



Gifted & Talented Proposal: Final Recommendations

Overview

- Review proposed changes to Gifted & Talented programs and schools
 - Equity and Access
 - Clear, high standards

- Present summary of public comment and feedback

- Final recommendations

- Next steps

What We Proposed

Improve equity and access

- Improve access to assessments
 - 2007-08: Test all public school students who request testing at school sites
 - 2008-09: Test all public school students in Grade K with BSRA, those interested in G&T also take OLSAT
 - Non-public school students will continue to be tested on weekends
- Conduct intensive outreach to improve program access

Set clear, high standard

- Implement an objective, accessible assessment
- Use two assessments to evaluate students
 - Bracken School Readiness Assessment in combination with Otis Lennon School Abilities Test
- Set single clear, high standard for “giftedness”
 - 95th percentile determines eligibility for district programs
 - 97th percentile determines eligibility for citywide programs

DOE will guarantee a seat to all students in Kindergarten and First Grade who meet the criteria

What We Heard About the Proposal

Proposal	Feedback	Final Recommendation
Eligibility criteria	Support for standard criteria; some concern that 95 th percentile is too high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep proposed 95th and 97th percentile, as criteria are supported by research and used successfully in other school districts
Student placement	Maximize opportunity for placement at schools ranked highest by parent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be matched to one placement offer at highest priority possible using ranked scores and student choice • An attrition model will be utilized • If a student does not rank a sufficient number of choices, student will be randomly assigned
Sibling consideration	Request for sibling consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If both siblings meet criteria they will be placed in same program/school • If applicant has a sibling already in a G&T program or school, the DOE will make every effort to accommodate the applicant in the same school as his sibling as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>If applicant is eligible</u> for the G&T program or school, he will be placed in the same program or school. ▪ <u>If applicant is not eligible</u> for the G&T program or school, he can apply for a PER (placement exception request) to attend the general education program offered in the same school provided there is enough space

What We Heard About the Proposal (continued)

Proposal	Feedback	Final Recommendation
<p>Minimum of 1 program in every district, even if that one program has only 10 eligible students</p>	<p>Desire for programs in every district</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 1 program in every district, even if that one program has only 10 eligible students • If fewer than 10 eligible students in a district, those students will be offered placement in a nearby district
<p>Transportation</p>	<p>Request for busing to all G&T programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current district rules will apply, giving eligible children access to transportation to district programs • Grandfather all current busing for students in the three citywide schools
<p>Citywide On-site Testing</p>	<p>Unfair for citywide schools to conduct on-site assessments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate on-site assessment and require Citywide schools to follow the same admissions protocol as district programs

Additional Comments

Feedback	Final Recommendation
<p>Entry grade should be Kindergarten</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to allow programs with both Kindergarten and Grade 1 entry grades; will explore uniform entry grade in the future
<p>Request for additional/late testing for students new to NYC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer administration for students new to NYC (those who arrived after the established testing period)
<p>Request for class size standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each school will determine class size, but OSEPO will set a minimum target of 20 students per class
<p>Create citywide schools in other boroughs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under consideration in the next year for future implementation

Additional Comments (continued)

Feedback	Final Recommendation
<p>Some objection to testing of all K students in 2008/09</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOE will test all Kindergarten students with BSRA to gather baseline data. Parents will determine whether to continue with OLSAT testing for G&T placement
<p>Parents want clarity and consistency of G&T program, curriculum, and quality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G&T Office will provide enhanced resources and guidance to schools and parents
<p>More G&T programs are needed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOE will provide as many programs as are needed to accommodate all eligible applicants and seek to align program placement with community needs
<p>How will available seats be filled in existing programs with different entrance criteria?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students applying to grades that had different entrance criteria will be held to same standards as students who are in those grades

New Policy Summary

The Chancellor's new policy provides for access, equity, and clear and high standards for identification of gifted students

- Administration of both OLSAT and BSRA, with OLSAT weighted at 75% and BSRA weighted at 25% of total G&T score
- Administration of OLSAT and BSRA to public school students in their own schools when parents request testing; administration to non-public school students on designated weekend testing dates
- Administration of BSRA to all public school Kindergarten students in 2008-09 school year to obtain baseline assessment data
- NYC will define Gifted & Talented students as those who achieve scores at or above the 95th percentile based on national norms and will guarantee a placement for all qualified Kindergarten and grade 1 students
 - Students who score at or above the 95th percentile will be guaranteed a seat in a district program
 - Students who score at or above the 97th percentile will be eligible for a seat in a citywide G&T school
- NYC will support a minimum of one Gifted & Talented program in each district (with a minimum of ten students) as well as the three citywide G&T schools
 - If there are fewer than 10 students who qualify in a district with only one program, the students will be offered seats in a neighboring district

Operational Calendar

- **November 26 – January 3:** Intensive outreach to publicize beginning of the application process
- **Week of December 3:** Parent Test Information Handbooks delivered to schools (with Request for Testing Forms and OLSAT practice test)
- **December – January 3:** Request for Testing Forms due
- **December – January:** Training of teachers to administer BSRA and OLSAT
- **January 22 – February 15:** OLSAT/BSRA testing at school sites for public school students
- **January 26 – 27, February 2 – 3, February 9 – 10:** OLSAT/BSRA testing at selected sites for non-public school students
- **By early April:** Score reports and applications with available G&T sites mailed to eligible students
- **By early May:** Applications due with program choices
- **By mid May:** Placement conducted and offers mailed
- **By end May:** Parents accept/decline placement offer to OSEPO