



GIFTED / TALENTED PROGRAMS

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GATE/SAS Coordinator's Update Newsletter

February/March 2015

The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows. -Sydney J. Harris

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GATE/SAS Updates

- Districtwide OLSAT-8 administration to second grade students is scheduled to occur March 11-12, 2015 or March 18-19, 2015. Schools should have already received a shipment of student test booklets. If your school did not receive materials, or there was an issue with the shipment (e.g., not enough student test booklets), please immediately contact: brenda.zamarripa@pearson.com. NEW THIS YEAR: The District has provided an authorized OLSAT-8 practice test to familiarize teachers, students, and parents with the test format. The practice test, Directions for Administration (DFA), and required cover sheet can be accessed at Inside LAUSD under "What's New."
- The 2015 Symposium on Gifted Education is available for registration on the Learning Zone. The theme is "Hands-On, Minds-On" and will emphasize the Common Core State Standards, Maker's Movement/Constructivism, 21st Century Learning, S.T.E.A.M., and Project-Based Learning. The keynote speaker is Dr. Gary Stager; participants will receive a copy of his book, *Invent to Learn*. Enrollment capacity is limited to 350 participants (two per school, as space is available). Additional enrollees from a school may be dropped in the order of enrollment or as determined by the school leadership team. Participants will receive six GATE professional development hours, with an option to complete a two-hour extension assignment.
- Thank you for your continued patience with the MiSiS automatic identification upload. To clarify, High Achievement and Specific Academic Ability category identification, based on interim procedures outlined in MEM-6252.0, has not yet been uploaded to MiSiS; this includes students who qualify based on spring 2014 OLSAT-8 scores. The MiSiS team is working hard to ensure that this data is updated accurately before the end of the school year.
- 2014-2015 Charter Schools Fee-For-Service Procedural Clarification: To initiate the Fee-For-Service process for identification referrals, please FAX the completed Fee-For-Service (FFS) Request form (with administrator's signature) to the Charter School Office at (213) 241-2054 and a copy to the GATE Office at (213) 241-8975. Once you receive notification from the Charter School Office to proceed with the preparation of the referral documents, you may then send in the referrals to the appropriate office with the FFS. A signature from the GATE Office is no longer required to proceed with the FFS request. Once services have been rendered, Gifted/Talented Programs sends a completed Confirmation of Services (COS) form to the Charter School Office for final billing.

GATE Salary Point Class Openings

For all GATE/SAS teachers who wish to fulfill GATE professional development hours this spring, three 15-hour classes are now open for registration on the Learning Zone:

Meeting the Needs of Gifted Learners: Part II/Content (K-6) -- April 11 & 18, 2015

How to Use Writing and Data to Create Novel Experiences for Gifted/Talented Learners (K-12) -- April 18 & 25, 2015

Beyond Academics: What Else do Gifted Learners Need? (K-12) -- April 11 & May 2, 2015

To register, log on to <https://lz.lausd.net>, click *Class Offerings*, and search under *Program for Gifted/Talented Programs*.

Professional Development Enrollment Courtesy

GATE professional development offerings (e.g., salary point classes, small group trainings, etc.) are in high-demand. Classes fill quickly and often have lengthy waiting lists. **We need your help!** If you sign up for a class and cannot attend, please log on to the Learning Zone and "unenroll" so our waiting list can be notified in a timely manner. Please do not hold the spot if you cannot commit to attending the entire class. "No-shows" prevent interested participants from receiving this valuable training.

Arts Evaluators Needed

Gifted/Talented Programs holds demonstrations and auditions in the Visual and Performing Arts twice per year (third Saturday in November and third Saturday in May). Each year, we seek additional LAUSD teachers with strong arts expertise to assist as evaluators. If you have a strong background in visual arts, voice, dance, or theatre and would like to be considered for future auditions/demonstrations, please email Dr. Lucy Hunt at lhunt@lausd.net.

Small Group Trainings

Schools site GATE coordinators and administrators are invited to participate in our small group trainings on gifted identification. Additional information and registration is available on the Learning Zone.

- **March 23, 2015:** Visual/Performing Arts
- **April 9, 2015:** General Identification
- **April 20, 2015:** Creative/Leadership Ability
- **May 4, 2015:** Creative/Leadership Ability

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



OLSAT-8 Testing for 2nd Graders: March 11-12, 2015 OR March 18-19, 2015 (Make-up testing March 24, 2015)

Deadline for Schools to Deliver OLSAT-8 Testing Materials to Testing Centers: Friday, March 27, 2015

Symposium on Gifted Education: *Hands-On, Minds-On*: Saturday, March 28, 2015 from 8:00 a.m.-3:15 p.m. at RFK Community Schools (Register on the Learning Zone)

Deadline to Submit Intellectual Ability Referrals: April 10, 2015

Deadline to Submit Visual and Performing Arts Referrals: April 17, 2015

GATE/SAS Parent Conference: Saturday, April 25, 2015 from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Virgil Middle School

Conservatory of Fine Arts, Visual Arts Division Art Show: Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at CSULA, Fine Arts Building

Conservatory of Fine Arts, Performing Arts Division Final Performance: Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at Burroughs Middle School, Auditorium

Deadline to Submit High Achievement/Specific Academic Ability Referrals (new or out-of-district only): May 29, 2015

Deadline to Submit Creative and Leadership Ability Referrals: May 29, 2015

Student Eligibility At-a-Glance

With so many outstanding District program options for gifted learners, it can sometimes be confusing to sort out the eligibility requirements. Here is a breakdown of eligibility requirements for popular program options for gifted/high ability learners:

PROGRAM OPTION* *For details, review the relevant District memorandum	ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*	APPLICATION AND ENROLLMENT INFORMATION*
<p>Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS)</p> <p>MEM-5974.2, <i>Schools for Advanced Studies (SAS): Student Application for 2015-2016</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified in High Achievement, Specific Academic Ability, Intellectual Ability, Creative Ability, or Leadership Ability <u>OR</u> Verified through test scores (OLSAT or out-of-district) <u>OR</u> Verified through four critical thinking skill criteria (supporting evidence filed at sending schools) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents apply directly to the SAS school(s) of choice using a paper application Applications are available at the SAS school or can be downloaded at http://achieve.lausd.net/gate under "What's New" or "Program Options" The student application window is April 7-30, 2015 Parents will be notified of selection (by school site) by May 11, 2015 Selection is first-come, first-served or by random lottery (contact school to determine selection process) Qualified resident students must be accommodated before any non-resident permits are granted; no application is required for qualified resident students Sending schools must maintain a file of supporting evidence for students verified based on the four critical thinking and problem solving skills
<p>Gifted/High Ability Magnet</p> <p>MEM-3391.9, <i>On-line Magnet Verification for Gifted/High Ability Applicants</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified in High Achievement, Specific Academic Ability, or Intellectual Ability <u>OR</u> Verified through test scores (OLSAT or out-of-district) <u>OR</u> Verified through four critical thinking skill criteria (supporting evidence filed at sending schools) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents apply through the Choices process at http://echoices.lausd.net or with a paper application that can be obtained at the school site, Magnet Office, or public library The student application window occurred in October/November 2014 Parents will be notified of selection (by Magnet Office) by the end of March 2015 Selection is based on student meeting eligibility criteria and the Magnet Selection Priority Points System Sending schools must maintain a file of supporting evidence for students verified based on the four critical thinking and problem solving skills
<p>Highly Gifted Magnet</p>	<p>Identified in the Intellectual Category as Highly Gifted (99.9%) or Highly Gifted Applicable (99.5-99.8%)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents apply through the Choices process at http://echoices.lausd.net or with a paper application that can be obtained at the school site, Magnet Office, or public library The student application window occurred in October/November 2014 Parents will be notified of selection (by Magnet Office) by the end of March 2015 Selection is based on student meeting eligibility criteria and the Magnet Selection Priority Points System
<p>Conservatory of Fine Arts</p> <p>MEM-5160.4, <i>Gifted/Talented Conservatory of Fine Arts Programs</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified in Visual or Performing Arts (first priority) Recommended by school site (second priority) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application process for 2015-2016 school year is pending but will occur in fall 2015 Information will be provided in revised Memorandum and on http://achieve.lausd.net/gate under "Program Options" and "Conservatory of Fine Arts"