

Northport – East Northport UFSD
Investigate Gifted and Talented Program Criteria for Program Participation
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the NNAT-3?

The NNAT-3 is used to measure IQ. The NNAT-3 provides a nonverbal, culturally neutral assessment of general ability. It is administered on a computer with visual prompts and takes approximately 30 minutes.

More information can be found here:

<http://www.pearsonassessments.com/learningassessments/products/100001822/naglieri-nonverbal-ability-test-third-edition-nnat3.html>

What is NWEA?

The NWEA assessments are used to measure student progress in Reading and Mathematics. The difficulty of each question is based on how well a student has answered all the previous questions. It is administered on a computer and takes approximately 30 - 60 minutes. More information can be found here:

https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2014/07/ParentToolkit_0.pdf

I just received an NWEA score report, my child scored at the 97th percentile on the Math assessment and at the 94th percentile on the Reading assessment. Can they be tested for the Investigate Gifted & Talented Program?

No, students must score at or above the 95th percentile in both the Reading and Mathematics assessments to qualify for an individual cognitive assessment. However, scores are reviewed over the prior four consecutive NWEA assessments. So in this case if the student scored at or above the 95th percentile in Reading on one of those four prior assessments, they would qualify for further testing.

My older children are in the Investigate Gifted & Talented Program, does my youngest have to take the IQ test to participate in the program?

Yes, all students must meet the requirements for the individual cognitive assessment and then demonstrate an index score (IQ) of 125 or higher on that individual cognitive assessment. There are no exceptions to this individual minimum score of 125, not even for twins or other siblings.

My child receives perfect report cards and participates in gifted programs outside of school, but did not achieve the 125 score. Can they be admitted into the program?

No, while students are talented and may excel in many areas, the sole criterion for acceptance into the program is an index score (IQ) of 125 or higher on the individual cognitive assessment. There are no exceptions to this minimum score of 125.

My child qualified for the individual cognitive assessment, but we do not want them to have an individual IQ test.

If a student qualifies for further testing, parents/guardians must grant consent for the individual cognitive assessment. If consent is not granted, the child will not be tested and will not be eligible for participation in the program. If you reconsider, we can test them at a later date convenient to the District. Please note that admission to the program is time sensitive, and the student may not be able to join the program until the beginning of the next school year.

My child scored 128 on the IQ test, but we do not want them to participate in the Investigate Gifted & Talented Program.

If a student qualifies for participation in the program, parents/guardians must grant consent. If consent is not granted, the child will not be programmed for Investigate. If you reconsider, we can admit them at a later date. Please note that admission to the program is time sensitive, and the student may not be able to join the program until the beginning of the next school year.

My child tested in and will be participating in the Investigate Program in the upcoming school year. Do they have to retest this year to qualify to be in the program next year?

No. Once children have met the criteria for participation in the program, they do not have to retest to continue to participate in the program. However, as part of the District assessment program, students will continue to take NNAT-2 and NWEA assessments at the appropriate times and grade levels.

My child is in fifth grade and received NWEA scores above the 95th percentile in Mathematics and Reading. Why are they not being tested for participation in the Investigate Program?

The Investigate Program is offered in grade 6 only at the Middle Schools. Because of the cumulative nature of the program and the difficulty that some students have in transitioning from elementary to middle school, it is the practice of the District for students not to begin Investigate in grade 6.

My child is transferring into The Northport School District, are they eligible to participate in the Investigate Program?

Students can demonstrate eligibility for the program through the District testing program. In addition, students who have attended a program for gifted students in their previous school can be admitted into the program if appropriate documentation and testing results are provided.

We live within the boundaries of The Northport School District but my children are homeschooled, are they eligible to participate in the Investigate Program?

No, homeschooled students are not permitted, as a matter of law, to participate in the District's Investigate Gifted & Talented Program.

We live within the boundaries of The Northport School District but my children attend a non-public school, are they eligible to participate in the Investigate Program?

Parents must file a written request to have their child evaluated by the student's current district Board of Education by June 1 to have their child considered to be admitted into the Investigate G&T Program the following school year. The requests may be routed through the non-public school in which the student is enrolled and then submitted to the District in accordance with the proper timelines. The non-public school will provide copies of any standardized testing they have performed, and to be considered, each student must score in the 95th percentile or higher on the Reading and Math portions of a standardized achievement test or score a 125 index score or higher on cognitive testing to be eligible to sit for individual testing.