

Gifted Identification Process

Whole Grade Screening

Students in grades K-11: Math and grades 2-11: Reading, will be screened using the *Measure of Academic Progress (MAP)* test three times per year. Students in grade 2 and 4 take the *Cognitive Ability Test (CogAT)* in November to screen for Superior Cognitive Ability. Students who score high on the *Cognitive Ability Test* will also be screened for Creative Thinking. Scores are usually sent home in December.

Alternative Testing

Any student in Grades K-12 may be referred for testing in superior cognitive, specific academic, or creative thinking abilities for up to 2 opportunities per year for testing (including whole grade screenings). Referral forms are available online (see "District Gifted Resources" on the main Gifted webpage) . Students referred with permission on file by September 30 will be tested between October 1 and February 28. Students referred with permission on file by February 28 will be tested between March 1 and year end. Students referred after March 1 will be tested the following fall. Scores are mailed home within 4 weeks of testing.

Visual and Performing Arts Assessment

The assessment process for Visual and Performing Arts is a lengthy, multi-step process. Individual referrals of students in grades K through 12 are accepted from parents, teachers, or others throughout the year. Students referred with permission on file by September 30 will be tested between October 1 and February 28. Students referred with permission on file by February 28 will be tested between March 1 and year end. Students referred after March 1 will be tested the following fall. Scores are mailed home within 4 weeks of testing.

Transfer Students

Students new to the district may be evaluated within 90 days of enrollment upon parent request.

Identification from Other Districts

Gifted identification in another Ohio public school district will be recognized by Youngstown City Schools. Families should provide evidence of the identification by way of a letter from the previous district or other documentation. Students identified as gifted by a district outside of Ohio may be identified in Ohio if the tests used are less than 24 months old and are on the Ohio Department of Education's approved list of instruments. If the testing does not meet the above criteria, the student may be referred for testing within 90 days of enrollment at parent request.

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Did You Know...?

Students evaluated by a school district or private practitioner for special education or a disability of some sort may be able to have test scores from that evaluation used for gifted identification. To be considered, scores must be on a test on Ohio's approved gifted testing list (typically most full intelligence tests and full achievement test batteries are accepted) and the scores must be less than 24 months old. If your child has had such an evaluation, contact the Gifted & Talented office at (330)509-8334 for information about submitting scores for review.

Appeals

Appeals of results must be submitted in writing within 30 days of parent notification of results. Appeals should be mailed to the Superintendent of Youngstown City Schools 474 Bennington Ave. Youngstown, OH 44505. The Superintendent will issue a written final decision within thirty days of the appeal.