



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
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**BILL HASLAM**  
GOVERNOR

**KEVIN HUFFMAN**  
COMMISSIONER

**TO:** Special Education Supervisors

**FROM:** Tie Hodack, Director of Instructional Programming

**DATE:** May 9, 2013

**RE:** End of Year Report for Gifted (Table 7) and Gifted Screenings

The End of Year Report for Gifted will no longer be a requirement for your submission to the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE), Division of Special Populations. Previously, the local education agency (LEA) submitted four reports for students who were screened for Intellectually Gifted, which included: Section A (Systematic Grade Level Screening), Section B (Individual Screening), Section C (Comprehensive Evaluation and Eligibility) and Section D (Program Delivery). The Division of Special Populations will now collect information from Section C and D internally through EasyLEP. Section A and B will continue to be useful for decision making within the district but will not be submitted to the TDOE.

If the proposed Specific Learning Disability rule change (i.e. from discrepancy to Response to intervention) is approved and becomes effective as of July 1, 2014, a nationally normed universal screener in reading, mathematics, and writing will be required three times per year (fall, winter, and spring) in grades Kindergarten through 12. The required universal screening will detect advanced students who may be in need of supplemental intervention and will therefore eliminate the need for the LEA to conduct a system-wide, grade-level screening. A student's individual score on the universal screening, however, may indicate a need for additional individual screening and/or a comprehensive evaluation pursuant to Intellectually Gifted standards.

Individual student screenings and the provision of supplemental interventions should be based on student need and the resources available to meet the needs of the student within a tiered support model. Moreover, a multi-tiered intervention model is a best practice approach for all students and should include procedures for students scoring in the advanced range relative to peers within the district. LEA's that do not have a nationally normed universal screening in place for the 2013-2014 school year will continue to conduct a system-wide grade level screening in a minimum of one elementary grade (grades 1-4) where all classrooms across the district in the specified grade level are screened. However, LEA's that currently have or will have a universal screening tool in place for the 2013-2014 school year will not be required to complete a grade level gifted screening as the universal screener will satisfy that requirement. This data will address underrepresented populations by

ensuring all students are considered for possible individual screening and/or a comprehensive evaluation. There are no changes to the Intellectually Gifted criteria at this time, only support for a best practice model. Parents will continue to have the right to request a comprehensive evaluation at any time. If you have questions, please contact [Tie.Hodack@TN.gov](mailto:Tie.Hodack@TN.gov) or [Nathan.Travis@TN.gov](mailto:Nathan.Travis@TN.gov).