



**Gifted Education Criteria Ignite!**

The Ignite! program is intended for highly gifted learners in the top 4% of the local student population. Typically students who score at the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile in ability and achievement are invited to Ignite! The district selection committee uses the following criteria as a guideline for placement.

<p><b>Ability Criteria</b> Any one score at or above the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Verbal – 135 (Standard Age Score SAS)</li> <li>• CogAT Quantitative – 135 (SAS)</li> <li>• CogAT Nonverbal – 135(SAS)</li> <li>• CogAT Composite – 135 (SAS)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Achievement Criteria</b> <b>(Use best performance within two years for each subject.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 99<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher MAP/NWEA 2-5 or equivalent in reading and math. (Using range score.)</li> </ul>
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**Placement:** A student meeting at least one criterion in both ability and achievement is recommended for the full-time gifted program, Ignite!

**Location:** Ignite! is a full-time district gifted program offered at Oak Hills Elementary. Transportation to Ignite! is the responsibility of the family. Qualifying students not wishing to attend Ignite! will be placed in the Discover program. Discover is offered at each of the elementary buildings as small group seminars. Discover seminars explore topics in language arts, social studies, science and engineering.

**Placement Notification:** Second grade families of students selected for Ignite! will receive a letter of eligibility by March 1 for placement the following year.

If additional space is available, the selection committee will review students who score at the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher in ability. In order to promote a balanced learning environment and equitable access to programming, gender balance will be considered when appropriate.

**Gifted Education Criteria Discover**

The Discover program is intended for gifted learners in the top 8% of the local student population. The district selection committee uses the following criteria as a guideline for placement.

<p><b>Ability Criteria</b> Any one score at or above the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CogAT V - 129 (SAS)</li> <li>• CogAT NV -129 (SAS)</li> <li>• CogAT Composite - 129 (SAS)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Achievement Criteria</b> <b>(Use best performance within two years.)</b> 95<sup>th</sup> percentile MAP/NWEA 2-5 reading test or equivalent. (Using range score.)</p>
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**Placement:** A student meeting at least one criterion in both ability and achievement is recommended for placement in Discover. Alternatively, a student showing consistent high achievement, as indicated by scoring a reading range score at the 97<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher on the MAP/NWEA 2-5 (or equivalent) in two or more testing cycles, may be recommended for Discover with a qualifying *Teacher Observation Inventory*.

**Location:** Discover is offered at each of the elementary buildings as small group seminars. Discover seminars explore topics in language arts, social studies, science and engineering.

**Placement Notification:** Families of qualifying Discover students will receive a letter of eligibility by the end of the school year for placement the following fall.

**Key to Abbreviations and Acronyms:**

- CogAT = Cognitive Abilities Test (ability test; verbal, quantitative and nonverbal/group administered)
- MAP/NWEA = Measure of Academic progress by Northwest Evaluation Association (group achievement test)
- SAS = Standard Age Score



ISD 194 is committed to identifying learners that represent the broad range of potential in our student population. Multiple criteria and pathways are used to identify students for gifted services.

**Selection Process:** The selection process for gifted services is done by the District Selection Committee. The selection committee consists of at least two gifted specialists and the elementary gifted coordinator.

- The Gifted Education Specialist compiles the needed data on students in the talent pool for review by the District Selection Committee.
- The District Selection Committee reviews all students in the talent pool and determines which students meet criteria for identification for both Ignite! and Discover. The committee may also determine if there is a need for additional testing.

**Additional Assessment Information:**

- On the MAP test, the range of percentile intervals will be used for placement. Percentile interval must contain the score listed on criteria chart.
- Testing data from other districts may be used to meet criteria. The District Selection Committee will determine the qualifying scores based on test.
- Individual ability/achievement testing may also be submitted to meet criteria. The District Selection Committee will determine the equivalent qualifying score based on test.
  - Outside private testing by a licensed psychologist is permitted at the expense of the family.
  - The Minnesota Council for Gifted and Talented (MCGT) can provide a list of psychologists who specialize in working with families of gifted learners.

**Ignite! Transfers:** Limited spots are available for students wishing to enter Ignite! after the initial third grade entry point. Interested families should complete an application and submit by the application deadline. Mid-year transfers to Ignite! are accepted on a case-by-case basis for highly qualified students, as space allows. Interested families should contact Holly Traub, Elementary Gifted Education Coordinator.

**Appeal Process:** Parents or guardians may appeal identification decisions by submitting a *Home Observation Inventory* to the District Selection Committee. The *Home Observation Inventory* is available at on the ISD 194 Gifted Education website. Families are welcome to provide additional testing, work samples or other information to help committee determine appropriate placement. If needed, a final appeal can be submitted to the Executive Director of Teaching and Learning to be reviewed by the building principal, district gifted coordinator and Executive Director of Teaching and Learning.

**Appeal Due Dates:**

- Appeals for the Ignite! program are due by the Ignite! appeal due date and should include an application for Ignite!
- Appeals for Discover are due by June 1 to ensure the request can be processed before Discover begins the following school year. Requests received during the school year will be processed within 30 days of the request unless additional testing is needed. Students entering Discover mid-year will be placed in the program at the start of the next unit.

Staff members may also request further consideration for a student by submitting a *Teacher Observation Inventory*. The District Selection Committee will review each request and determine appropriate action.

**Please visit the ISD 194 Gifted Education website for more information.**

Go to: <http://isd194.org/academics/gifted-services/>