



Qualification Procedures for Gifted Identification

D110 offers two screening windows for gifted education: one in the fall and one in the spring. The fall gifted screening window generally occurs in mid October and is typically reserved for new-to-district students. The spring gifted screening window typically occurs in late April to early May for elementary school students and mid-to-late May for middle school students. Gifted services are offered in grades 3-8. The first time a student may be included in the gifted identification candidate pool is spring of their second grade year.

Students qualify for the gifted identification candidate pool one of three ways:

1. 95th percentile or above on reading achievement test (FAST aReading)
2. 95th percentile or above on math achievement test (FAST aMath)
3. Teacher recommendation via whole classroom screener tool

Students included in the candidate pool are then administered the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). The CogAT is an abilities test that measures reasoning and problem-solving skills in three separate areas: verbal, quantitative and nonverbal.

Gifted identification is determined using percentile rank data from both an achievement test (FAST aReading or FAST aMath) and an abilities test (CogAT). Using both of these data points, qualifying students attain a composite score at the 95th percentile or above, indicating superior reasoning abilities. Students may qualify as gifted identified in reading, math, or both areas.