

*The Advanced Placement
Teacher's Guide
to the DISD
EXPO Program*



Denton Independent School District
Gifted and Talented Program
(940) 369-0678
mchancellor@dentonisd.org

I. State Goal for Services for Gifted Students

Students who participate in services designed for gifted students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment. High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

II. GT Service

- A. EXPO students at the high school level will be served by participation in a Pre-Advanced Placement or Advanced Placement course. If this type of course does not meet a student's need, that student may work with the EXPO coordinator to find an alternate placement or that student may exit the program.
- B. If an admission requirement exists for a Pre-AP or AP course, the requirement will be waived for an EXPO student, although proper paper work must be submitted appropriately and timely.
- C. Lesson plans should document the differentiation offered for the gifted students.
- D. Lesson plans should document the consistent use of the gifted scope and sequence.
- E. Pre-AP and AP courses should be at a rigorous level that allows for in-depth exploration of complex content.
- F. EXPO students should be given the opportunity to create professional quality products and/or performances in their specific field. Students will be encouraged to seek experts in that field should provide input on these final products.

III. Student Performance

- A. A student will not be exited from EXPO solely on the basis of grades. If a significant difference occurs in a student's ability to succeed in the regular classroom, a conference will be held with the teacher and parents to determine whether the EXPO program continues to be appropriately meeting the student's academic needs.
- B. If at any time the EXPO student is experiencing problems in a Pre-AP or AP course, the EXPO coordinator should be notified.

IV. Referral Procedures

- A. Referrals may be given to the EXPO contact person at anytime during the school year. The regular screening times are once during the fall semester and once during the spring semester. Screening may occur at other times as scheduling permits. Students may test only once in a twelve-month period. Referrals may be submitted by faculty/staff, parents, or community members. Please refer to the EXPO website for the referral/testing schedule.
www.dentonisd.org/expo.
- B. Your campus GT Contact Person will provide you with a referral form each semester.

- C. Please consider students from diverse backgrounds and with special needs when making your referrals.
- D. Referred students should have such qualities as:
 1. rapid insight into new concepts.
 2. higher questioning skills than peers.
 3. ability to accurately complete assignments faster than peers.
 4. advanced sense of humor.
 5. boredom with regular classroom work.
 6. creative ability that stands out among peers.
 7. ability to converse with teacher at a level noticeably higher than peers.

V. Gifted Training Hours

- A. All Advanced Placement teachers are required to have completed 30 hours of gifted and talented training including 6 hours of Nature and Needs of Gifted Students and 6 hours of Identification and Assessment of Gifted Students. This is a one-time requirement. The College Board AP Summer Institutes will count toward the 30 hours. After the initial hours, each year all AP teachers are required to have a 6 hour update. All College Board training will count for the annual 6 hour update.
- B. Teachers who have never taught an AP course are required to attend the weeklong College Board summer training along with 6 hours of Nature and Needs of Gifted Students and 6 hours of Identification and Assessment of Gifted Students prior to teaching the course.
- C. All other teachers can attend the weeklong College Board summer training on a rotating every other year basis.
- D. Teachers are strongly encouraged to attend the week long College Board summer training but are not required to attend on their rotation. Please note that if you do not attend the summer you are eligible, then it will be two school years before you may attend again.
- E. Pre-Advanced Placement teachers will have completed the state required 30 hours of GT training prior to teaching a Pre-AP course. It is preferable that the GT curriculum hours be obtained through The College Board AP Summer Institute with the additional 12 hours of G/T training or Pre-AP training with the additional 12 hours of G/T training.