



Marion Local Schools Gifted Education Identification Policy & Service Plan

The district ensures equal opportunity for all district students identified as gifted to receive any services offered by the district for which the student meets the criteria.

Marion Local serves students in grades 2-12 with Superior Cognitive Ability, Specific Academic Ability, Creative Thinking, and/or Visual and Performing Arts Identification.

Superior Cognitive and/or Specific Academic

- *have achieved at the 95th percentile or higher in reading, math, science, and/or social studies*
- *have a Superior Cognitive Score at the 128 composite or higher*

Visual and/or Performing Arts Ability

- *have a score in the identification range on an approved behavioral checklist AND demonstrate superior ability to a trained individual through a display of work, an audition, and other performances or exhibitions.*

Students may be identified throughout the school year based on evaluations and assessment results; however, decisions regarding gifted services may not be made and/or implemented until the start of a new school year.

When service is provided, student learning is driven by Written Education Plans (WEP) or Written Acceleration Plans (WAP).

Gifted Services in Marion Local Schools

Marion Local Schools recognizes the importance of ensuring that gifted students are served by qualified teachers who understand their needs. In addition to collaborating with staff on affective and academic strategies and supports for gifted-identified and high-ability students, Gifted Intervention Specialists (GIS) provide services directly to gifted students per requirements determined by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce and outlined in the Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted Students (Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-15). The following services are currently available to students meeting specific criteria in certain grade levels:

Gifted Services for Elementary/Middle School

Elementary Services Include	Grade	Required Gifted Identification Area(s)
Cluster Grouped in the Regular Classroom	2-8	Cognitive, Math, Reading, and/or Creative Thinking
Co-Teaching in a Cluster Group	4	Math
Accelerated Math	5-6	Cognitive Score of 120 or higher and Math
Single Subject Acceleration	7-8	Math

Gifted Services for High School

High School Gifted Services Include	Grade	Required Gifted Identification Area(s)
Cluster Grouped in the Regular Classroom	9-12	Math

Eligibility

Written criteria for determining eligibility for placement in a gifted service are updated annually and shall be provided to any parent/guardian upon request. Current gifted services require gifted identification in the content area in which differentiated instruction is occurring and/or superior cognitive ability. All district students who meet the written criteria for a gifted service shall be provided an equal opportunity to receive those services. In cases where the services are at capacity, students with the highest cognitive scores will be given preference. Subjective criteria such as teacher recommendations are not used to exclude a student from services in the superior cognitive and specific academic areas if the student is otherwise eligible. Services shall be differentiated and consistent with requirements determined by the Ohio Department of Education and outlined in the Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted Students (Ohio Administrative Code 3301-51-15).

Referral

Children may be referred in writing on an ongoing basis based on the following:

- Child request (self-referral);
- Teacher recommendation;
- Parent/guardian request;
- Child referral of peer; and
- Other (e.g., psychologist, community members, principal, gifted coordinator, etc.)

Upon receipt of a referral, the district will:

- Follow the process outlined in this brochure and
- Notify parents of the results of screening or assessment and identification within 30 days.

Students referred with permission on file by September 30 will be tested between October 1 and October 31. Students referred with permission on file by February 28 will be tested between March 1 and March 31. Students referred after March 1 will be tested the following fall.

Screening

The district ensures equal access to screening and further assessment of all district children, including culturally or linguistically diverse children, children from low socioeconomic backgrounds, children with disabilities, and children for whom English is a second language.

Identification

When the screening assessment has been completed, if the data obtained is from an approved identification instrument and the score meets cut-off scores specified in the Department of Education guidance. The student's educational needs are determined. Identification scores remain in effect for the remainder of the student's K-12 school experience.

Reassessment

When the screening assessment has been completed, re-assessment for possible identification occurs if the data is from an approved screening instrument or from an identification instrument on which the student is within a district-specified range below the identification score.

Transfer

The district ensures that any child transferring into the district will be assessed within 90 days of the transfer at the parent's request. Parents shall contact the building principal.

Appeal Procedure

An appeal by the parent is the reconsideration of the result of any part of the identification process, which would include:

- Screening procedure or assessment instrument (which results in identification);
- The scheduling of children for assessment;

Creative Thinking Ability	
District Screening	ESC Follow-up Assessments
Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Form 7, 8 Grades K-12 Identification - 111 Composite Gr. K-1 112 Composite Gr. 2-12 And GATES 2 <i>Whole grade testing in grades 1 and 3.</i>	InView Cognitive Abilities Assessment Grades 2-12 Identification - 112 Composite And GATES 2
	Woodcock-Johnson IV (WJ-IV) Grades K-12 Identification - 112 Composite And GATES 2
	Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children Grades K-12 Identification - 112 Composite And GATES 2

Visual and Performing Arts

Demonstrate to a trained individual through the display of work, an audition, or other performance exhibition superior ability in a visual or performing arts area and attain a score of 61 for art, 39 for music, or 57 for drama on the Scales for Rating the Behavior Characteristics of Superior Students checklist (GATES 2). Grades K-12.

If you have questions, please call your building principal or
WENDI MOORMAN MERCER COUNTY ESC GIFTED COORDINATOR,
 at 419-586-6628.