



Lago Vista Independent School District Gifted and Talented Student Referral

School employees who wish to refer a student for gifted and talented should send this form home to be signed by the student's parent/guardian. Parents who consent to having their child screened for the Lago Vista ISD Gifted and Talented Education Program should complete this referral form and return it the student's school by the due date. The referral deadline for fall semester screening is October 1st for students in grades 1-12. The referral deadline for spring semester screening is February 1st for students in grades 1-12. As all students are screened in kindergarten (with parent consent), referrals are not needed for students in kindergarten.

Referral by (Circle one): Parent/Guardian Teacher Administrator
 Counselor Other: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Grade-Level: _____ Student Age: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Phone #: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Student I.D. Number: _____

Ethnicity (Circle one): African American Hispanic White Other

Gender (Circle one): Male Female

Has the student been tested previously for the Gifted/Talented program? Yes No

If yes, where was the student tested? _____ When? _____

In your opinion, what special characteristics do you feel this student exhibits?

I would like my child to be considered for the Lago Vista ISD Gifted and Talented Education Program. I give my permission for my child to be screened for program consideration. I fully understand that this referral alone does not mean my child will be accepted into the program. This referral only indicates that I would like for the above named student to be considered as a possible candidate for the program.

Parent Signature

_____ Date _____

Office Use Only:

Date Received

Office Staff Initials

What is Gifted and Talented?

“Gifted and talented student” means a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience or environment and who: exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative or artistic area; possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or excels in a specific academic field. *(As defined in the Texas Education Code.)*

Informal Indicators of Giftedness

- Walks and talks at an early age
- Has a large and advanced vocabulary
- Learns rapidly and easily
- Reads at an early age
- Demonstrates a great appetite for books and reading
- Entertains self for large blocks of time
- Has a long attention span
- Readily retains a large amount of information
- Consistently organizes, sorts, classifies and groups things, and names them
- Has a heightened curiosity (asks ‘why’ often)
- Fantasizes often
- Is self-motivated, self-sufficient, and independent
- Shows sensitivity to other people’s feelings and empathy in response to their troubles
- Demonstrates leadership abilities
- Exhibits perfectionism
- Likes to discuss abstract concepts (such as love, justice, etc.)
- Has a high energy, needing less sleep than age-mates
- Learns new material rapidly
- Loves puzzles, mazes, building blocks, and toys that challenge
- Has an advanced sense of humor
- Prefers the company of older children or adults
- Is highly creative, imaginative
- Is a keen observer
- Expresses unusual sensitivity to what they see, hear, touch, smell or feel
- Is widely informed, especially in areas of personal interest
- Expresses concern for the world’s problems

Characteristics of Gifted Students

1. Verbal Proficiency
 - Large vocabulary
 - Facility of expression
 - Breadth of information
2. Power of Abstraction
 - Interest in inductive learning & problem solving
 - High level of conceptualization
 - Pleasure in intellectual activity
3. Intellectual Curiosity
 - Interest in a wide range of things
 - Willingness for complexity
 - Persistent pursuit of goals
4. Retentiveness/Power of Concentration
 - Intense attention
 - Retains and uses information
 - Long attention span
5. Independence/Goal Directed
 - Self-initiated student
 - Pursues individual interests
 - Seeks direction
6. Power of Critical Thinking
 - Self-criticism
 - Skepticism
 - Adept in analyzing strengths and weaknesses
7. Sensitivity/Intuitiveness
 - High level of awareness
 - Keenly observant
 - Emotional depth
8. Potential for Creativity
 - Inventiveness
 - Liking for new ways of doing things
 - Interest in brainstorming, freewheeling
9. Versatility/Virtuosity
 - Diversity of interests and abilities
 - Many hobbies
 - Proficiency in art forms such as music and drawing