

GIFTED IDENTIFICATION TESTING FAQ – MEASURES OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS (MAP)

1. What is MAP?

MAP stands for Measures of Academic Progress. It is a product of the Northwest Evaluation Association. It is administered across the United States and has the smallest standard error of measurement of any achievement test. For additional information go to www.nwea.org or to Sycamore's web page.

2. For current second graders or students seeking access to gifted services for the first time, what specifically will be the MAP math criteria and reading criteria to qualify as gifted identified?

A student must earn a 95 percentile on the reading or math MAP assessment to be identified as gifted in those content areas. We are not permitted to look at the "percentile range" when considering gifted identification. Students may be identified as gifted in Math and/or Reading on any of the 3 administrations during the school year.

3. For current second graders or students seeking access to gifted services for the first time, what specifically will be the MAP math criteria and reading criteria to qualify for participating in Advanced Language Arts and/or Accelerated Math?

For accessing math gifted services, students need a qualifying ability score on a state approved assessment (such as the Cognitive Abilities Test7) AND a 95%ile in Total Math on 2 out of 3 MAP administrations to participate in Accelerated Math. For accessing advanced language arts gifted services, students need a 95%ile in 2 administrations of the MAP Reading Assessment AND a 95%ile on a district writing prompt to participate in Advanced Language Arts. Note, the 3 administrations considered for placement in gifted services must occur within a 12 month window; however, the 12 month window of time is a rolling window of time.

4. When will placement in gifted services occur?

Newly identified students who have met criteria for participating in Advanced Language Arts and/or Accelerated or Double Accelerated Math, may enter those classes up until the start of semester 2 of the school year. The concern is, that if students enter the class after that point there will be too many gaps for the student to successfully achieve. If a student's instructional team determines through the Response to Intervention process that a student has met the district criteria and has all of the necessary skills to successfully achieve in one of the gifted programs after the start of semester 2; and, it would be educationally detrimental to not permit the student to participate in one of the offerings, the team may make that recommendation to the district Gifted Coordinator for consideration and decision making.

5. Is a standard error of measurement figured into this qualifying score?

No, there is not a standard error of measurement figured into this qualifying score for gifted identification. There was not a standard error of measurement figured into the Iowa Test of Basic Skills achievement score either. Gifted Identification only looks at a standard error of measurement when a cognitive abilities IQ instrument is administered.

6. If a student falls below the 95% gifted identification criteria and the spring MAP window is still open, can they retake it yet this spring?

If a student score falls in the "retest range" which is 93% - 94% they will be administered a retest automatically as outlined in the gifted education operating standards for the state of Ohio and as a part of Sycamore's practice for administration of the MAP 3 times per year. Parent permission is not required since all students K-9 will be participating.

7. If a student's score falls below the retest range of 93%-94%, when is their next opportunity to qualify for another gifted ID testing administration?

The student would qualify to be retested whenever the next Map Window opens. This

applies to grades K-10. So if they are tested during the winter MAP window and do not earn a 93%-94%, he/she would be tested with MAP in the spring, which is the next testing window.

8. If a student does not receive a score of 95%tile on the MAP, can the family access outside testing?

A family may access outside testing for purposes of gifted identification; however, the district is recognizing only the MAP assessment for accessing gifted services or, if there are extenuating circumstances such as lack of English language proficiency, a district administered achievement test for placement.

9. What is the appropriate MAP test to use for gifted ID in grades K-10?

MAP with Goals is the appropriate test for gifted ID for students grades 2 - 10. The MPG is the appropriate test for gifted ID for students grades K-2. Under the law we are required to identify in grades K-12.

10. What are the appropriate MAP tests to use for gifted services in grades 3-8?

- In addition to the MAP, all 2nd, 4th, 6th, and 8th graders are administered the Cognitive Abilities Test 7 the 1st 2 weeks of semester II (typically end of January). The MAP does not have an IQ/school ability index testing component.
- Students who score a 95% or higher in math on 2 different administrations within a 12 month window and a score of 128 or higher on the CogAT IQ test are automatically included in Accelerated Math in the fall.
- Students who score a 98% or higher in math on 2 different administrations within a 12 month window and a score of 144 or higher on the CogAT7 ability test are eligible to be included in Double Accelerated Math in the fall.
- Students who score a 95% or higher in Reading on 2 different administrations of the MAP Reading Assessment AND a 95%ile on a district-administered writing prompt within 12-months AND a score of 128 or higher on the CogAT7 Ability Test are automatically included in Advanced Language Arts in the fall.

11. On MAP testing, if a student scores above the 95th percentile during any testing window, but then the child drops below the 95% during any other subsequent testing window, would we "count" the higher score and still consider the child to have earned the gifted identification?

Yes. In the state of Ohio, once a child earns the gifted identification label, lower subsequent scores don't cause the child to lose their gifted ID label. In other words, in Ohio, once identified, always identified.

12. Do all the MAP tests used for gifted identification need to be administered by a certified teacher?

No, MAP tests used for gifted identification can be administered by any trained certified teacher or classified staff member dependent upon district administration guidelines.

13. In middle school, if a student qualifies for a retest in the specific content area of reading, can that retest be administered in the general classroom setting while the teacher is instructing other students in the classroom?

No. To preserve the integrity of the testing environment, a child should be given the retest in a computer lab or quiet area such as the Media Center, etc. in any building.

14. Can a follow up administration of the MAP test be used to "retest" students who meet the screening criteria of 93% - 94% on the MAP test?

The MAP tests are designed to be administered multiple times in the same school year

and include a large test item bank to reduce familiarity with specific items. Therefore, the test can be used as follow-up testing for students in the screening range. It is also important to remember, though, that no single test instrument can appropriately assess all students.

15. MAP was approved for gifted identification at the end of December 2011. Can our district retroactively go back and use scores from the fall, 2011 and winter 2011 test sessions?

No. We can only review and consider MAP scores for gifted identification administered after January 1, 2012.

16. What content areas have been approved for use of MAP as the gifted identification instrument?

At this time only reading and math are approved. We use the Language Assessment results for program placement only. We will continue to use the Stanford Achievement test for screening in science and social studies content areas for gifted ID. This is only by parent request or teacher nomination.

2/2013