

APS Identification Process



Greg Chapuis, greg.chapuis@apsva.us
Resource Teacher for the Gifted (RTG)
Oakridge Elementary School

Multiple Pathways to Identification

- Mass screening tool at 2nd grade (NNAT-3) and at 4th grade (CogAT)
 - Given to all 2nd/4th students in the Fall
 - Also given to 3rd/5th graders who are new to APS
- Referral
 - Teacher, Parent, or Community Member

All pathways are equally important and the documentation begins the I.D. process.

Referrals

- Teachers or parents complete the referral form for students who are consistently displaying gifted behaviors
- The RTG completes the referral form on students who score a 120 or above on a screener (automatic referral).

Referral Form

- A referral form can be submitted by a teacher, parent, or community member
- This is our documentation to start the screening/identification process

| Arlington Public Schools Gifted Services Referral Form | | |
|---|------------|--------------------------|
| Please print clearly or responses may be typed and pasted onto this form. | | |
| Student's Last Name | First Name | School |
| Grade Level | | Classroom Teacher's Name |

Who is referring this student for gifted services?

Parent/Community Referral

School Referral

In my judgment, the student has abilities, talents, and potential for accomplishment that require special provisions to meet her/his educational needs in the following area(s):

Specific Academic Aptitude Areas: English, Mathematics, Science, or Social Studies (Students in grades K-12 with specific aptitudes in selected areas: mathematics, English, social studies, and/or science) as demonstrated by advanced skills, concepts, and creative expression.)

Visual or Performing Arts Aptitude Areas: Music or Visual Art (Students in grades 3 - 12 with specific aptitudes in selected visual or performing arts (visual arts or music) as demonstrated by advanced skills and creative expression who excel consistently in the development of a product or performance in art or music.

Name of Referral Source _____

Signature of Referral Source _____

Date of Referral _____

All referrals must be submitted to the school principal or Resource Teacher for the Gifted (RTG) no later than April 1 of the current school year. Referrals received after April 1 will be considered in the next school year.

Arlington Public Schools - Gifted Services

After a Referral the RTG

- Sends Notification of Referral Letter to Parents
 - Includes Acknowledgement of Notification form which needs to be return to school
 - Gives school permission to collect data needed for screening
 - Includes Parent Information Form

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS GIFTED SERVICES
PARENT INFORMATION SHEET

STUDENT NAME: _____ SCHOOL: _____ GRADE: _____

Return form to Resource Teacher for the gifted by: _____

Please print clearly or type. Responses may be pasted onto form, but form may not be copied or retyped.
Per each statement, check the appropriate box to indicate how often you notice each behavior. Then, give an example.

1. My child comes up with imaginative or unusual ways of doing things.
 Consistently Often Sometimes
2. My child likes challenging problems, assignments, issues, and/or materials.
 Consistently Often Sometimes
3. My child can focus on a particular topic for a long period of time to learn a lot about it.
 Consistently Often Sometimes
4. My child is intellectually curious, asks thoughtful questions, and seeks answers to problems and issues.
 Consistently Often Sometimes
5. My child surprises me with his or her knowledge or connections.
 Consistently Often Sometimes

6. Please list any of your child's intellectual hobbies or special interests:

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Additional Testing May Be Needed

- NNAT-3/CogAT (Grades 2 – 5 have ability scores already)
 - If the student has an earlier NNAT-2 or CogAT score, another ability test is often not needed
 - The NNAT is sometimes used with K-1 students who are referred
- TOMAGs
 - May be useful if additional data is needed to support identification; not necessary for every student
- K-BIT
 - Individual ability test that can be given to K-1 students

Documents Used for Screening

| Document | Source |
|----------------------------|--|
| Referral Form | School, Parent, or Community Member (due by April 1) |
| Gifted Behavior Commentary | School Team: classroom teacher takes the lead, administrator and others can help (RTG, counselor, ESOL, special education teacher) |
| Testing Data | RTG |
| Student Work Samples | Teachers |
| Parent Information Form | Parents |

Identification Timeline for Automatic Referrals & 5th

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| January | Communication to Staff on starting the process (at PLCs) | RTG |
| February - March | Collection of Data: Draft Gifted Behavior Commentary (GBC) and collect work samples | Teacher (with RTG help and guidance) |
| February - March | Collection of Data: testing, parent information forms, letters to parents | RTG |
| End of March | I.D. Committee Meetings: Review of Data & completion of school GBC | School team: administrator, teacher, RTG & other relevant professionals |
| April | Appeals Level 1 & Level 2 | Level 1: Principal Level 2: Countywide |

Identification Timeline for Parent & Teacher Referrals

| | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| March | Communication to staff and parents on starting the process | RTG |
| March – May | Collection of Data: Draft Gifted Behavior Commentary (GBC) and collect work samples | Teacher (with RTG help and guidance) |
| March – May | Collection of Data: testing, parent information forms, letters to parents | RTG |
| mid-May | I.D. Committee Meetings: Review of Data & completion of school GBC | School team: administrator, teacher, RTG & other relevant professionals |
| June | Appeals Level 1 & Level 2 | Level 1: Principal Level 2: Countywide |

Local School Committee

- Each school has a school committee to include at least four of the following:
 - the resource teacher for the gifted (RTG)
 - a teacher who works with the student
 - an administrator
 - a counselor, special education teacher, ESOL/HILT teacher, and/or other specialists as needed

Eligibility Decision & Next Steps

- School team determines eligible or ineligible
- RTG communicates information to parents
- Parents may appeal process
 - Level 1: School level
 - Level 2: County level

Action Steps

- Referrals are due from teachers and parents **by 4/1.**
- Once a parent or teacher makes a referral, I'll send home:
 - Referral Letter
 - Acknowledgement of Notification Form
 - Parent Information Form
- Please return these forms as soon as possible so we can move forward with the process.

What questions do you have?



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