



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Test Coordinators
Gifted and Talented Coordinators
Special Education Coordinators

FROM: Anne Pressley, Director, Office of Standards and Learning
Elizabeth Jones, Director, Office of Assessment
John Payne, Director, Office of Special Education Services

DATE: September 19, 2017

RE: Alternative Methodology for Meeting Gifted Screening Requirements

This memorandum is to provide information about the newly developed guidance document (attached) for use by Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams. Districts are required to provide services for all gifted and talented students at the elementary and secondary levels. Students are identified for this program by demonstrating high performance ability or potential in academic and/or artistic areas. In accordance with State Board of Education Regulation 43-220, the South Carolina Department of Education provides an aptitude and an achievement assessment in second grade for this purpose.

This guidance is intended for two groups of students:

Group 1: Students whose IEP or 504 Plan contains sufficient evidence to be determined NOT eligible. There are instances when districts have sufficient data for a student to be able to demonstrate he has met the screening requirements and that the student does not meet the eligibility criteria for gifted and talented services.

Group 2: Students whose IEP or 504 Plan contains sufficient evidence to demonstrate they may be eligible. During initial placement, evaluation, or reevaluation for special education the students have met the necessary screening requirements for gifted and talented and demonstrated that they may meet the eligibility requirements for gifted and talented services and additional screening may not be necessary.

September 19, 2017

The document provides guidance, next steps, and addresses necessary documentation. The Office of Special Education Services will follow up with forthcoming SC Enrich IEP documentation procedures.

If you have questions, please contact Nicole Adams at nadams@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-8274.

Attachment