th Grade CogAT screening: October**

The Referral Process: Screening

- ▶ Once the referral form is received by Gifted Services, it will be forwarded on to the appropriate assessor.
- ▶ The assessors will then reach out to the building secretaries and classroom teachers to set up testing dates/times.
- ▶ Once testing dates are determined, the assessors will contact parents to confirm.
- ▶ Screening typically takes 1-3 sessions, depending on the number of tests needing to be completed.
- ▶ Tests are scored and returned to Gifted Services within 7 business days after completion of screening.

The Referral Process: After Screening

- ▶ Gifted Services will process all screening scores and enter them into Infinite Campus.
- ▶ A letter (and permission slip if applicable) is emailed to parents outlining the screening results (typically within 14 business days) of receiving the screening scores.
- ▶ A copy of the letter sent to parents will be emailed to the building Principal, EPP teacher and homeroom teacher.
- ▶ Gifted Services will scan all paperwork and add appropriate flags into Infinite Campus.
- ▶ Buildings will update the student schedule as necessary in Infinite Campus.

Worthington Gifted Resources

- ▶ Worthington City Schools Gifted Website: [WCS Gifted](#)
- ▶ Elementary Gifted Referral Form: [Referral Form](#)
- ▶ Worthington Schools Gifted Identification Plan: [Gifted ID Plan](#)
- ▶ Ohio Department of Education Gifted Page: [ODE Website](#)
- ▶ Gifted Contact Information:
 - ▶ Suzanne Palmer - Gifted Services Coordinator - 614.450.6055 - spalmer@wscloud.org
 - ▶ Shannon Thomas - Gifted Services Administrative Secretary - 614.450.6056 - stthomas1@wscloud.org