

## Section F: Funding

**LEGAL CITATION:** OAC 3301-51-15 (F) (1) (a-e)

**INTENT:** To establish provisions for the allocation of gifted units.

### **REQUIREMENT**

- (1) The department of education may approve and reimburse districts for the services of intervention specialist and coordinators for gifted education as follows:
  - (a) Unit funding for intervention specialists
    - (i) Units may be approved in a district or consortium of districts where coordinator services specified in paragraph (E)(4) of this rule are provided;
    - (ii) Units or fractional units may be approved to districts or a consortium of districts on the basis of one thousand average daily membership in kindergarten through grade twelve; and
    - (iii) One full intervention specialist unit may be approved in a district or a consortium of districts with fewer than one thousand average daily membership.
  - (b) Unit funding for coordinators
    - (i) Units or fractional units may be allocated to districts or a consortium of districts on the basis of two thousand five hundred average daily membership in kindergarten through grade twelve; and
    - (ii) One full coordinator unit may be allocated in a district or consortium of districts with fewer than two thousand five hundred average daily membership.
  - (c) Gifted personnel funded with state dollars shall be full-time in that role; and if partially state funded, services must be equal to the level of funding.
  - (d) Units may be approved to fund gifted education services provided in virtual learning environments.
  - (e) A reduction in the 2007-2008 allocation of units to a particular district will occur only as a result of noncompliance, voluntary surrender, decline in district average daily membership or reduction in the total number of units available.

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

- All districts that receive gifted unit funding must provide, at a minimum, all gifted coordinator duties specified in OAC 3301-51-15(E)(4)(a-h).
- The number of unit(s) allocated to a district shall be used exclusively for properly qualified staff assigned to gifted education duties. For the qualifications of a GIS or gifted coordinator, refer to OAC 3301-51-15 (E).
- The unit or fraction of unit attributed to a particular staff member must be equivalent to

his or her EMIS-reported FTE assigned to gifted education. For example, in a district with one unit and one staff member attributed to that unit, that staff member should be assigned exclusively to gifted education duties and reported in EMIS with 1.0 FTE. A district with a .5 unit should assign the staff member to a minimum of a .5 FTE attributed to gifted education.

- A staff member attributed to a full 1.0 unit shall be considered full time in gifted education and should not be assigned to other teaching or administrative responsibilities not related to gifted education.
- The cost of gifted education staff in districts with gifted unit funding is shared between the state and local districts. The unit allocation should match the staff FTE, regardless of the dollar value of that unit allocation. For example, if the dollar value for a full 1.0 unit is \$37,000 but the staff member salary from the district is \$57,000, it is not appropriate for the district to assign the staff member teaching or administrative responsibilities not related to gifted education.
- No staff member can be attributed to more than 1.0 unit.
- No staff member reported in EMIS as 1.0 FTE in another role can be attributed to a gifted unit or fraction of a unit. For the qualifications of a GIS or gifted coordinator refer to OAC 3301-51-15 (E).
- Although the ADM eligibility provisions have been lowered, the number of units available statewide has not been increased for 2008-2009. As a result, not all districts that request additional units for 2008-2009 based on the new ADM eligibility provisions will see an increase in their gifted unit allocation. Only units that become available per paragraph (e) of this section will be reallocated to districts based on the new ADM eligibility provisions.
- For additional information, or to request a gifted unit, search the term *gifted unit request* on the ODE Web site.