

School Funding Interim Commission 2015-2016

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Gifted and Talented - High Ability/High Potential Student Education in Montana

Grant Funding History

<i>Fiscal Years</i>	<i>Yearly Grant Funding</i>	<i>Biennium Total</i>
1980-1991	\$100,000	\$200,000
1992-1993	\$276,000	\$552,000
1994-1995	\$149,250	\$298,500
1996-2005	\$150,000	\$300,000
2006-2007	\$250,000	\$500,000
2008-2009	\$1,250,000	\$2,500,000
2010-2015	\$250,000	\$500,000
2016-2017	<i>Biennial Grants</i>	\$500,000

Grants (20-7-901-904 MCA; ARM 10.55.804)

- Noncompetitive - Supplemental
- Matching funds required (20-7-903, MCA)
- Allocations to school systems are made based upon school size and documented local matching funds:
 - small school system \leq 2,499 students
 - large school systems \geq 2,500 students
- Review of GT Plan/Framework and grant proposal for compliance with Montana Board of Public Education policies (20-7-903-904, MCA; ARM 10.55.804 - Framework)
 - Application is online in the “E-Grant” program
 - Application Pages contain:
 - School system plan/framework upload: ARM 10.55.804
 - Number of GT students as reported in Achievement In Montana (AIM) - Prefilled
 - Number of students served by the grant by grade level
 - Committee (teachers, administrators, school psychologists, specialists, counselors, etc.)
 - Selection Criteria (IQ tests, achievement tests, creativity tests, observation checklists used)
 - Measureable Objective(s)
 - Data to identify the need
 - Measureable objective
 - Activities to meet the objective
 - Budget
 - Currently 49 grants serving 69 districts –2017 Biennium funding

Identification Overview (20-7-901-902, ARM10.55.804 – Framework)

- **Identification Process:**
Systematic, multiphased process (referral, screening, placement) using multiple criteria and multiple data sources with determination of the need for services made by a committee based upon professional review of the data.
 - Identification of potential:** – IQ test, test for abilities, e.g., Cognitive Abilities Test (Cogat).
 - Identification of achievement** – standardized testing, district assessments, e.g., Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing.
 - Student data** - characteristics checklists, student profiles, portfolios, e.g., Scales for Rating Behavioral Characteristics of Superior Students (Renzulli and Smith 1977).
- **Service options to meet individual need:**
 - Designed to meet student needs by varying the depth, breadth, pace, and complexity of content and instruction through a wide variety of research based strategies.
 - Program structures vary from 100 percent classroom-based to classroom based with collaboration with specialist, to “send out” programs for students to attend, to a blend of services based upon local options and student need.

Web Based Resources

http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/gifted_AP/index.html - Resources for Parents, Teachers and Administrators



<http://www.nagc.org/> - Resources for Parents, Teachers and Administrators

<http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/> - The “all things gifted” page

Suggested Viewing:

The Myth of Average: TEDx Sonoma County -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4eBmyttcfU4>