Solving the Equation

Gifted Teacher Unit Allocation and Reconciliation

July 2018



VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

MISSION-

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community



State Board of Education Goals FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2016-2020

- 1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
- 2. Every Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career
- 3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
- 4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
- 5. Every Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes
- 6. Every School and District is Rated "C" or Higher



Gifted Programs



Gifted Programs

- Intellectually Gifted (IG) Grades 2-12
- Creatively Gifted (CG) Grades 2-12
- Academically Gifted (AG) Grades 9-12
- Artistically Gifted (Art G) Grades 2-12
- State Funding is for Grades 2-6 Intellectually Gifted Only



Gifted Teacher Unit

Allocation



- The gifted teacher unit allocation that a district receives is calculated to the hundredth place.
- For the 2018-2019 School Year, districts were allocated TU's based on the number of intellectually gifted (IG) students in grades 2-6 in MSIS during the 3rd Month Snap Shot, (December 10, 2017).
- The number of IG students in grades 2-6 in MSIS for each district on this date will be the number used each year.



- If data is entered incorrectly, the district may not be in compliance to receive full funding.
- An e-mail, with the district's gifted students report and gifted teacher schedules, will be sent to each district superintendent and district gifted contact after month 1 and month 2 submissions.
- Districts must correct all errors before the month 3 snapshot.
- There will be no corrections after the Month 3 snapshot.



- All funding of gifted teacher units is done based on the TU allocation recommendation made to the Legislature by the Mississippi Department of Education.
- Gifted funding for the past 6 years has been included in the MAEP Lump Sum funding for each district.
- Funding will be in the MAEP Lump Sum for the 2018-2019 School Year.



- Funding for gifted education for the past 5 years has been included in the MAEP Lump Sum "at a reduced rate" according to the MDE.
- To accommodate the reduced rate of funding, the MDE is allowing flexibility to districts when it comes to gifted program support, scheduling, and staffing.
- The TU reconciliation process will take place during the 2018-2019 School year; but actual proration of funds will not take place.



- Districts can have teachers' rolls with up ro 60 students and remain in compliance.
- Students can be scheduled for a minimum of 4 hours/week, according to the 2013 Gifted Regulations.
- Districts are expected to maintain program integrity with any flexibility utilized in the planning, support, and staffing of gifted programs.



Funding Formula Grades 2-6: The 40 + 1 Rule

- 20 eligible students = 1 Gifted Teacher Unit
- The TU's allocated increases incrementally to 2 as the number of students approaches 40.
- Once the district has 41 students, the TU's allocated increases incrementally to 3 as the number of eligible students approached 81.
- This process continues until all of the eligible students are accounted for.



Students	Teacher Units
20	1
41	2
82	3
123	4
164	5
205	6







Gifted Students Report (Grades 2 – 6)

- Compares gifted course code on student's schedule to the gifted eligibility type marked on the student's record.
- If the course code and gifted eligibility type *match*, then the student is counted as an eligible gifted student.
- If the course code and the gifted eligibility type do not match, then the student is counted as ineligible.



Gifted Students Report (Grades 2 – 6)

Report Details

- Teacher
- School
- Grade
- Gifted program type
- Number of eligible and/or ineligible students



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Example

- Course code is 662001 for intellectually gifted in grades 2-12.
- If the Gifted Students Report finds a course code of 662001 on the student's schedule and an intellectually gifted eligibility is indicated on the student's record, then the student is counted as **eligible.**
- If the Gifted Students Report finds a course code of 662001 on the student's schedule and an artistically gifted eligibility is indicated on the student's record, then the student is counted as **ineligible**.



If the course codes and eligibility rulings match, the students are counted as eligible the first time the program finds them scheduled into a gifted course AND counts them as ineligible each additional time the program finds them scheduled into a gifted course. **This is because a student may be counted only once for the funding of teacher units, in grades 2-6.**



Gifted Teacher Scheduling

- According to Accreditation Standard 13.1, "The teaching day must provide a minimum of 330 minutes of instructional time per day".
- For the purpose of funding teacher units, "full time in the gifted program" means 330 minutes per day.
- A minimum of 330 minutes per day in the gifted program <u>must be</u> <u>reflected</u> on the individual teacher schedules.
- These minutes include instructional time (in gifted courses), planning time, and/or assessment time (if warranted).



Data Entry



- The teacher's schedule must have a code "6" under federal programs.
- If the code "6" is not there, the MSIS program cannot find them for funding through gifted.
- It cannot can it find them to include the students in the "Gifted Students Report" when allocations are calculated.



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- Students must have the "correct" gifted program indicator marked.
- Each student must have the correct gifted course code on their schedule.
- The course codes and periods must match on the student's schedule and teacher's schedule or the student will not populate the teacher's schedule.



Data Entry: Course Codes

- 662001 intellectually gifted (grades 2-12)
- 662003 creatively gifted (grades 2-12)
- 662004 artistically gifted (grades 2-12)
- All course codes for grades 9-12 are found in the Approved Courses for the Secondary Schools of Mississippi.



Data Entry: Assessment

- 662005 is the code for Assessment Time.
- A district may assign one assessment period to a teacher of the gifted based on the number of gifted students being served district wide.

Total Number of Students	Assessment Periods Allowed
1 – 300	1 class period
301 – 600	2 class periods
601 – 900	3 class periods

The +300 formula is used until all students are counted.



- A teacher of the gifted may have up to 60 minutes of Assessment Time per day, or ½ day per week if scheduled all in the same day (p.18 in regulations).
- If the district qualifies for more than one assessment period, it can be scheduled for as many teachers that qualify based on the regulations.



- After first month's data has been submitted to MSIS, each district should run the following reports:
- Gifted Students Report
- Schedules for all teachers of the gifted
- Before 3rd month data is submitted, districts need to check the Holding Area Report from the Student Package before the data is submitted.





- If data is entered incorrectly, the district may not be in compliance to receive full funding.
- An e-mail, with the district's gifted students report and gifted teacher schedules, will be sent to each district superintendent and district gifted contact after month 1 and month 2 submissions.
- Districts must correct all errors before the month 3 snapshot. <u>There</u> will be no corrections after the Month 3 snapshot.



- Class period with number of students
- Class minutes and gifted minutes

If the number of gifted minutes is less than the number of class minutes, there are one or more students scheduled that do not have the gifted indicator marked on the student record.



Proration

& Non-Compliance



Proration of Gifted Teacher Units

- Districts with less than 20 gifted students receive a percentage of one unit based on the number of students.
- Districts with a gifted teacher/student ratio greater than 1:60 will be out of compliance with Accreditation Standard 17.8
- Teachers of the gifted are not working full time in the gifted program, including assessment and instructional planning time.
- Teachers are not documented as having proper certification to teach gifted students.



Case Study

- A district has a total of 80 gifted students which would qualify the district for 2.9 teacher units. Fifteen (15) of the gifted students attend the middle school and 65 of them attend the elementary school. There is one teacher at the middle school and another at the elementary school.
- Would the district be in full compliance concerning both teachers?



Case Study

• <u>NO.</u>

- The district would be considered out of compliance. The middle school teacher is teaching too few students to be considered full time in the gifted program, and the elementary teacher is teaching too many students.
- To be compliant, there would have to be a more even distribution of the students between the middle and elementary schools, or a maneuvering in the schedules so that the middle school teacher could teach some of the elementary gifted students.







Review

To help ensure full compliance with all gifted funding regulations, ensure:

- Each gifted teacher is licensed and endorsed in gifted and is documented correctly in MSIS.
- Each gifted teacher is "working full time in the gifted program," including instructional time, planning time, and assessment time (if warranted).



- All data should be accurately entered and reflected in MSIS at MDE.
- Districts must work with the vendor for their local software package to ensure data is accurately reflected in the district package and **in MSIS**





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