

Gifted and Talented Program Self-Audit/Reflection

Purpose: Following recommendations of best practice, this self-audit is designed to focus conversations and reflections on the seven minimum requirements for a Talented and Gifted program according to Chapter 12 of the Iowa Administrative Code. This self-audit will encourage district conversations about ways to best meet the needs of gifted children K–12 and to determine what changes need to occur in teaching and programming in order to challenge children. **Each child has the right to learn every day in every classroom.** We challenge you to embrace this belief as you reflect on and assess your own program, the way in which it serves students’ needs, and its effectiveness for children. We then ask you to go one step further and consider what can be done to *better* meet the needs of gifted and talented students in your district.

“What gets measured gets done. Measurement is the heart of any improvement process. It must begin at the outside of the program, be visible, and be done by the natural work group itself.”
Tom Peters

Procedure: This self-audit/reflection is a blend of the Gifted and Talented Program Assessment Rubric developed by Karen Garvin and Chapter 12 of Iowa Code. The components of the Garvin Rubric are grouped and color-coded to correspond to the Chapter 12 sections. The title of each Chapter 12 section is found in the lower right corner of each page. The correspondence to colored sections is identified below. The last page of each colored section is an action-planning form for use in goal setting and program improvement. A summary page for each section is available electronically or in hard copy.

Collect the data and artifacts that will help you determine your current status*. Use this information to identify strengths and areas for improvement in each of the Chapter 12 sub-sections. Please check off each of the following sections as they are completed.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Pink	Identification of students
<input type="checkbox"/>	Salmon	Goals and Performance measures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yellow	Differentiated Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Green	Staff Qualifications
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blue	Budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Violet	In-service Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buff	Review and Evaluation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ivory	Additional Quality Indicators of Best Practice

We would also encourage you to study the Gifted Program Standards from the National Association for Gifted Children. The additional information from the seven (7) NAGC tables will be valuable as “talking points” and will be helpful as you clarify each Chapter 12 sub-section. The Gifted Program Standards are found on the National Association for Gifted Children web site at www.nagc.org.

* Compile this information in a way that is meaningful for your district. One suggestion might be a notebook with tab dividers for each sub-section. Attach artifacts to document implementation. For further assistance with program planning consult *Designing Services and Programs for High Ability Learners* by Purcell and Eckert or contact your AEA Gifted and Talented Consultant.

** The first time you use the Gifted and Talented Program Self-Audit/Reflection tool, completing all sections of the audit will organize your preparation for a Department of Education Site Visit. In subsequent years consider evaluating two (2) different sub-sections each year on a rotating basis. Including this rotation procedure in the District written Gifted and Talented Program Plan will meet the evaluation requirement of Chapter 12 (IAC) for Gifted and Talented as well as the G/T program evaluation component required in the CSIP.

Funding

	Ideal	Acceptable	Needs Attention
Budget Status	Gifted and talented program coordinator and teachers have open access to status of g/t budget and are apprised of expenditures and g/t budget balance on a regular basis (at least monthly). Coordinator is involved in setting the g/t budget. Any unexpended funds g/t funds are carried over and remain in the g/t budget line.	Gifted and talented program coordinator and teachers are provided with information regarding g/t expenditures and balance 2-3 times per year. Any unexpended funds g/t funds are carried over and remain in the g/t budget line.	Status of the gifted and talented budget is shared once each year. G/T coordinator and teachers have no further access to status of the budget even when the information is requested. If unexpended g/t funds are not carried over and remain in the g/t budget line, the district is non-compliant with Iowa Code 257.46 Funding.
K-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6-8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please mark the box that reflects your current program status.

What do we do well?

What do we need to improve?

Facilities/Equipment/Resources

	Ideal	Acceptable	Needs Attention
Equipment and Materials	The budget provides for equipment and materials necessary for a quality program. Items purchased with g/t funds directly meet the identified needs of gifted and talented children.	Some funds are available for purchasing equipment and materials needed for a quality program. Purchased items are available for program use.	Very little funding available for materials and/or equipment, interfering with conducting a quality program. Items purchased with gifted funds cannot be found or are not available for program use.
K-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6-8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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What do we do well?

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Facilities/Equipment/Resources

	Ideal	Acceptable	Needs Attention
Technology	The district uses G/T funds to purchase technology only when there is a student need above and beyond technology resources already provided by the district. The purchase is directly related to a student’s identified area of giftedness. (The general fund provides for district technology needs.)	G/T funds are used to provide basic technology (hardware and software) for use by identified g/t students.	G/T funds are used to provide basic technology equipment (hardware and software) for general use by all students.
K-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6-8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please mark the box that reflects your current program status.

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What do we need to improve?

Facilities/Equipment/Resources

	Ideal	Acceptable	Needs Attention
Print and Non-Print Resources	G/T funds are used to purchase appropriate print and non-print materials for K-12 identified g/t students' use in the media center and/or to provide appropriately challenging curriculum in the regular classroom for identified gifted students.	The district uses g/t funds to provide a limited range of resources for identified g/t students; e.g. focusing on some curricular areas to the exclusion of others	G/T funds are used to provide basic print and non-print materials for use by all students.
K-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6-8	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9-12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Action Planning Sheet

Budget There is a budget 281—IAC 12.5(12)						
Long Term Goal(s):						
Short Term Goal Statement(s) to meet long term goal(s)	Specific Outcomes (Success Criteria)	Data Gathering Assessment Techniques	Timeline & Responsibility	Action Steps (“to do”)	Support Needs	
					Items	Costs
	<i>Success will have been achieved when...</i>					

Constant Conversation Questions

1. What do data tell us about our student learning needs?
2. What do/will we do to meet student learning needs?
3. How do/will we know student learning has changed?
4. How will we evaluate our programs and services to ensure improved student learning?

*Adapted from the work of Peter Holly/New Iowa Schools Development Corp
Heartland AEA 11, 2006 (LM/MS)*