



Prosper ISD Gifted and Talented Program Information

Mission

The mission of the Prosper GT Program is to provide a challenging and unique education that addresses students' learning styles and social/emotional needs through creative and critical thinking, depth and complexity, and sophisticated problem solving across multiple content areas.

Description of Services

- All Prosper ISD elementary and secondary teachers are required to have 30 hours of professional development in gifted education and to complete annual updates of 6 additional hours of professional development in gifted education. This applies to electives, specials, and core teachers.
- Identified elementary students are placed in cluster groups within classrooms.
- Elementary students identified for advanced program services will meet regularly in a pullout program with a GT Campus Specialist extensively trained in the nature, needs, and social and emotional development of gifted students.
- Based on GT testing data, sixth through eighth grade GT students may choose GT PreAP classes in Reading and/or in Math that cover the same learning objectives as the PreAP classes, but also include additional components designed specifically for gifted learners .
- Students in the middle schools and at the high school who are placed in the GT program are expected to take at least one PreAP, Gifted PreAP, AP, or Dual Credit core course in their schedule depending on their area(s) of strength or interest to maintain their GT Program placement.
- GT students at the high school will be purposefully clustered in PreAP and AP classes in English and math courses.
- GT freshman and sophomores identified as GT language arts have the option to enroll in GT Humanities I. This two-year course covers English I and AP World History over two years. GT Humanities II is available only for GT students who completed GT Humanities I in Prosper ISD.
- GT juniors identified as GT language arts have the option to enroll in GT American Studies. This double block course covers AP English III and AP US History.
- Prosper ISD Gifted and Talented Program services focus on gifted academic experiences and personal development. Other Prosper ISD courses and opportunities serve to meet the needs of students with talent in leadership, speech, the performing arts, and/or the visual arts.

Referrals

A parent, teacher, counselor, or member of the community may submit GT referrals for consideration in the Gifted

and Talented Program. Referrals can be submitted online at any time. The testing and placement decision will be made within six weeks of the referral.

Testing

MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) or the ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills) are the achievement assessment tools used in our identification process.

An ability assessment is also used in the identification process. The assessment is designed to measure each student's learned reasoning abilities in the areas of verbal, nonverbal, and quantitative.

Placement Decisions

Placement decisions are made by a Campus Placement Committee of at least three educators trained in nature and needs of gifted and talented students and current on the 6-hour update. The committee will consider achievement testing, ability testing, parent observation feedback, and teacher observation feedback in determining placement based on preponderance of evidence. Additional information may be requested.

Appeals

Parents can appeal the Placement Committee decision within 10 calendar days of the postmarked date of the GT Assessment Report. Details for appeal are posted on the Gifted and Talented website referenced below.

Transfer Students

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED GT STUDENTS NEW TO PROSPER ISD

Students who were formally identified as gifted in a previous school district must submit a letter or document on official school stationery that verifies the student's participation in a gifted program and provides the test scores used for placement in the program. The information will be reviewed to determine whether the expectations of the previous district equal, exceed, or approximate Prosper ISD requirements.

Prosper ISD will honor test results from other districts provided they are not more than two years old and are the same nationally normed ability and/or achievement tests used by the district. Additional testing needed to complete the gifted program assessment and referral process will be administered as needed. Once the information from the previous district is received, parents will be notified of the final placement decision within six weeks.

Students not formally identified as gifted in a previous district will be assessed according to the regular assessment and referral schedule for the child's grade level.

Visit our Gifted and Talented Webpage for additional information. <http://www.prosper-isd.net/Page/3514>

