

REGION XIII ESC

# Gifted/Talented ESC Specialist Program Handbook

An Introduction to G/T Services

Provided by Monica Brewer

2017

# Introduction to G/T Educational Services

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## 2 WELCOME

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Greetings,

We are excited that you are joining the Gifted/Talented (G/T) world at the regional and state level. This handbook was developed to assist you in new your position. You will find information about our professional development courses, resources, and contacts for access to certain materials.

You are expected to attend two ESC specialist meetings here in Austin, Texas. The meeting is two half day sessions with a full day training session and includes updates on current issues in the state.

There are materials and trainings that are only accessible to you as the G/T specialist. We will provide the passwords for those trainings and materials. You will need to complete a letter of agreement to maintain the integrity of presentations and resources. You will also have access to resources for trainings that cannot be redistributed to others.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that G/T students of Texas have every opportunity to have the learning experiences that will help them to grow.

Sincerely,

*Monica*

## 3 ESC CONTACT INFORMATION

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### 3.1 TEA CONTACTS

Monica Brewer,  
Statewide Coordinator, Gifted/Talented  
Education  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
Austin, TX 78701-1494  
Phone: 512-463-9414  
Fax: 512-463-9560  
Email: [monica.brewer@tea.texas.gov](mailto:monica.brewer@tea.texas.gov)

Caprice Day-Borgeson,  
Twice-Exceptional & G/T Manager, Special  
Populations Division  
1701 N. Congress Avenue  
Austin, TX 78701-1494  
Phone: 512-463-9414  
Fax: 512-463-9560  
Email: [Caprice.DayBorgeson@tea.texas.gov](mailto:Caprice.DayBorgeson@tea.texas.gov)

### 3.2 ESC SUPPORT FROM GRANT PROVIDER

#### ESC Region 13 Contacts

Erin Romero,  
Associate Director, Strategic Initiatives  
Bus: (512) 919-5489  
Bus Fax: (512) 919-5471  
Email: [erin.midgley@esc13.txed.net](mailto:erin.midgley@esc13.txed.net)

Samantha Munoz,  
Coordinator, Strategic Initiatives  
Bus: (512) 919-5164  
Bus Fax: (512) 919-5471  
Email: [samantha.munoz@esc13.txed.net](mailto:samantha.munoz@esc13.txed.net)

Education Service Center Region 13 is located at 5701 Springdale Road, Austin, TX 78723.

### 3.3 REGIONAL SERVICE CENTER CONTACTS

Region	Contact Name	Phone Number	Email
Region I: Edinburg	Patty Rendon	956.984.6233	prendon@esc1.net
Region II: Corpus Christi	Lynn Dodge	361.561.8512	lynn.dodge@esc2.us
	Robyn Hernandez	361.561-8537	robyn.hernandez@esc2.us
Region III: Victoria	Mary Lea Pfenninger	361.573.0731x225	mpfenninger@esc3.net
Region IV: Houston	Shelly Bolen-Abbot	713.744.6521	sbolenabbott@esc4.net
	Kathi Langford	713.744.6859	Kathi.langford@esc4.net
Region V: Beaumont	Johnny Vines	409.951.1738	jvines@esc5.net
Region VI: Huntsville			
Region VII: Kilgore	Donna Ashby	903.988.6774	dashby@esc7.net
	Carla Cheshire	903-988-6745	ccheshire@esc7.net
Region VIII: Mt. Pleasant	Steven Hammons	903.575.2737	shammons@reg8.net
	Susan Huizinga	903.575.2736	shuizinga@reg8.net
Region IX: Wichita Falls	Lisa Taylor	940.322.6928	lisa.taylor@esc9.net
Region X: Richardson	Justin Vawter	972.348.1232	justin.vawter@region10.org
	Arynn Rasmussen	972-348-1392	arynn.rasmussen@region10.org
	Jennifer Gunn	972-348-1080	jennifer.gunn@region10.org
Region XI: Fort Worth	Renee Agent	817.740.3658	ragent@esc11.net
	Lyndsaе Benton	817.740.7625	cbills@esc11.net
	Wendy Curtner	817.740-3682	wcurtner@esc11.net
Region XII: Waco	Debbie Piscacek	254.297.1142	dpiscacek@esc12.net
	Denny Warren	254.297.1161	dwarren@esc12.net
Region XIII: Austin	Kay Oliver	512.919.5285	kay.oliver@eac13.txed.net
Region XIV: Abilene	Nancy Galle	325.675.7007	ngalle@esc14.net
Region XV: San Angelo	Torrey Clay	325.481.4045	torrey.clay@esc15.net
Region XVI: Amarillo	Joanna Martinez	806.677.5165	joanna.martinez@esc16.net
Region XVII: Lubbock	Greg Reeves	806.281.5818	greeves@esc17.net
Region XVIII: Midland	Cheree Smith	432.567.3288	csmith@esc18.net
Region XIX: El Paso	Carmen Imai	915.780.5069	cimai@esc19.net
Region XX: San Antonio	Rolando Ruvalcaba	210.370.5398	roloando.ruvalcaba@esc20.net

## 4 ESC STATE GRANT PROGRAM

### 4.1 GRANT

The ESC State Gifted/Talented program is designed to provide ESC support for basic services to school districts in developing and implementing local gifted/talented education programs. The grant is allocated at \$11,000 per ESC. The application is to be completed in full with detail of the

services that you will provide to the region as you meet program goals. The grant usually comes out in the summer.

#### 4.2 GRANT PROGRAM EVALUATION

Each specialist is to collect and maintain data pertaining to attendance, trainings, meetings, and services provided to their constituents in the region.

- ESC G/T Specialist meetings
- Thirty (30) hours of G/T foundation professional development
- Six (6) hour update professional development training
- Administrator/Counselor six hour professional development training
- Texas Performance Standards Project professional development trainings
- G/T Coordinator/Specialist regional meetings
- Districts served
- Percent of budget supported by grant

The evaluation will be provided to the specialist by the state G/T coordinator. Upon submitting the completed evaluation, the ESC's final 10% will be released to the ESC.

## 5 REQUIRED TRAININGS

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All TEA approved professional development trainings are to be conducted by ESC specialists that have completed the agreement provided by ESC 13 stating that you (specialist) will maintain the integrity of the material when presenting the professional development.

Training resources are subject to copyright laws. Student videos are not provided to non-authorized individuals.

### 5.1 THIRTY (30) HOURS G/T FOUNDATIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A minimum of thirty (30) clock hours of professional development that includes nature and needs of G/T students, identification and assessment of G/T students' needs, and curriculum and instruction for G/T students is required for teachers who provide instruction and services that are a part of the district's defined G/T services. Teachers are required to have completed the thirty (30) hours of professional development prior to their assignment to the district's G/T services (19 TAC §89.2(1)).

#### 5.1.1 Face to Face

The following courses are available face to face. The course material and PowerPoint are available through ESC 13.

- **Nature and Needs of Gifted/Talented Students**  
This six-hour workshop is a component of the required thirty hours for teachers delivering services to identified Gifted/Talented (G/T) students. Participants will analyze the historical, legal and conceptual understandings of gifted education. They will examine the characteristics and behaviors of gifted learners, which are the basis for

developing programs that meet their needs. Participants will consider the social and emotional needs of these learners and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of different types of programs for gifted learners.

- **Identification and Assessment for Gifted/Talented Students**  
This six-hour workshop is a component of the **required thirty hours** for teachers delivering services to identified G/T students. Participants will examine the process of nominating, screening, selecting, and placing students in gifted programs.
- **Models of Differentiated Instruction**  
This six-hour workshop is a component of the **required thirty hours** for teachers delivering services to identified G/T students. Participants will be introduced to differentiated instruction as a way to meet the needs of gifted/talented learners in the regular classroom. They will examine models of differentiation including anchor activities, tiered instruction, menus along with a variety of low-preparation strategies.
- **Creativity and Critical Thinking for Gifted/Talented Students**  
This six-hour workshop is a component of the **required thirty hours** for teachers delivering services to identified G/T students. Participants will be introduced to select teaching models and instructional strategies that promote cognitive and affective growth for gifted students. Specific topics for this day of the training include: Bloom's Taxonomy; Creativity; ways to engage Convergent and Divergent thinking.
- **Engaging Gifted Students by Adding Depth and Complexity**  
This six-hour workshop is a component of the **required thirty hours** for teachers delivering services to identified G/T students. Participants will be introduced to select teaching models and instructional strategies that promote cognitive and affective growth for gifted students. The focus of the session will take an in-depth look at Sandra Kaplan's icons of depth and complexity.

#### 5.1.2 Online Training

[www.esc13.net/gt/ecourses.html](http://www.esc13.net/gt/ecourses.html)

- G/T Online: Assessing the Needs of G/T Talented Students
- G/T Online: Designing Curriculum for G/T Students
- G/T Online: Differentiating Instruction for G/T Students
- G/T Online: Foundations of Gifted Education
- G/T Online: Nature and Needs of G/T Students
- G/T Online: Setting Standards for Success of G/T Students
- G/T Online: Research Skills for G/T Teachers
- G/T Online: Administrators/Counselors Training

#### 5.2 ADMINISTRATOR & COUNSELOR TRAINING

- G/T Education for Administrators and Counselors
- G/T Education for Administrators and Counselors (online at

### 5.3 OTHER TRAININGS

#### TPSP Trainings

- TPSP Awareness Training
- TPSP Assessing for Growth Training
- TPSP Roadmap for Success Training (COLEF Training)
- Implementing the Texas Performance Standards Project

#### Other Trainings Sessions

- School Board Training
- Raising Expectations: Increasing Rigor for the Gifted Student
- Twice-Exceptional Students and Gifted/Talented Services
- Creativity and Innovation: Encouraging Creativity

### 5.4 BEST PRACTICES IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The basic 30-hour G/T training should be provided by an expert in gifted education who, at the very least, is an experienced, trained (according to TAC 89.2) G/T teacher. Professional development providers should have passed the G/T TExES or have an advanced degree in Gifted Education.

When developing a six (6) hour G/T update training, it should meet some or all of the following criteria:

- Designed specifically to prepare teachers to meet the needs of gifted students
- Designed specifically to provide teachers with content knowledge above and beyond that gained in a typical undergraduate teacher-preparation program
- Designed based on identified needs either of the district or G/T students
- Designed to increase understanding of nature and needs of G/T students
- Provided by an expert in gifted education
- Provided by an expert (practitioner-level) in the content area

## 6 G/T RESOURCES

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Gifted/Talented Education in Texas - <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6420>

G/T Frequently Asked Questions - <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6263>

Guiding Questions for Program Review -

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=25769805424&libID=25769805424>

***Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students***

This document provides requirements for and guidance to districts as they meet the unique needs of an important special population in Texas.

[www.tea.state.tx.us/gted](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/gted) - PDF available for free download

[www.esc133store.net/index.php/gt.html](http://www.esc133store.net/index.php/gt.html) - bound copies available for purchase

**Texas G/T Program Implementation Resource** – [www.texasgtresource.org](http://www.texasgtresource.org)

**Texas Performance Standards Project**

[www.texaspsp.org](http://www.texaspsp.org)

- Tasks at all grade levels (with Spanish translations of 4<sup>th</sup> grade student materials)
- Scoring rubrics
- Examples of student work
- Guides to Success
- Administrator Walk-Throughs
- Continuum of Learning Experiences Framework Charts (COLEFs)
- Optional forms and teacher resources
- Promotional materials
- Evaluation reports



### **G/T Equity Project**

[www.gtequity.org](http://www.gtequity.org)

- Taskforce Findings document
- Bilingual G/T Assessment Instrument
- Celebrate Your Child Videos and Cards
- ESTUDIOS Program Models
- Twice-Exceptional Taskforce findings and resources
- Professional development offered through ESCs

### **Gifted/Talented Teacher Toolkit**

[http://www.texaspsp.org/toolkit/GT\\_Teacher\\_Toolkit.html](http://www.texaspsp.org/toolkit/GT_Teacher_Toolkit.html)

### **G/T Teacher Toolkit II**

<http://www.texaspsp.org/toolkit2/Toolkit2.html>

### **AP Lighthouse Initiative for Texas Classrooms**

[www.tealighthouse.org](http://www.tealighthouse.org)

- Lighthouse document for ELAR
- Lighthouse document for Math
- Lighthouse document for Science
- Lighthouse document for Social Studies

### **Texas Middle School Program for AP Spanish**

[www.teamiddleschoolspanish.org](http://www.teamiddleschoolspanish.org)

- Program Implementation Guide and training materials
- Promotional materials
- Evaluation reports

## 7 OTHER RESOURCES

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### 7.1 TEXAS AP/IB INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Texas Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Incentive Program is designed emphasize the state's commitment to high academic performance by recognizing and rewarding students, teachers, and schools that demonstrate success in achieving the educational goals of the state.

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index4.aspx?id=3822>

### 7.2 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Visit the following sites for information on the Texas high school graduation requirements:

- State Graduation Requirements
  - <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/graduation.aspx>
  - Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) Frequently Asked Questions
    - <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=2147487536&libID=2147487534>
- House Bill 5 Graduation Requirements Information
  - <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=25769806149>

### 7.3 DUAL CREDIT

Dual Credit Frequently Asked Questions -

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=2147496738&libID=2147496735>

### 7.4 CREDIT BY EXAM

The law pertain to credit by examination can be found at

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter074/cho74c.html#74.24>.

The rule for acceleration for kindergarten for children younger than five before September 1 are that (1) the student performs satisfactorily on the assessment instrument administered under Section 39.023(a) to students in the third grade; and (2) the district has adopted a policy for admitting students younger than five years of age. TEC [§29.151](#), TEC [§42.003\(d\)](#)

### 7.5 CHARTER SCHOOLS

If a charter school has a part of their charter to provide G/T services, then that agency falls under the laws and rules within *The Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students*. A charter may elect to amend their charter to include G/T program services. The charter would need to complete a non-expansion amendment and provide the board approved G/T policies and procedures to the charter division for approval. They can submit their amendment via email at [CharterSchools@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:CharterSchools@tea.state.tx.us).