

Identification and Selection Criteria

In accordance with state guidelines, identification of potential Gifted and Talented students occurs at every grade level. Teachers will be alert to students exhibiting characteristics of a gifted and talented student. A review of the students cumulative records and assessment data will be completed before moving into the formal selection process.

Elementary Grades K-1:

The identification process for Kindergarten and grade one students is completed through review of the functional assessment data used within the classroom to support the instruction of all children. All potential candidates participate as part of an early elementary talent pool receiving curricular enrichment within the classroom.

Elementary Grades 2-4:

Teachers will recommend students based on beginning of the year benchmarks, initial math and language arts assessments, and classroom performance. Students recommended for gifted math will be screened using the Redbird Math placement test.

Middle Grades 5-8:

As part of our district philosophy and in alignment with current state and federal assessment trends, standardized assessments are used to identify Gifted and Talented students in the spring of fourth grade. This assessment process includes the results from statewide testing, measures of achievement, creativity, and aptitude. Students are initially identified through performance on district LinkIt Benchmark Assessments and the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA). A total number of points will be required for eligibility into the program (this number will vary depending on the current grade level student bodies) using a Tier system. Students must meet the requirements in each tier before they can progress to the next level. Students meeting criteria in the first two tiers will be assessed using the CogAT Screener. Initial referral for assessment may also occur through teacher or parent nomination.

Linwood Public Schools

Gifted & Talented Program Admission Criteria for Students entering Grades 5-8

Program Admission: A total number of points will be required for eligibility into the program (this number will vary depending on the current grade level student bodies) using a Tier system. Students must meet the requirements in each tier before they can progress to the next level. Only students who meet the requirements of all three Tiers will be eligible for Gifted & Talented. Exceptions may vary.

Grade 4-8 Tier I Criteria			
Criterion	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
1. Math Benchmark(Link It)	Exceeding	Meeting	Bubble
2. ELA Benchmark (Link It)	Exceeding	Meeting	Bubble

Student's Score: _____

Tier I Score Required to Progress to Tier II 4

Grade 4-8 Tier II Criteria			
Criterion	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
1. Teacher Recommendation	X	X	X
2. ELA NJSLA Score	Level 5	Level 4	Level 3
3. Math NJSLA Score	Level 5	Level 4	Level 3

Student's Score: _____

Tier II Score Required to Progress to Tier III 5

Grade 4-8 Tier III Criteria- CogAT Screener			
Criterion	3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
Verbal/Picture Analogies	95-100%	85-95%	75-85%
Number Analogies	95-100%	85-95%	75-85%
Figure Matrices	95-100%	85-95%	75-85%

Student's Score: _____

Tier III Score Required for Program Admission
8 points or 95%+overall score