

Guide to Gifted and Talented Programs

WHAT IS THE GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM?

The **Gifted and Talented Program** is designed for HISD's Gifted and Talented (G/T) students in grades K-12 who excel in *general intellectual ability* in combination with *creative/productive thinking* and/or *leadership* ability. Gifted and Talented programs provide services that are comprehensive, structured, sequenced, and appropriately challenging. HISD curriculum is **differentiated** by modifying the **depth, complexity,** and **pacing** of the general school program, utilizing higher-level thinking skills, and developing *independent research skills* focusing on *advanced-level products*.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GIFTED AND TALENTED NEIGHBORHOOD AND VANGUARD MAGNET PROGRAMS?

Gifted and Talented Neighborhood Programs are designed to provide G/T services on a campus for all G/T students who are enrolled at that campus. With the exception of 15 Vanguard Magnet schools and a few unique campuses such as early childhood learning centers and some charter schools, all HISD schools offer a G/T Neighborhood program.

Vanguard Magnet Programs are designed to meet the needs of G/T students in Board-approved Magnet schools in accordance with the district and Magnet Guidelines. Vanguard Magnet schools provide services to their zoned G/T students and students on a Vanguard Magnet transfer. There are ten elementary Vanguard Magnet schools, five Vanguard Magnet middle schools, and one Vanguard Magnet high school.

HOW TO APPLY TO A VANGUARD MAGNET PROGRAM?

Students applying to a Vanguard Magnet school must submit an HISD Magnet application **following the Magnet timelines and policies**.

HOW TO APPLY TO A GIFTED AND TALENTED NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAM?

Students can apply for G/T services at their neighborhood (zoned) school by submitting the Gifted and Talented Neighborhood Programs application to their enrolled campus.

HISD

Gifted and Talented

REVOLUTIONIZING
THE WAY WE THINK

HOW DO STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR THE GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM?

Gifted and Talented (G/T) identification in HISD is determined by points obtained based on various criteria: an achievement test, an abilities test, and other district criteria. Scores are entered and converted into points on HISD's G/T Identification Matrix.

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

You may contact the principal or Gifted and Talented Coordinator at any HISD campus. You can also reach HISD's Gifted and Talented Department at 713-556-6954.

MORE INFORMATION

The Gifted and Talented Department website:
<https://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/32983>

The Office of School Choice website:
<https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/133703>