TO: District Instructional Leaders  
Gifted and Talented Coordinators  

FROM: Dr. Anne Pressley  
Director, Office of Standards and Learning  

DATE: May 26, 2020  

RE: 2020–21 Gifted and Talented (GT) Identification  

Thank you for continuing to provide challenging and engaging services for your gifted and talented students as instruction has shifted online. Several districts have expressed concern that they are challenged to meet the number of minutes for gifted and talented instruction outlined in Regulation 43-220. As your instruction may look different from what your district outlined in your GT Plan, your minutes may also be different. Under the current situation, the most important thing is to focus on the students’ needs and not the minutes.

In addition to the number of minutes, Regulation 43-220 outlines identification of GT students. In considering solutions that are in students' best interests and that do not burden districts, the following can be used to determine GT services for 2020–21:

- Fall Map scores may be used, if fall norms are available.
- Use students’ 2019–20 GPA's for GT services in the 2020–21 school year. Follow instructions in the Best Practices Manual Identification on page 9 for the current use of GPAs for students entering grades 6 through 12. If a numerical grade is not available for the second semester, districts may use first semester GPAs.

Please contact Josie Stratton at jstratton@ed.sc.gov or via phone at 803-734-2782 should you have questions regarding this information.