

November 2024

Dear Jeffco Kindergarten and 2nd Grade Families,

This fall, Jeffco Kindergarten and 2nd grade students took the **CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test)** to help us understand our students' thinking styles and identify gifted potential. CogAT has Verbal, Quantitative and Non-Verbal batteries, which give us a comprehensive measure of cognitive abilities. The CogAT profile score reflects a student's ability to discover relationships and demonstrate flexible thinking at this stage of cognitive development.

CogAT reports two scores: **Percentile Rank** and **Stanine**.

- **Percentile Ranks** range from 1 to 99 and indicate what percentage of grade-classmates or age-classmates a child out-performed on a particular subtest. If a student scored in the 40th percentile, they scored better than 40% of grade-level and/or age-level students nationwide.
- **Stanine** scores are groupings of percentile ranks, ranging from a low of 1 to a high of 9. A higher stanine corresponds to a higher percentile ranking. The table below shows the relationship of the two scores:

Stanine	Percentile Rank	Description
9	96-99	Very High
8	89-95	
7	77-88	Above Average
6	60-76	
5	40-59	Average
4	23-39	
3	11-22	Below Average
2	4-10	
1	1-3	Very Low

CogAT takes the stanine and percentile scores and combines them into an individualized student profile. The individualized student profile allows us to see clear differences in how each student approaches learning and problem solving, interacts with various learning environments, and what kind of support they need to learn successfully. On the Riverside Insights CogAT Profile site, you can access an interactive feature that allows you to enter your child's profile and receive detailed information about the profile. If you would like to better understand the CogAT profile for your student, please visit this website: <https://riversideinsights.com/citc/profile-finder>

Information About Advanced Learning Plans (ALP)

The CogAT data is one piece of data included in a body of evidence for an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP). No educational decisions, including gifted identification, are made based on a single data point. As we gather a body of evidence, individual CogAT verbal, quantitative, or non-verbal battery scores at or above the 95th percentile may be used as a part of a body of evidence in developing an Advanced Learning Plan (ALP). Jeffco uses an Identification Referral process for families to indicate their desire for the gifted identification process to be formally initiated. To access the form to begin this process, please use the link below. Please understand that it often takes several months to gather the full body of evidence to meet Colorado Department of Education GT identification qualifications. Once the ID Referral has been processed, students with scores at or above the 95th percentile will be placed on a gifted and talented watch list while further data is gathered towards identification.



Gifted and Talented
1829 Denver West Drive, Bldg #27
Golden, CO 80401
phone: 303-982-6650
fax: 303-982-0469 or 303-982-6653
www.jeffcopublicschools.org/programs/gifted_talented

Please visit the Jeffco Gifted and Talented website for more information about gifted and talented identification:
https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/programs/gifted_talented/g_t_identification_assessments

More information about GT Center Schools, including a comparison of GT programming at a neighborhood school and a GT Center School, can be found at:
<https://www.jeffcopublicschools.org/learning/gifted-talented/gt-center-schools>

Gifted and Talented Center Programs

If your child has a Percentile Rank at or above the 95th percentile on one or more batteries, you may want to consider applying for one of our GT Center programs. As noted above, placement in a GT Center program is not based on the CogAT alone. A body of evidence is reviewed for GT Center placement determination.

Applications for the 2025-2026 Jeffco 3rd Grade GT Center program close on Friday, December 6, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

If you wish to apply for the GT Center program for the 2025-26 school year, please click
[2024 Kindergarten and 2nd Grade GT Center Application](#) to access the application.

More Information on How to Interpret CogAT

On-demand videos: Understanding the CogAT Assessment for Families and Students

Part 1: Understanding the CogAT Data

Part 2: Understanding the GT ID / Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) Process

- Both sessions will be available to families starting on Monday, December 2, 2024 for families to watch at a time that is convenient for them.

Step 1 - Go to the [Jeffco Gifted and Talented website](#), or click on the QR code here:



Step 2 - Click on *GT Family Resources*

Step 3 - After watching the pre-recorded videos on “Understanding CogAT Data” and “Understanding the GT ID / Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) Process,” please complete the form below, or click on the second QR code, if you have additional questions and would like to attend our Q&A sessions on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

[Q&A Dec 10, 2024 Q&A sign-up form](#)



QR code for form

Step 4. Google Meet link will be emailed to all who RSVP by 3:00 pm on Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

Alternatively, if you want more information about our GT program, please use this link to find the [Gifted and Talented Resource Teacher \(RT\)](#) supporting your school. Questions about GT ID and GT programming should be directed to GT Resources Teachers.

Thank you for supporting your student during CogAT testing.

Regards,

Allen Golden