



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

Gifted Education Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. What options does a parent have if they want to participate in their child's meeting but they are not available on the date/time indicated on the Parent Participation Notification (PPN)?

Parents can request to reschedule the meeting for another date/time by indicating the request on the bottom of the PPN or by contacting the ESE Contact at their child's school.

2. What if my native language is not English?

The school district will provide information in the parent's native language or other mode of communication commonly used by the parent unless such communication is clearly not feasible to do so.

3. Does the school need the parent's informed written consent to evaluate a child for gifted eligibility consideration, to provide gifted services, or to change gifted services/placement?

Parental consent must be obtained prior to administering an individual screening or evaluating a student for gifted eligibility consideration. Parental consent must also be obtained upon initial placement for a student to receive gifted services for the first time. Parents would be invited to, and be an active member of, any meetings to discuss changes to gifted services or placement.

4. Does the school need a parent's written permission to discuss their child?

No, school staff members can have educational planning meetings in which they discuss students and ways to meet their needs without notifying parents. Parents will be notified of any meetings involving identification, evaluation, or educational placement.

5. How can a parent request to have their child evaluated for gifted?

Parents can contact the ESE Contact at their child's school to request an evaluation.

6. Can Prekindergarten students be evaluated for or receive gifted services?

No, evaluations for gifted consideration by the school district and gifted services are not available until the student has entered Kindergarten.

7. What can a parent do if their child did not qualify for gifted eligibility based on the IQ score?

Parents can request a meeting with their child's teacher to discuss any curricular needs for their child. Parents can also request another evaluation through the Child Study Team. The Child Study Team will meet, including the parent, to discuss the request and either agree to the evaluation or issue a refusal.

8. Must an Educational Plan (EP) be developed for every student who is gifted?

Yes, an EP must be developed for all students who are gifted only.

9. Can a student have both an individual educational plan (IEP) and an EP?

No. A student with a disability must have an IEP, unless it is a Section 504 disability. For a student that is also gifted, the gifted goals are added to the IEP and follow all the IEP guidelines, including goals addressing all the special needs of the student. If the student does not have a disability and is solely gifted, then only an EP is developed.

10. Will a parent be given a copy of their child's EP after the meeting?

Yes, parents are given a copy of the EP and all other paperwork that is completed at the meeting. Parents will also be provided with a copy of their procedural safeguards.

11. Where can a parent get another copy of their child's EP?

Parents can request a copy of their child's EP from the ESE Contact at their child's school.

12. Will a student continue to be eligible for gifted services if the parent does not sign consent for initial placement or removes their child from gifted services?

Yes, a student can be gifted not placed if a parent chooses not to sign consent for initial placement or to remove their child from gifted services. If the parent would like their child to receive gifted services in the future, the EP team (including the parent) would meet to review current needs and discuss services.

13. Would a student receive gifted services in Palm Beach County if they were eligible for gifted in another county in Florida?

Yes, if a student had an EP and moves to our district, Palm Beach County (in consultation with the parent) would provide services comparable to those the student received in the previous district until the team adopts the EP developed by the previous district or develops, adopts and implements a new EP.

14. Would a student receive gifted services in Palm Beach County if they were eligible for gifted in another state?

Palm Beach County would need to obtain a copy of the gifted plan which could include documentation from the previous school district in another state that the student was determined eligible for gifted services in accordance with the applicable requirements of that district or state and was receiving gifted services. Palm Beach County (in consultation with the parent) must provide the student with services comparable to those described in the student's gifted plan from the previous school district, until the new school develops, adopts and implements a Florida EP. Students who transfer with gifted eligibility from another state do not need to meet the requirements in Florida for continued services.

15. Can a parent review their child's school records?

Yes, parents can request to review their child's records at any time. The school would make an appointment for the parent to review the records with a staff member present.

16. Are there school choice options for gifted services?

No, having a gifted eligibility is not a school choice option and in no way influences the selection process for school choice.

17. Can a parent request a reassignment based on gifted eligibility?

No, gifted eligibility does not meet the criteria for reassignment per District policy.

18. How do I find out which school my child can attend to receive gifted services if our home school does not have a gifted program?

Parents can contact the ESE Contact at their child's school or refer to the feeder pattern documents by visiting the School District Palm Beach County's website at https://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/ese/gifted.

19. Who can a parent contact for more information about gifted services at my child's school?

Parents can contact the ESE Contact at their child's school for more information.

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