

GIFTED AND TALENTED FAQ

PISD GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS

What is Gifted and Talented (G/T)?

According to the Texas Education Code, section 29.121, “gifted and talented students” 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: (1) exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area; (2) possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or (3) excels in a specific academic field.

How do I know if my child is Gifted and Talented?

All gifted children are not the same. It is important to note that there are not one or two characteristics that an educator can point to in order to say that a student is G/T. It is a combination of characteristics. Some signs that a student might be gifted include, but are not limited to:

- Extraordinary memory compared to peers
- Highly curious
- Highly creative
- Exhibits abstract reasoning and problem-solving skills
- Draws inferences and grasps underlying principles
- Initiates projects • Discusses things in details, elaborates

How are students identified as G/T?

Identification as GT begins with a parent or teacher requesting G/T testing which will lead to the G/T Identification process.

What is the G/T testing process?

Teachers and Parents may recommend a student for G/T assessment at any time during the school year. Students can only be assessed one time a year. Students transferring into the district that were identified in another district must be referred and reassessed using the identification process for Palmer ISD. A completed G/T Nomination form which is found on the district's website must be completed and submitted to the Special Programs Director. No assessments will take place the first six weeks of school or during the summer.

Does my child need to be tested again to stay in the program?

No. Once your child qualifies to receive G/T services, they will continue to receive them unless you request otherwise or if your child leaves the district.

Who is the district's contact person for G/T services?

For further information you may contact Pennye Birdwell at pbirdwell@palmer-isd.org or by calling Palmer ISD Administration Office at 972-449-3389, Ext. 6005.