



Hutto ISD GT Referrals Information

Texas Education Code defines gifted/talented student as . . .

A child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience or environment.

Texas Education Code 29.123

Statistically . . .

Between 3% - 5% of the student population is gifted/talented.

Purpose of Identification

- To determine educational needs
- To correlate educational services to a student's individual needs
- NOT to label or diagnose

Hutto ISD Gifted/Talented Services

Two documents, *the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students* and *the Texas Performance Standards Project for Gifted and Talented Students (TPSP)*, guide the design of the Hutto Independent School District program for gifted and talented learners.

Elementary

Students are served in an inclusive classroom model. The inclusion model strategically places GT students in small groups in a general education classroom with a teacher who has received professional development in the education of gifted students. Hutto ISD's elementary campuses have a minimum of one GT trained teacher in every grade level. These teachers are trained to identify the content and skills that students have already mastered and move them on to new learning. In these classrooms, you may see: flexible grouping, tiered instruction, higher-level thinking, open-ended tasks, choice menus, and independent study. The Texas Performance Standards Project (www.texaspsp.org) will be used as a guide for the independent student projects.

Middle School

Gifted and Talented services at our middle school campuses provide students with the skills they need to be successful in advanced-level classes in high school. GT students are placed with GT trained teachers in core subjects, typically in Pre-AP classes. In these classes, students will master the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills objectives and move on to advanced-level content. The Texas Performance Standards Project (www.texaspsp.org) will be used as a guide for independent student projects. Students identified as gifted and talented will automatically be enrolled in Pre-AP courses in their identified area(s) of giftedness unless parents waive the requirement in writing.

High School

Gifted and Talented services at Hutto High School prepare students for college-level work. Pre-AP, AP and Dual Credit classes are available for grades nine through twelve in the four core subject areas. During their junior and senior years, students may receive college credit by passing the appropriate AP exams and/or after successful completion of Dual Enrollment courses offered by Temple College.

State Goal for Services for Gifted/Talented Students

Students who participate in services designed for gifted/talented students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment. High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted/talented students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

Hutto ISD Goals

Gifted and talented students will develop their abilities in the higher level, more complex thinking skills (including critical, creative, and productive thinking) that are extensions of regular curriculum.

Gifted and talented students will study advanced-level content and master the major concepts, skills and processes of specific disciplines in which they demonstrate ability.

Hutto ISD Goals cont.

Gifted and talented students will develop the skills necessary for self-directed learning and will conduct independent studies and research projects that extend the regular curriculum and results in advanced-level products.

Gifted and talented students will gain an understanding and respect for each person's abilities, recognizing the likenesses and differences between themselves and others, and will develop their own unique abilities for the betterment of both themselves and society.

Referrals

Referrals for testing should be made by an individual familiar with the student's abilities.

Parents, guardians, teachers, and other certified staff members, may submit a referral for testing.

Parent/guardian permission must be given in order for the student to participate in testing.

Referral Window

November 1st - 30th

During the referral window referral forms will be available on all campuses and on the district website.

All referral forms must be returned to the campus counselor no later than 3:30 pm on November 30th.

Timeline

November 1 - 30	Referral Window
January - February	Testing
End of February	Kindergarten notification of decision
March 1	Services begin for identified Kindergarten students
Early May	Notification of decision for all other testers
August	Services begin for identified 1st - 12th grade students

Questions?
