

U.I.S.D Department of Gifted Talented and Advanced Academics (GT/AA) Questions and Answers (Q&A)

1. Q: What is the procedure when a student comes from another district claiming to be a GT student?

A: The student's parents are required to retrieve and submit a **Letter of Eligibility** stating that their child has been identified as a GT student by their former school district. After that letter is received, it is to be forwarded to the UISD district office for review. Upon confirmation of the letter, the office will forward a **Letter of Eligibility** to be signed and dated by the parent and then returned to our office.

2. Q: Who does the 30-day GT identification window service?

A: The 30-day screening window is **ONLY** for new students from out of district and is done upon parental request. Students new to our district who enroll in the spring are eligible to be screened during the first 30 school days of the fall semester.

3. Q: Can students new to our district be screened for GT during the summer before they enroll in a respective campus?

A: No. The district does not offer GT screening services during the summer months.

4. Q: Why are the kindergarten students screened so much earlier than the 1st-12th grade students?

A: The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted and Talented students dictates that potential kindergarten GT students must be identified and receive services by **March 1**. Therefore, it is a priority for kindergarten teachers to attend the GT 30-hour training. This deadline dictates our Kindergarten GT screening timeline.

5. Q: What must be given to parents and teachers when a student is nominated for the program?

A: Parents must sign and date a **Permission for Screening** letter. Also, depending on who made the nomination, a **Parent** or **Teacher Jot down** must be filled out as thoroughly as possible. All of these documents must be forwarded to the GTAA office.

6. Q: Can a student who arrives after the GT nomination deadline still be screened for GT in that same year?

A: No. Once the deadlines pass, no further nominations will be accepted.

7. Q: What efforts are made to notify parents of the nomination deadline?

A: The nomination deadline is announced in our local newspaper in English and Spanish annually. We suggest that schools include the nomination deadline in their **morning announcements** a week before the deadline and include it in the monthly **school calendar**.

8. Q: Does a student who was identified as a GT student but listed as a parent denial have to go through the GT screening process again to receive services?

A: No. All that is needed is a new Eligibility Letter to be signed, dated, and forwarded to our office.

9. Q: Does a GT teacher who missed a 6-Hour Annual Update have to repeat the 30-hour training?

A: No. However, they should not be assigned to a GT class or service any GT students. They may again teach GT classes once they have completed the 6-Hour Annual Update.

10. Q: Who is responsible for administering the Naglieri tests? Is it acceptable to test in groups?

A: The counselors are responsible for administering the Naglieri Test. Groups should be tested by grade level. Parents should be advised of the test date so that they may ensure that the children are well rested before the test.

11. Q: When will the results of the test be available?

A: The Naglieri Test results will be available no later than January. The kindergarten test results are provided to campuses first, due to the March 1 deadline.

12. Q: What is the G/T Program Furlough Form?

A: A furlough form is used when a parent/student requests to be removed from a G/T class or from receiving G/T strategies. The furlough is for one year and then reviewed the following year for re-entry or for an extended furlough. The furlough form requires the signature of the **campus administrator, parent, student, and G/T committee** (including the Director and Coordinator of G/TAA).

13. Q: What is the difference between a furlough form and GT Program Exit Form?

A: A student may re-enter the GT program without going through the GT screening process through a furlough. However, a student wishing to re-enter the GT program after being exited is required to go through the GT screening process.

14. Q: Who is responsible for informing parents whether or not their child met the criteria to submit a portfolio?

A: Counselors are responsible for informing the parents that their child did not meet the criteria to submit a portfolio. The district office only sends letters to the parents of children who went through the entire GT screening process.

15. Q: What kind of lists should schools be compiling in the beginning of the year?

A: Schools should be compiling a nomination list, 30-day screening list, and a current GT student list.

The **nomination list** should include the name, ID number, grade level, and person making the nomination.

The 30-Day screening list should include the name, ID number, grade level, and person making the nomination.

16. Q: What is the procedure when a GT student wished to enroll at one of our GT designated magnet sites?

A: First of all, GT students K-2nd grade must remain at their neighborhood campus. At the elementary level, only 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders may request a transfer to a designated magnet site. An **Intra-District Transfer Form** is required from the **Office of Discipline Management**. The deadline to request such a transfer is **June 1**. Siblings of GT students may **NOT** transfer unless they are GT identified in the 3rd, 4th, or 5th grades.

Also, the district office does not handle transportation issues and does not register students wishing to enroll at a campus outside their attendance zones. These are parental responsibilities.

