

Administrative Memo

Date: April 9, 2015
To: School Administrators
From: Craig Rector, Coordinator, Grants and Resources
Subject: QS-15-008 - SB 599 - Gifted Education Program Desk Audit

Senate Bill 599 was passed in the 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly. This legislation requires districts to report “whether the school district currently has a state-approved gifted education program, and the percentage and number of students who are currently being served in the district’s state-approved gifted education program” on their annual report card.

A state-approved program requires three things: 1) a teacher appropriately certified for the gifted assignment; 2) students are placed in the program pursuant to the minimum state guidelines; and 3) the identified gifted students having a minimum of 150 contact minutes per week of direct instruction with the teacher of the gifted.

The Gifted Education Section will be conducting desk audits during the month of April. The review will look at the October Core Data submitted by districts to ensure that screen 25 outlining the district selection criteria was completed; only appropriate courses were listed as state-approved gifted with a program code of 08; all courses with an 08 program code meet for the required 150 contact minutes per week; and all teachers of 08 courses are appropriately certified.

An email will be sent to the gifted contact person indicating that the district is in substantial compliance or that discrepancies were discovered in the data that need to be corrected. The Gifted Education Section will work with districts to make sure the necessary data corrections are made.

If you have any questions, please contact David Welch at (573) 751-7754 or david.welch@dese.mo.gov .