

Gifted & Talented Program Community Information Forum

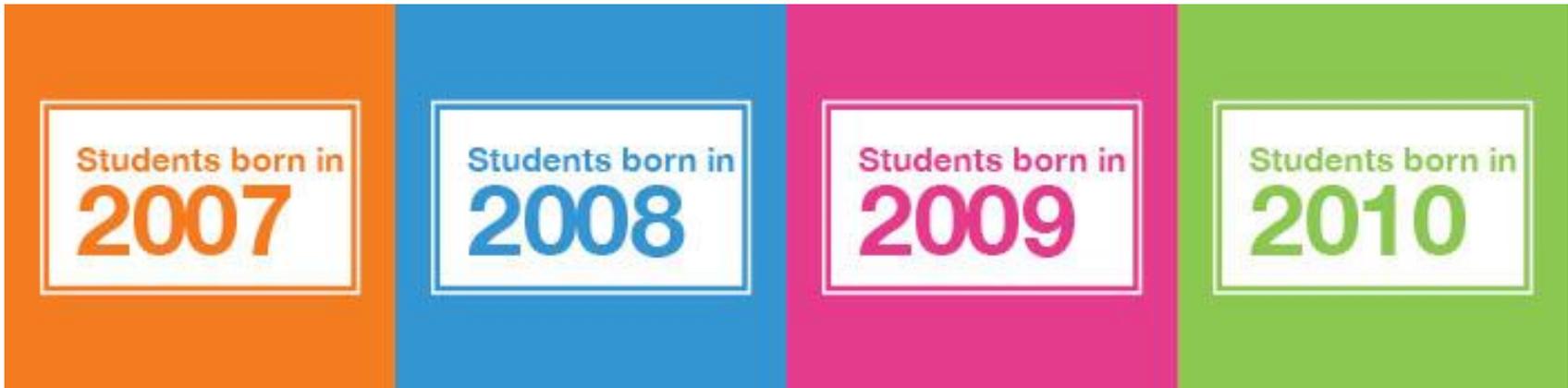
Fall 2014

Raising the bar for students and schools

PLEASE BE SURE TO:

Take a NYC Gifted & Talented Program Handbook

Handbooks are organized by your child's year of birth, not his/her current grade. Be sure to take the correct color:



Write your questions on the index cards provided

- Questions will be answered *at the end the presentation.*

TOPICS & GOALS

- Introduce New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) staff
- Describe different types of Gifted & Talented (G&T) **curriculum and instruction**
- Review the G&T **testing process**
- Explain the G&T **application and placement process**
- Review **transportation** policies
- Identify **contacts and resources** for additional information
- Respond to **frequently asked questions**

G&T CURRICULUM and INSTRUCTION

All NYC public schools provide instruction that is aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) for Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA) for grades PK-9 and to New York State Learning Standards (NYSLS) for all other subjects and grades.

Curriculum and instruction in G&T programs:

- **Varies by school** because schools may use different materials and/or pace lessons in a variety of ways
- **Supports children in developing knowledge, skills, and competencies** as outlined in the CCLS for Mathematics and ELA, and the NYSLS for all other subjects
- Adapts and modifies instruction to **meet the needs of different types of learners**
- Uses **specific instructional protocols** such as:
 - Literacy: Teachers College Reading & Writing Project; Fountas and Pinnell System
 - Math: Math in the City; TERC Investigations; Singapore Math; Everyday Math
 - Science: Full Option Science System (FOSS)

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To meet the needs of advanced students, G&T programs may:

- **Adapt the structure and pace of instruction by:**
 - Accelerating the curriculum to cover more topics in shorter periods of time
 - Stretching the curriculum to deepen students' understanding of certain topics and themes
 - Infusing additional opportunities for enrichment
- **Increase the level of instructional complexity by:**
 - Engaging in inquiry and student-directed learning activities
 - Intensifying content density and text difficulty
 - Encouraging students to work above their current achievement level
- **Implement a school-wide specialty focus, theme, and/or partnership such as:**
 - Science and technology
 - Music and art
 - Enrichment clusters by subject area
 - Tribes Learning Communities to support social-emotional learning
 - Reach the World program for exposure to different countries and cultures

IMPORTANT G&T DATES & EVENTS

DATE	EVENT or ACTION
October 14 – 23, 2014	Community Information Forums
November 7, 2014	Deadline to submit Request for Testing (RFT) form
January 8 – February 6, 2015	Testing for current K-2 public school students at schools
Jan. 10-11; 17-18; 24-25; 31; and February 1, 2015	Testing for current NYCDOE pre-kindergarten (pre-k) and non-public school students at selected weekend sites
Early April 2015	Score reports and applications with available G&T programs communicated to eligible students
April 23, 2015	Applications due
Week of May 25, 2015	Placement offers communicated to families
June 11, 2015	Deadline for families to accept/decline placement offers

See the inside front cover of your Handbook for a copy of this timeline

REQUEST FOR TESTING (RFT)

All current New York City residents in Pre-K – 2nd grade are eligible to take the G&T test.

- If interested, submit a Request for Testing (RFT) form by **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014**
- Only one RFT form per child should be submitted
- Request for Testing (RFT) forms may be submitted either:

If you need access to a computer, call 311 for help finding your local library.

Online

www.nyc.gov/schools/GT

-OR-

In Person

at your child's NYCDOE school (non-charter)

only if currently attending a DOE school

or

at a local Borough Enrollment Office

PAPER *REQUEST FOR TESTING (RFT)*

If you are unable to submit online, complete the RFT on pg. 19 of the Handbook.

- NYCDOE school families submit the paper RFT to their child's current NYCDOE school (non-charter)
- Any family can submit the paper RFT to a local Borough Enrollment Office (NYCDOE, private, charter)

Be sure to ask for and keep your receipt!

Bronx	Staten Island	Queens	Brooklyn
1 Fordham Plaza 7 th Floor (718) 935-2178 Districts 7, 9, 10	715 Ocean Terrace (Bldg. A) (718) 935-2402 District 31	28-11 Queens Plaza N. (718) 935-2386 Districts 24, 30	1780 Ocean Avenue (718) 935-2313 Districts 17, 18, 22
	Manhattan		415 89th Street, (718) 935-2331 Districts 20, 21
1230 Zerega Ave (718) 935-2278 Districts 8, 11, 12	333 Seventh Avenue 12 th Floor (718) 935-2383 Districts 1, 2, 4	30-48 Linden Place (718) 935-2391 Districts 25, 26	1665 St. Mark's Ave (718) 935-2340 Districts: 19, 23, 32
	388 West 125 th Street 7 th Floor (718) 935-2385 Districts 3, 5, 6	90-27 Sutphin Blvd. (718) 935-2393 Districts 27, 28, 29	29 Fort Greene Place (718) 935-2371 Districts 13, 14, 15, 16

SCHEDULING YOUR CHILD'S G&T TEST

Current **K-2 NYCDOE** school students are scheduled to take the G&T test at their current schools.

- The testing window is **January 8 – February 6, 2015**
- The G&T testing schedule is determined by each school
- Parents will be notified by the school 48 hours before the scheduled test date

Current **PRE-K, CHARTER, and NON-PUBLIC** school students take the G&T test on the weekend.

- Weekend test dates are: **January 10-11; 17-18; 24-25; 31; and February 1, 2015**
- Parents who submit an online RFT choose the date, time, and weekend test site
- Parents will be notified in December of their weekend test date, time, and location

TESTING SUPPORTS

The RFT form and G&T Handbook list the testing supports that students with documented conditions may be eligible to receive. Parents should contact the NYCDOE ServiceCenter@schools.nyc.gov or (212) 374-6646 with questions.

- Large print for students with visual impairments
- Frequency Modulator (FM) units for students with hearing impairments
- Scribe for students with impairments that impact their ability to write
- Other accommodations, based on individual student inquiry and need

Alternate Language Test Forms

اللغة العربية
[Arabic](#)

বাংলা
[Bengali](#)

中文
[Chinese](#)

Français
[French](#)

Kreyòl Ayisyen
[Haitian Creole](#)

한국어
[Korean](#)

Русский
[Russian](#)

Español
[Spanish](#)

اردو
[Urdu](#)

- Public school students in K-2 must be formally identified as English Language Learners (ELLs) in order to select alternate language testing. Parents of all other students may select their preferred language of assessment.
- Parents must indicate any alternate language test requests on the RFT
 - The online RFT provides a drop-down menu of alternate language locations
 - The G&T team will contact parents who submit paper RFTs to schedule
- Students hear directions and questions in their preferred language only

TEST PROCEDURES

What to Expect on Weekend Test Days (Pre-k, charter, and non-public school students)

- Parents are encouraged to arrive 15 minutes early
- Check-in and wait until your child's name is called
- A staff member will come out to meet your child and take him/her to the test room
 - Parents are not permitted to escort their children to the test room
 - Food and beverages are not permitted in the test room
 - Students may bring personal items, as long as they do not become distracted
- When your child has finished, the greeter will escort him/her back

What to Expect on Weekday Test Days (current DOE school students)

- DOE schools manage the G&T testing process individually
- Schools will notify parents 48 hours in advance of the test date
- Some schools may request permission to test students on the weekend

TEST FORMAT

All students:

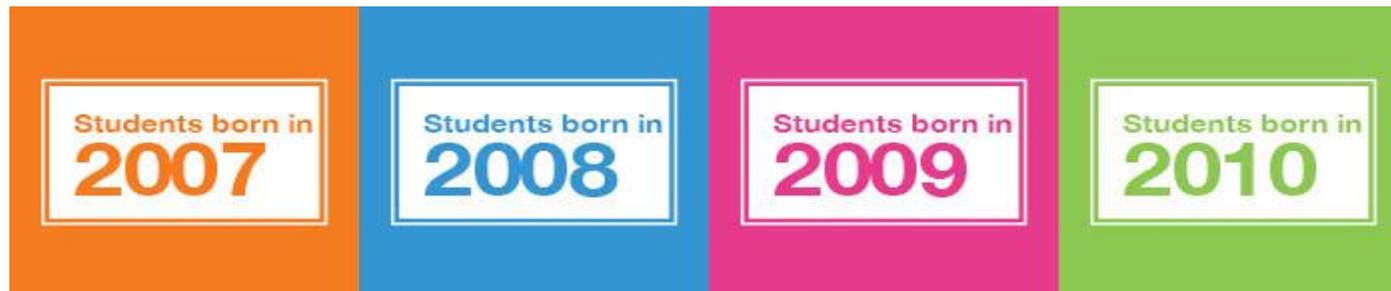
- The test administrator reads directions aloud and reviews a sample test item
- Questions and directions are read aloud only once
- Tests are untimed

Students born in **2007, 2008, and 2009** work independently on test completion by:

- Bubbling their own responses; and,
- Turning pages to move on to the next questions; and,
- Ensuring they have responded to all questions (no penalty for guessing)

For students born in **2010**, the test administrator turns pages and records responses

- Students point to their responses, and the test administrator bubbles in the answers



Up to 20 students
per test
administrator

Up to 10 students
per test
administrator

Up to 5 students
per test
administrator

1 student per test
administrator

NONVERBAL: *Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT)*

The NNAT is an untimed, multiple choice test designed to measure abstract reasoning, critical thinking, and problem-solving without the use of language. There are 48 total questions on the NNAT.

There are four types of nonverbal tasks in the NNAT:

1. **Pattern completion:** look at a design and identify which portion is missing
2. **Reasoning by analogy:** consider the relationship between geometric shapes
3. **Serial reasoning:** identify a sequence in a series of shapes
4. **Spatial visualization:** visualize how objects would look if combined

Please refer to the G&T Handbook for sample nonverbal test questions

VERBAL: *Otis Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT)*

The OLSAT is an untimed, multiple choice test designed to measure verbal reasoning and comprehension abilities. There are 30 total questions on the OLSAT.

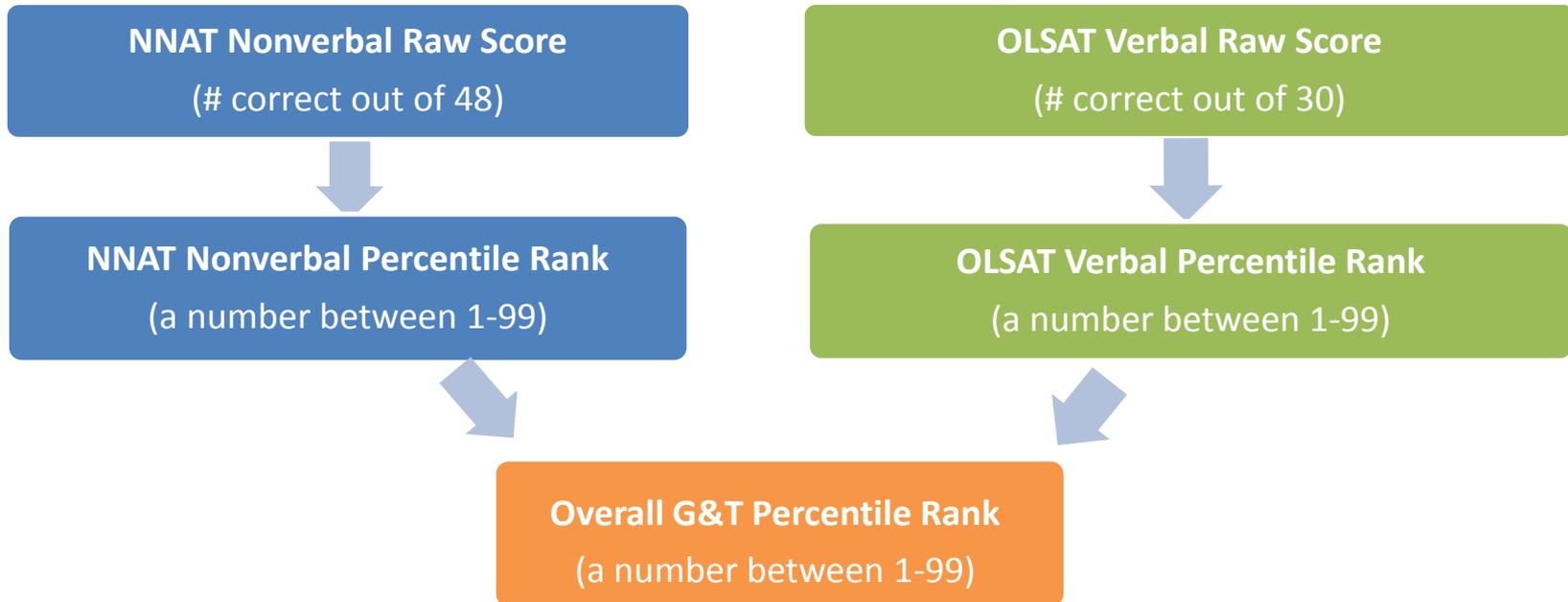
The verbal test items on the OLSAT ask students to:

- Detect likenesses and differences
- Recall words and numbers
- Follow directions
- Classify items
- Establish sequences
- Solve arithmetic problems
- Complete analogies

Please refer to the G&T Handbook for sample verbal test questions.

SCORING THE G&T ASSESSMENT

The scores of the nonverbal (NNAT) and the verbal (OLSAT) tests are combined to report an overall percentile rank, which is used to determine eligibility to apply for G&T programs.



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SCORE REPORTS AND ELIGIBILITY

All families will receive a score report in early April.

- If the RFT was submitted in person, the materials will be mailed.
- If the RFT was submitted online, families will receive the materials by email and standard mail.

Eligibility

- Students scoring at or above the 97th percentile are eligible to apply to both District and Citywide G&T programs.
- Students scoring at or above the 90th percentile are eligible to apply to District G&T programs only.
- To be eligible, students must live in NYC at the time of RFT submission, application submission, and the time of admission.

APPLYING TO G&T PROGRAMS

Families of eligible students will receive an application with their child's score report in early April, as well as a list of all programs to which they can apply.

Families can submit applications:

Be sure to retain your application receipt for your records!

Online

www.nyc.gov/schools/gt

-OR-

In Person

at a local borough enrollment office

Applications will be due on April 23, 2015.

APPLYING TO G&T PROGRAMS

On the G&T application, families:

- List sibling information (if applicable)
- Rank their program choices, in order of preference

Things to Consider:

- We recommend that families visit all schools of interest to get a sense of the school environment and to test the commute.
- Open Houses will be held in April 2015, after G&T scores are released.
- Families should only apply to G&T programs they wish to attend
- Students will be offered their highest ranked program possible, based on placement criteria

PLACEMENT IN G&T PROGRAMS

Placement in Gifted & Talented programs is based on:

- Whether your child has a sibling in the program you are applying to
- Your child's overall G&T exam percentile rank
- Your zoned district (for District G&T programs)

Grade-Level Placement

Your child's year of birth determines his/her placement grade for applicants born in 2009 and 2010

- **Students born in 2010** are only eligible for a Kindergarten G&T placement
- **Students born in 2009** are only eligible for a 1st Grade G&T placement

Students applying for placement in 2nd and 3rd grade will be placed based on current grade level, regardless of year of birth.

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

- All students, including students with disabilities and English Language Learners, are eligible and encouraged to submit a Request for Testing (RFT) to take the G&T test.
- Students who qualify for and are offered placement in a G&T program will be welcomed and accommodated by the school in the G&T program.
- Schools are expected to provide the services and supports listed on the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or as required by the student's ELL status, even in the G&T program.

PLACEMENT CRITERIA: *Citywide G&T Programs*



PLACEMENT CRITERIA: *District G&T Programs*



UNDERSTANDING PLACEMENT POLICIES

There is no guarantee of a placement offer:

- The number of eligible students typically exceeds available G&T seats
- Scoring an overall percentile rank of 99 does not guarantee placement
- Families of students applying for G&T placement for kindergarten are encouraged to also apply through the kindergarten admissions process in January
- There are very limited seats available for G&T placements in 2nd and 3rd grade

Sibling placement policies:

- To confer sibling priority, siblings must be currently pre-registered or enrolled in grades K-5 at the school *and* in grades K-5 as of Sept 2015
- Siblings may be older or younger
- Twins and other multiples will be placed together if each child is eligible for the program
- If your top priority is to have your children placed together in the same school, we encourage you to list the sibling's school as your first choice

G&T OFFERS AND REGISTRATION

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G&T OFFERS AND REGISTRATION

If your child receives a G&T placement offer:

- To accept the offer, you must pre-register your child by the deadline in early June
 - To pre-register your child, you will need to bring your child, his/her G&T offer letter, passport or birth certificate, and 2 proofs of address documentation to the school

Attrition offers:

- Your child will automatically remain eligible for placement at all the programs ranked higher on your application than your initial offer (if any)
- If a seat opens in a program ranked higher than your initial offer, your child may receive a new offer in the summer or early fall. If you decide to accept an attrition offer, it will replace any other pre-registration you have completed at a public school (whether G&T or not).
- Attrition offers are made based on the same placement criteria used during the main offer period (i.e., sibling priority, test score, and district of residence (for District G&T programs)).

TRANSPORTATION

Placement in a G&T program does not guarantee school bus service

- Transportation for G&T programs follows the same rules as for all other schools
- There is one exception: students who attend a Citywide G&T program may be eligible for transportation, if they live in the same borough as the Citywide program

WALKING DISTANCE from CHILD'S HOME to SCHOOL

		Less than ½ Mile	½ Mile or More <i>but Less Than 1 Mile</i>	1 Mile or More
GRADE LEVEL	K - 2	Half-Fare MTA Bus Pass	Either Yellow Bus <i>or</i> MetroCard	Either Yellow Bus <i>or</i> MetroCard
	3 - 6	No Transportation Provided	Half-Fare MTA Bus Pass	Either Yellow Bus <i>or</i> MetroCard

For more information visit www.nyc.gov/schools/offices/transportation

CONTACTS & RESOURCES

SUBSCRIBE TO G&T EMAIL ALERTS TO RECEIVE UPDATES

Sign up at www.nyc.gov/schools/subscribe

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT:

G&T ASSESSMENTS / TESTING - Office of Assessment

Call (212) 374-6646

Email ServiceCenter@schools.nyc.gov

G&T APPLICATIONS / PLACEMENTS - Office of Student Enrollment

Call (718) 935-2009

Email ES_Enrollment@schools.nyc.gov