

**Educational Plan Parent Handbook –
Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Must an Educational Plan (EP) be developed for every student who is gifted?
Once eligibility has been determined, an EP must be written for all students whose only exceptionality is gifted.

2. What if my child is gifted, but also has other Exceptional Student Education (ESE) needs?
If a student's only exceptionality is gifted, the student will receive an EP (an Educational Plan). If a student has more than one exceptionality, an IEP (Individualized Educational Plan) will be created to address all of the student's needs. Examples of more than one exceptionality would be if your child is gifted and requires speech services or if your child is both gifted and learning disabled.

3. Can a student have both an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) and an Educational Plan (EP)?
No. If a student has been identified as being gifted and has at least one other exceptionality, s/he will have an IEP to address all of his/her needs.

4. My child just missed the IQ score to be in the gifted program. Is there anything I can do?
You can set up an appointment with the student's teacher to discuss any specific curricular needs your child may have. Additionally, after one year has elapsed, you can request (in writing) that your child be re-screened, and as appropriate, retested by the school system. Alternatively, you may request (in writing) that your child be retested using a different instrument (test). This does not require a one year waiting period. Retesting may or may not be granted by your child's school depending on the unique circumstances of your situation.

Finally, you can have your child re-tested using a private licensed Psychologist or Social Worker. See the "Parent Handbook for Initial Staffing" for further information on private testing. Again, you must wait one year if you use the same test that was previously administered to your child.

5. Will I be given a copy of my child's EP after the meeting?
Yes, you will be given a copy of the EP document.

6. I can't find my copy of my child's EP. Is there somewhere on-line I can review my child's EP?
You can go onto the Broward County Public Schools website at www.Browardschools.com and click on the link to "Virtual Counselor". Go to "Parent Logon". Once you have logged on, go to the "Student Info:" pull down menu and select "EasyIEP". Then click on "Education Plan". This will enable

you to see your child's EP. If you can't click on to Virtual Counselor (or don't know your id or password), contact your child's school.

7. I'm not available to meet at the time of my child's EP meeting. What options do I have if I want to be involved with developing my child's EP?

There is a place on the Parent Participation Form where you can indicate that you would like to meet at a different time. Someone from the school will contact you about setting up a mutually agreed upon date/time. Additionally, if you would prefer, you can ask to be included via a telephone conference.

8. Does the school need the parent's written notice if they want to discuss a child?

No. School staff members frequently discuss children and ways to meet their needs.

9. Does a school need the parent's informed written consent to evaluate a child for consideration into the gifted program, to place the child in the gifted program, or to change a child's services or placement after the initial placement?

1. Parental consent is NOT required for initial screening.

2. Parental consent is required to administer your child a full IQ test by a Psychologist.

3. Parental consent is also required to initially place a student in the gifted program.

4. Once a child has been placed in the gifted program, parental consent is not required to modify services or placement. However, prior to modifying a child's services or placement, the parent must be invited to attend the meeting (as a member of the team that will make such modification decisions).

If a parent does not agree with the modification of services or placement, the parent should follow the steps outlined in the "Outcome Concerns" section of the [Parent Handbook for an Educational Plan](#).

10. My child was eligible for gifted services in another part of Florida. Is my child eligible for gifted services in Broward County?

Yes. Broward County honors the gifted eligibility from all of Florida's other districts.

11. My child was eligible for gifted services in another State. Is my child eligible for gifted services in Broward County?

Your child will only be eligible for gifted services if the eligibility requirements in the prior state meet Florida's criteria. You should discuss your child's situation with your child's new Broward County school. If the eligibility criteria in the prior state is not consistent with Florida's requirements and you want your child to participate in Broward County's gifted program, you should request that your

child be evaluated for gifted programming. See the “Gifted Testing” section of the Parent Handbook for Initial Staffing.

12. If I don't want to put my child in a gifted class one year, does my child lose his/her gifted eligibility?

Once a child enters the gifted program, the child continues to be considered “gifted” as long as the child is enrolled in public education in the State of Florida. This status continues, even if the parent opts not to place the child in gifted programming. Prior to withdrawing a child from gifted services, the ESE team should meet to discuss the issue. NOTE: There are a number of options that schools can use to meet gifted children's educational needs besides placing children in gifted classes. These options range from the consultative model (where the child receives services through the general education teacher having “consultations” with a gifted endorsed teacher) to dismissal from gifted services (where the student does not receive gifted services). If dismissal from gifted services is the chosen solution, the student remains eligible for gifted services and gifted services can be restored at any time in the future without any additional formal evaluations.

13. What if I'm not comfortable with English. Will a language interpreter be provided for my child's EP meeting?

Yes, if the language spoken is one for which Broward County Public Schools has a translator. If you need a translator, notify the contact person listed on the Parent Participation Form and let them know. If possible, a translator will be provided at no cost to you. If a translator cannot be provided, you are allowed to bring your own translator. As a courtesy, prior to the meeting, please let the contact person at your school know that you will be bringing your own translator.

14. Does the parent have the right to see and read records the school keeps on their child?

Yes. However, the parent must make an appointment with school personnel to view their child's records.