

OCDSB General Gifted Information

Secondary (Grades 9-12)

- **CCAT (results prior to September 2017) or CCAT7:** Scores at the 98th percentile on two of the three scales and at least 90th on the third
- **WPPSI/WISC:** Full scale or GAI at or above 98th percentile* (When composite scores differ by 23 standard score points or more, a determination will be made as to whether the Specialized Gifted Program will provide the best support to the student, based on all of the information provided).

For OCDSB students, our LST's (Learning Support Teachers) for Grade 8 support the referral process into a secondary specialized gifted program class. For outside applicants, your OCDSB home gifted secondary school will support you directly in this process. For more information on your home gifted secondary school you may contact Learning Support Services. ([OCDSB Gifted Program](#))

- All students who meet OCDSB gifted identification, as per the Gifted Screening and Identification Manual, are eligible to apply for gifted secondary. Current psychological data (within the past 2 years and 11 months) or verification from an OCDSB psychologist/psychological associate that an assessment completed more than two years and 11 months ago continues to be valid is required for students applying to the gifted program from a Regular classroom placement, including students who have been in the Gifted Program, and have returned to a regular classroom.
- Once in a Gifted Program specialized program class, no further assessments are required to stay in the program each subsequent school year as long as the student remains in the program.

Educational Assessment

To ensure best practice, current educational assessment (within the last 2 years, 11 months) is required. Two subtests from the Wechsler Individual Achievement Test, third edition, (WIAT-III), reading comprehension and math problem solving, must be included in the referral. The educational assessment may be included in the psychological report. An educational assessment may be completed at your child's school.

Social/Behavioural Profile

There may be social and/or behavioural factors that warrant being explained as part of the referral process. This information is helpful to provide a fulsome picture of the learner. These social/behavioural observations may be within the classroom and/or at home and may include disengagement, low self-esteem to perfectionist characteristics. There are no specific

social/behavioural characteristics needed in order to be referred to the Gifted Program specialized program class.

Additional Supporting Information

Additional information may be helpful to provide a fulsome picture of the student. This information may be relevant to the student's needs and programming requirements. As cognitive ability does not always equate to academic achievement, additional educational information may be required for a referral to a Gifted Program specialized program class.

Note: The progress of a student in a specialized program class will be monitored regularly and reviewed at the yearly Individual, Placement, and Review Committee (IPRC) meeting to ensure the program continues to support the needs of the student.

Referral Process for Current OCDSB students

- OCDSB referrals are coordinated through the multidisciplinary team at your child's school.
- All questions relating to this process can be directed to your child's current school.
- The secondary school committee begins reviewing referrals in January for placement in the following academic year. Referrals are not considered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to submit a referral form as part of the application process.
- Once in a Specialized Gifted program class, no further assessments or applications will be required to stay in the program each subsequent school year. Students in the Specialized Congregated gifted program who are transitioning from grade 8 to Secondary will be offered a placement in a program at a Secondary Gifted Program site.

Referral Process for non-OCDSB students

- Please contact the Gifted Coordinator at Bell High School. Additional information is also available on the Bell HS website ([add link to OCDSB Gifted Specialized Program at Bell High School: What is the Process?](#))
- The secondary school committee begins reviewing referrals in January for placement in the following academic year. Referrals are not considered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to submit a referral form as part of the application process.
- Once in a Specialized Gifted program class, no further assessments or applications will be required to stay in the program each subsequent school year. Students in the Specialized Congregated gifted program who are transitioning from grade 8 to Secondary will be offered a placement in a program at a Secondary Gifted Program site.

Final Note:

We support learners in a variety of ways within the OCDSB. We recognize that each learner has their individual strengths and needs and that what works for one may not work for another within a similar profile.

Please note that formal identification does not determine placement. We support our gifted learners in their regular program class as well as (when required, through the tiered process) within specialized program classes.