

## Instruction

## Early Entrance and Identification and Programming for Gifted and Talented Students

## 1. Early Entrance

## a) The District offers early entrance into five-year old Kindergarten

Students turning five (5) after September 1<sup>st</sup>, but before September 30<sup>th</sup>, may be tested for early entry status if parents/guardians believe the child demonstrates academic achievement, social-emotional, and physical maturity appropriate for five-year-old placement. Parents/Guardians must apply for early entry prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> to the District Gifted Coordinator. -Appointments will be made for intellectual/academic assessment. Assessment for students enrolling into the District after the deadline but prior to the onset of the school year shall be conducted as expeditiously as possible. Applications will not be considered after the start of the school year.

The Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and his/her team, will have the final determination in who receives early entrance to kindergarten. (Families may appeal, in writing, to the Chief Academic Officer whose decision is final.)

Parents of tested students will be notified of their child's eligibility for early entry by the end of the current school year. The enrollment center will be made aware of the early entry placement for those who qualify. Information will also be sent to the school principal for the student file and teacher reference. A quarterly review should be conducted to assess progress.

## b) Early Entrance to four-year old Kindergarten (4K)

Racine Unified does not screen students for early entry to four-year old kindergarten (4K). To qualify for entry to the District 4K program, a student must be four (4) on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the enrollment year.

## 2. Identification and Programming for Gifted and Talented Students

## a) Identification of Gifted and Talented Students

The identification process for Gifted and Talented Students will be defined in the *RUSD Guide to Gifted and Talented Identification and Programming*, as

## Instruction

developed by District Administration. This guide will include identification in the following areas:

- General Intellectual
- Specific Academic
- Creative
- Visual and Performing Arts
- Leadership

b) Accelerated Programs

Opportunities are provided for middle and high school students to enroll in advanced and upper level courses. Criteria to participate in these courses are established on a course-by-course basis and involves the school counselors and classroom teachers. Parents may request, through their child's counselor, that their child be considered for an accelerated program even if s/he does not meet all the established criteria. Further information regarding accelerated programs for middle and high school students is set forth in the *RUSD Guide to Gifted and talented Identification and Programming*.

Opportunities are provided for elementary students through subject acceleration and/or grade level acceleration as outlined in the *RUSD Guide to Gifted and Talented Identification and Programming*.

c) College Credit Programs

Opportunities are provided for students to take college level courses while attending high school in the Advanced Placement (AP) Program and International Baccalaureate (IB). Students may earn college credit depending on their test results provided by these programs. Participation in these programs are based generally on prerequisite courses and teacher recommendations.

d) Early Graduation

Students in the accelerated program who successfully meet graduation requirements (as set forth in the annual *Course Description Guide*) have the opportunity to graduate at the end of eleventh grade.

## Instruction

## 3. Designation of Program Coordinator

The Gifted and Talented Coordinator shall be designated as the supervisor, coordinator, and manager of all programming for students identified as Gifted and Talented at all grade levels.

Legal Reference: Wisconsin Statute Section 121.02(1)(T)  
Wisconsin Statute Section 118.35 (1, 2, 3)  
Wis. Admin. Code § PI 8.01(2)(t)2

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