



Blue Valley Schools Gifted Education Eligibility Process

Special Education

Gifted education in Kansas is embedded into special education, and Blue Valley Schools' Gifted Education Eligibility Process adheres to state special education statutes. Students qualify for gifted education services when they are found to have intellectual giftedness as an exceptionality and the need for services beyond those offered through general education programming.

Eligibility Process

The process for determining students' eligibility for gifted education services involves data collection in several overarching areas, from multiple sources gathered by members of the problems solving team. Problem solving teams collect data in the following areas for a student in the eligibility process:

- Response to interventions for more challenging academic work
- Consistently demonstrated characteristics of giftedness
- Intelligence
- Achievement

Blue Valley School District's gifted education eligibility process has multiple stages:

- Universal Screening Activities and/or Observations
- Step 1—Tier I Class-wide Interventions
- Step 2—Tier II Individualized Interventions
- Step 3—Initial Comprehensive Educational Evaluation

Eligibility Standards

School teams in Blue Valley School District use the following eligibility standards to determine whether students have demonstrated giftedness and the need for services beyond what general education can offer:

- Consistent need for more challenging work in general education
- Consistent presence of characteristics of giftedness
- 98th percentile target for intelligence testing
- 98th percentile target for achievement testing

An IEP

When a student is found eligible for gifted education services, an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) is developed that outlines the services that will be provided to meet the student's needs. IEPs are revised annually, and the student's team meets each year to review the updated document and discuss the student's progress and ongoing needs.

Services

Gifted education services are provided via small group experiences during elementary school; students identified for services are pulled together at specific times throughout the day to work with their peers and the gifted education teacher. Individual experiences are developed based on each student's IEP goals, and small group learning experiences are part of the gifted education curriculum. Middle and high school services are provided through a class that students identified for giftedness can enroll in. The gifted education curriculum focuses on the following skill areas: critical thinking, creative thinking, problem solving, research, social emotional learning, and leadership.

First Steps

If you are unsure whether your child should be considered for gifted education eligibility, you can contact your child's classroom teacher first to talk about how your child is doing in the general education curriculum. If you are still unsure, you can reach out to your school's psychologist or the principal.

More Information

If you have additional questions about gifted education eligibility procedures, special education regulations, other aspects of Blue Valley School District's gifted education eligibility process, or gifted education programming for students who qualify, please see the document of Frequently Asked Questions also posted on the special education section of the district's website.