

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

I think my child may be gifted. What should I do?

A parent, teacher, staff member, community member, and/or a student him/herself may make a referral for gifted program services. Please contact our office for the appropriate paperwork.

My child's teacher has made a referral to begin the gifted program's assessment process. What can I expect to happen now?

We will first need to secure your permission to begin the assessment process. Once we receive that information, we will begin collecting both quantitative and qualitative data on your child, which *may* include: verbal and nonverbal ability tests, achievement tests, teacher rating scales, parent rating scales, observation/interview information from both parent and teacher, and samples of student work. When all data has been collected, the campus GT Placement Committee will meet to determine qualification for services based on our program's alignment with the individual student's needs. Parents will be notified of the results via US mail. *In order to ensure the most accurate and complete assessment, please expect this entire process to take several weeks.*

My mom wants me tested for GT, but I don't want to do MORE WORK! Is that what I can expect?

Absolutely NOT! Our students are serviced in the regular classroom through *differentiated* instruction – this means *different* work, NOT more work!

For more information on the gifted and talented program or referral information, please contact:

*Jennifer Adams, District GT Program Coordinator
Pat Franklin, Administrative Aide*

P.O. Box 2217
Randolph Air Force Base
Universal City, TX 78148

Phone: 210.357.2322

Fax: 210.357.2346

Email: adams@rfisd.net

franklin@rfisd.net

Web:

<http://classroom.rfisd.net/webs/zenith/home.htm>

Randolph-Field Independent School District

Gifted and Talented Program Information



Randolph Elementary School

Randolph Middle School

Randolph High School

2010-2011

Randolph Field ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Each student will learn more and at a higher level every day.

IS MY CHILD GIFTED?

RFISD's program for gifted and talented students reflects the State of Texas' goal for services for gifted and talented students.

The Randolph-Field Independent School District is committed to excellence in education for all students in order to meet their potential. However, we recognize that some students consistently excel in one or more academic areas. ***The Gifted and Talented Program provides services for identified students who demonstrate a need for additional support and services above and beyond those normally provided by the regular school program.***

Services are provided to students within the *regular classroom* environment through differentiated instruction according to their area of strength (the four core content areas -- math, language arts, social studies, science).

These additional educational opportunities are provided because gifted students, while having similar needs as their peers, also require differentiated educational services or learning experiences not ordinarily provided within the regular curriculum. Randolph-Field ISD will offer qualitatively differentiated educational services that meet each student's level of achievement and assist all students in achieving their potential.

Significant differences occur among gifted children. Parents are excellent identifiers of giftedness and a critical resource for identifying students that require additional support and services. Parents are able to provide concrete examples of a child's behavior in response to various situations. The checklist below is a list of shared traits that exist in large samples of gifted children. *Please keep in mind both the positive and negative aspects of these traits.*

Compared to other children of the *same age, experience, or environment*, how many of these descriptors fit your child?

- learns quickly (1-2 repetitions)
- retains information easily (good memory)
- possesses an unusually large and/or advanced vocabulary (high verbal ability)
- skilled at puzzles/strategy games, etc. (high nonverbal ability)
- has a keen sense of justice/fairness
- unusual and/or adult sense of humor
- highly-developed curiosity; is always asking, "Why?"
- emotionally intense (easily upset, stressed, angered, etc.)
- divergent thinker (puts ideas together or solves problems in non-traditional or unusual ways)
- tends to prefer older children/adults, rather than same-age peers
- shows concern about "adult" issues (politics, religion, social issues, etc.)
- has intellectual passions/interests
- unusually long attention span (when interested in a subject)

INFORMATION FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer Students Currently Receiving GT Services

If a transfer student has qualified for and is currently receiving gifted and talented program services in the four core content areas (math, science, social studies, English/language arts), we will *initially* honor placement in RFISD's gifted and talented program. A subsequent evaluation and assessment will take place to ensure that each child is placed appropriately according to their individual academic and social/emotional needs.

In order expedite placement of the student in RFISD's gifted and talented program immediately upon enrollment at RFISD, we must receive appropriate documentation from the sending school. We must verify information regarding the student's current status in the gifted and talented program, as well as information regarding specific program services in any/all of the four core content areas.

Transfer Students Interested in GT Services

Referrals are accepted upon enrollment from transfer students who wish to be assessed to determine the need for gifted and talented program services. Please contact our office directly to obtain the referral form.