

Alamogordo Public Schools- Gifted Program

GIEP and Qualifying Areas

What is a gifted IEP?

There are 13 states that define gifted as part of Special Education, New Mexico is one of those states. There are 6 qualifying areas for the gifted IEP, listed below. Similar to a standard IEP, the gifted IEP is intended to meet the needs of the student and ensure educational growth.

What is the process for establishing a Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP)?

This process is started the same way as the MLSS process:

1. Referral - this can be done through the universal screener or Other referrals
2. Building the body of evidence to include: observations, performance assessments, diagnostic evaluations, screenings, anecdotal records, questionnaires, interviews, checklists - multiple sources of evidence should be gathered.
3. Analysis of Evidence and Data/Diagnostician Evaluates student
4. Determination of Eligibility and if student qualifies a GIEP will be created or the student can be placed in what they call a talent pool and monitored/challenged.

The 6 areas that a student can qualify in are:

1. General Intellectual Ability
2. Creative or Divergent Thinking
3. Problem Solving or Critical Thinking
4. Specific Aptitude or Achievement
5. Artistic Ability (New Area)
6. Leadership Ability (New Area)

Are students screened for Gifted?

We just finalized choosing NNAT3 as our universal screener, every student by the end of 3rd grade will be taking the screener and this will drive the gifted referral process for additional testing to qualify the student for gifted.

What if a student arrives to the district and was previously receiving gifted services?

If a student comes into the district with receiving gifted services at another school but not on a GIEP, the student will continue those services as a guest in our gifted program. Then the results will be looked at to see if the student qualifies for a GIEP under New Mexico requirements, every state is different.

NM Statute 11-8B-1, Article 5.B- Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

The receiving state school shall initially honor placement of the student in educational programs based on current educational assessments conducted at the school in the sending state or participation or placement in like programs in the sending state. Such programs include gifted and talented programs and English as a second language. This subsection does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.

What documentation is needed for those arriving with a student already in gifted to ensure they continue upon enrollment in an APS school?

APS need evaluation scores, IEP, or documentation where Gifted was recommended and the student was attending. This way we can get the student in honor classes or AP classes at the middle and high school level and at the elementary level we can get them started in the pull out service as a guest so there will be no missing of services.

What does the APS Gifted Program consist of? How often does the Gifted Program participants meet?

Elementary level service is enriched by doing different activities - this is once a week for about 30 minutes, then the Gifted facilitator can also work with classroom teachers to make sure that the students are being challenged. At the secondary level - this is met by honor or AP classes to challenge the students but also meeting with the gifted students during the advisory period to check in with them. Advisory schedules are unique to the different campuses.



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