



Ohio Department of Education

Office for Exceptional Children

Gifted Services

Operating Standards Update

April 2008





OAC 3301-51-15

Operating Standards for Identifying and Serving Gifted Students

- A. Definitions**
- B. General**
- C. Identification**
- D. Services**
- E. Personnel**
- F. Funding**
- G. Accountability**



Section A: Definitions

- **OAC 3301-51-15 (B) (1)**
- **No significant changes.**
- **Definitions of terminology used in the Operating Standards are provided to assist with the planning and implementation of gifted identification procedures and services.**



Section B: General

- **OAC 3301-51-15 (B) (1 and 2)**
- **No significant changes**
- **Suggests that districts incorporate gifted identification and services into their strategic plans.**



Section C: Identification

- **OAC 3301-51-15 (C) (1 through 4)**
- **No significant changes.**
- **If identification plans are revised, districts shall submit them to ODE for approval.**



Section D: Services

OAC 3301-51-15 (D) (1 through 5)

Is it service?

- **Is the student placed based on identified needs?**
- **Are written criteria established for placing students?**
- **Does the service provide equal access for all eligible students?**
- **Is the service specified for the student on a WEP?**
- **Is it an approved setting?**
- **Is the content differentiated to a higher grade or cognitive level?**
- **Is the service provider a GIS, gifted coordinator or teacher trained with HQPD on gifted?**
- **Is it offered during the regular school day?**



Section D: Services

What about the Written Education Plan (WEP)?

- **Is it individualized?**
- **Does it match the student's area(s) of gifted identification?**
- **Does it specify setting(s), student goals and service provider(s)?**
- **Does it provide for classroom assignment waivers and test scheduling arranged around gifted service participation?**
- **Does it provide for timely and regular reporting to parents about student progress?**
- **Does it specify a date for review?**



Waiver Application

- **Temporary extension to allow districts time to address compliance issues related to services to gifted students**
- **Limited time permitted – one year only**
- **Tied to the service setting in section E**
 - **Separate applications for each setting**
 - **Limited reasons for application**
- **Districts must support application with reasons and plans for future compliance**



Support Materials - Waiver

1. **Rationale for the waiver**
Why is this waiver necessary?
2. **Description of alternative service proposed**
 - Purpose
 - Criteria for placement
 - Roles and qualifications of staff
 - Amount of time spent in placement
3. **Quality monitoring**
Ensure effectiveness of service
4. **Plan to bring services into compliance**
How and when will the district be in compliance



Section E: Personnel

Gifted Intervention Specialist

- **Percentage for Instructional Time**
- **GIS services**
 - **Class settings**
 - **Collaboration**
 - **Virtual Environments**
- **Contact time**
- **Caseloads**
- **Class sizes**



Section E: Personnel

Gifted Coordinator

- **Shalls & Mays**
 - Unit funding will not be available to districts where any of the “shalls” are not being delivered.
 - May do “may” stuff, shall do “shall” stuff but cannot do what they “may” not do.



Section E: Personnel

Gifted Coordinator SHALL

- **Assist in identification & placement**
- **Assist design services & settings**
- **Consult on gifted issues related to strategic planning & school improvement**
- **Assist in ongoing evaluation of services**
- **Assist in paperwork – gifted policies & procedures**
- **Developing, dissemination & eval of WEP**
- **Assist in ensuring compliance**



Section E: Personnel

Gifted Coordinator MAY

- **Communicate with parents**
- **Consult to develop & adapt curriculum**
- **Coordinate educational options (see list in ORC (E) (5) (c))**
- **Develop PD**
- **Serve as liaison among students, teachers, community, etc.**

Coordinators MAY NOT TEACH



Section F: Funding

- Unit eligibility reduced to 1000 ADM for gifted intervention specialists and 2500 ADM for gifted coordinators.
- Units may be approved to fund qualified staff providing gifted education services in virtual learning environments.



Section F: Funding

- The number of units available statewide has not increased for 2008-2009.
- However, apply for what you would **reasonably** expect to use.



Section G: Accountability

- Audits will be based on random selection, complaints and/or suspicion of non-compliance
- Audits may now include both identification plans and service models



If Audited...

- **May validate and respond to findings**
- **ODE technical assistance provided**
- **Develop and implement action plan**
- **ODE may reduce funds if noncompliance continues**



Questions? Please contact

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