

House Bill

Gifted and Talented Distribution Schedule 2016

In July, every Idaho district or LEA will receive \$3,000 regardless of district or LEA size for gifted education. This is the base amount mentioned in the legislation, and will account for approximately half of the appropriated one million dollars. Districts may use the dollars in the 2016-2017 school year for two purposes: professional development in gifted education and identification of gifted students.

How may the new GT dollars be used?

- 1) Professional development—attending GT conferences, bringing a speaker to present at your school, registration for professional development courses. The first amount paid out in July will enable districts to use dollars to send teachers to Edufest, the main professional development in Idaho, other than university courses, to help teachers gain an endorsement towards gifted education. Any teacher or administrator could benefit from this professional development.
- 2) Identification of gifted students. This could include paying a proctor to administer evaluation materials to determine a student's eligibility for gifted services, purchasing evaluation materials, meeting time (paying a substitute for release time) to evaluate students for program admission.

These are suggestions for appropriate uses of the new monies. Each district/LEA will be responsible to give an accounting for how all monies given through House Bill 620 for gifted education were spent. Each year, a report is due to the Legislature concerning Gifted Education in Idaho. The dollars spent and how they benefit students is crucial to include in future reporting.

September 2016

Each district/LEA will complete their Student Demographic file, and the validation triggers, as to how the student qualifies for gifted services, e.g. through academic, intellectual, creative, artistic, leadership areas. Each student must be flagged in ISEE as gifted in order for the count to be accurate.

The remainder of the funding will be distributed equally on a basis of identified gifted students flagged in ISEE, up to 6% of the district/LEA total population. Dollars will be distributed shortly after the September ISEE data completion. The approximate amount will be \$28 per identified gifted student, depending on the number of students identified statewide.

3 Year Plans

Now that charter schools are receiving money for gifted services they need to create a 3 Year Plan. These new plans are due Oct. 15. Any district/LEA that has a plan expiring in the 2015-2016 school year is required to update its 3 Year Plan. A newly revised template is located on the gifted and talented webpage: <http://www.sde.idaho.gov/academic/gifted-talented/>

For any questions regarding your 3 Year Plan revision, please contact Dr. Peggy Wenner
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