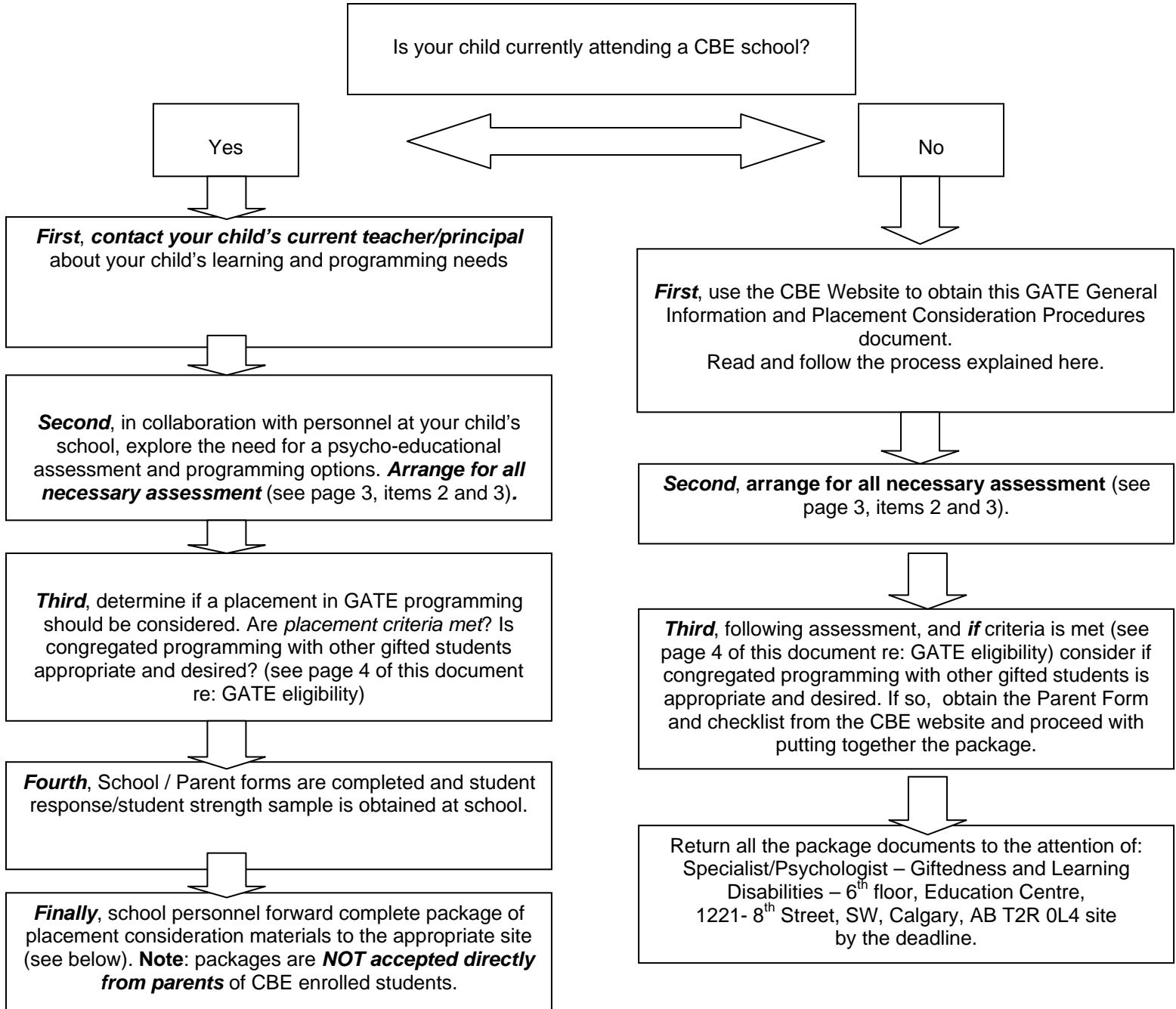


GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) Program

General Information and Placement Consideration Procedures



For logistical reasons and to ensure security of storage of records and confidential information, packages will ONLY be accepted for placement consideration between:

February 13-24, 2012

There is no difference in likelihood of placement for packages received at the beginning or end of this window. All packages received within these timelines are considered on an equal basis. IF space is available in later in the year, further information will be forthcoming at that time.

To be sure your student is considered, *packages must be submitted exactly as outlined here*. Please be aware that there are important practical and logistical reasons for the procedures expressed below. These procedures are intended to ensure efficiency and security and for that reason we need your support in following them

**For students NOT currently enrolled in CBE schools,
parents submit packages (see Checklist Page #6) to:**

Sara Peden
6th Floor, Education Centre, 1221 8th Street SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0L4

If your child is currently enrolled in a CBE school please work with personnel at that school to have the package submitted.

Packages received at the Education Centre from CBE students parents' will NOT be accepted/considered.

Errors in following this process could result in delays that jeopardize the possibility of GATE placement for your son or daughter.

**For all current CBE students, CBE school personnel
submit GATE placement consideration packages (see Checklist Page #7) based on
NEXT YEAR's grade to :**

AREAS I, II, and III

Grades 4 – 6

GATE Placement Committee
c/o Rhonda Morrison
Hillhurst School

Grades 7 -9

GATE Placement Committee
c/o Steve Young
Queen Elizabeth School

AREAS IV and V

Grades 4 – 6

GATE Placement Committee
c/o Gord Hamby
Nellie McClung School

Grades 7 – 9

GATE Placement Committee
c/o Robin Laycock
John Ware School

AREAS I, II, III, IV & V

Grades 10-12

GATE Placement Committee
c/o Sara Peden

6th Floor, Education Centre, 1221 8th Street SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0L4

GATE Placement Requirements

The following documents are **required components** for a student to be considered for a GATE placement:

1. Package **checklist**
2. **Current psychological assessment report** providing the results and interpretation of an individually administered intelligence test. Acceptable test instruments are the WISC-IV (including IQ and all Index scores) or the Stanford-Binet-V, reported using Canadian norms. The assessment must have been conducted **within three years of the date of consideration for a GATE Program placement**. Also, GATE placements are NOT made on the basis of cognitive assessments conducted before the student was 7 years of age. Updated assessment would be required even if such an assessment is less than three years old.
3. **Results of standardized, individually administered, achievement tests** (using current test versions and Canadian norms, where available) conducted **within one year the date of consideration for a GATE Program placement**. Acceptable instruments are limited to the WIAT-II, KTEA-II, and Woodcock-Johnson-III (Tests of Achievement).

Informal achievement measures may also be included but do not replace the need for the standardized testing.

For those responsible for standardized assessment (e.g., Psychologists and others administering specialized Level B assessment):

The GATE Placement Committee is particularly interested in current levels of achievement with respect to both basic skills *and* application in the areas of Reading, Writing, and Mathematics. For example, in each area, and where possible, it is helpful to have one or more measures of skill requirements (e.g. decoding, sounding out, spelling, numerical operations, fluency measures) and some measure of how the student makes use of those skills (e.g. comprehension, reasoning, expression etc.). Composite scores in reading, writing, and math should be provided wherever possible. Standard scores from these achievement tests are particularly critical in the student's area of exceptional strength, or in areas of relative weakness for students who, although cognitively gifted, may have experienced challenges in one or more academic areas.

If the assessment is being completed by a private psychologist or any other non-CBE psychologist, please ensure that they are aware of each of these test requirements and that they request any clarification needed.

4. A copy of the student's **most recent report card**.
5. A completed **GATE School Form** – for CBE school enrolled students only. Individuals coming from outside of the CBE do not need to submit this form).
6. A completed **GATE Parent Form**. (**Individuals coming from outside of the CBE may obtain this form from the CBE website**).
7. A completed **Student Response** (for CBE school enrolled students and whenever possible from non-resident students).

The following documents, **when available**, also need to be included.

8. A copy of the student's **IPP** (Individualized Program Plan), **including evaluation** of the current goals/objectives. Students who have been assessed and identified with gifted learning needs at a time close to the documentation deadline may not yet have an IPP. While this will not prevent the student from being considered for a GATE placement, in such instances, the GATE Placement Committee may wish to seek additional information regarding the student from the parent(s) and/or the student's current school.
9. A copy of the results of Alberta **Provincial Achievement Tests** [Grades 3, 6, and 9].
10. A completed **Student Strength** sample (for CBE school enrolled students and whenever possible from non-resident students).

Documents provided for the purpose of GATE placements become the property of the Calgary Board of Education and become part of the permanent Student Record when the family accepts a GATE placement for their child. (Administrative Regulation 6024 – Student Records; and the School Act of Alberta, Section 23) **Please note:** Any **additional** information, submitted by the school, student, and/or parents will **not** be included in the file for placement consideration by the Committee. Please **do not** submit additional information or materials. They will NOT be considered or returned.

GATE Placement Eligibility

The key questions to be addressed when considering a student for GATE placement include:

- Does the student's **primary** special education programming need arise from his or her high intellectual ability? Students who also have other exceptionalities in addition to their giftedness, may be considered for GATE programming. However, students whose **primary** needs are related to learning disabilities, social/emotional/behavioural disabilities, or other special needs are not eligible for GATE placement.
- Is there is a clear match between a) the student's primary learning strengths and needs and b) the focus of GATE? The GATE brochure can be found online at: http://www.cbe.ab.ca/programs/spec_ed/pdfs/GATEBrochure.pdf
- Does the psychological assessment report indicate a **Full Scale Score within the Very Superior range (at or above 130)**? Students with Full Scale IQ scores lower than 130 will only be considered in certain exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the placement committee.

If there are questions as to whether there is alignment between student profile and eligibility criteria for a placement into the GATE setting, please contact the designated CBE Learning Services Specialist/Psychologist for Giftedness/Learning Disabilities (Sara Peden at sjpeden@cbe.ab.ca) before proceeding with the GATE placement process

Placement Decision Making Process

- ✓ GATE placement decisions are made by consensus of the GATE Placement Committee. Members of the GATE Placement Committee include the Specialist/Psychologist for Giftedness/Learning Disabilities in Learning Services and representation from GATE school sites and other CBE personnel. The placement process strives to ensure that there is a good match between the student's learning needs and the structure and objectives of the GATE program. In the event that consensus cannot be reached within the committee, the Director of Instructional Design and Assessment in Learning will make the determination as to whether or not the student will be offered a placement.
- ✓ Students who are brought forward for potential GATE placements are considered in accordance with the *Standards for Special Education, Amended 2004*, the School Act of Alberta, and CBE Administrative Regulations 3001, 3003, 6090, and 6091.
- ✓ Parents are informed of the outcome of the GATE Placement Committee's decision in the most expedient way to ensure communication in any individual case (e.g., email/letter). Due to the large number of students considered for GATE placements each year, it is **not** possible to inform parents of the Committee's decision by telephone.
- ✓ When a GATE placement is offered, a signed copy of the placement letter that is provided to parents **must** be returned prior to the deadline given. When an offered GATE placement is declined there is no guarantee of admittance at a later date. An updated package would be required for placement consideration in the future.

Further information regarding GATE can be obtained from our CBE website at http://www.cbe.ab.ca/programs/spec_ed/se-gifted.asp, or from the site principals/teachers, or from the designated system Specialist/Psychologist. Please see the website for contact information.

Student Residency – Important Information for Parents

Prior to registering any student, it must be determined if the student is a resident of the Calgary Board of Education as defined under legislation. There is a space at the top of the Student Registration Form for the parent/guardian or independent student to declare this information. The School Act allows a board to set admission priorities where facilities or resources are not sufficient to accept all students wishing to attend a specific school.

If there are space or resource limitations, the parent of the non-resident student will be informed that their registration cannot be accommodated at that time. Non-resident students, whose registrations are accepted, must be informed in writing regarding the duration of that acceptance.

Residency Considerations:

To qualify as a resident student of the CBE a student must physically reside within the jurisdiction of the Calgary Board of Education (i.e. within the geographical boundaries of the CBE) with their parent(s) or legal guardian, or as an independent student. In addition, the faith of the parent(s) of that student must be non-Catholic.

Roman Catholic Students: If the parent(s) or the legal guardian(s) OR the independent status student live within the geographic boundaries of the Calgary Board of Education **and** they are of the Roman Catholic faith, the student is a resident of the Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School Division and not resident of the CBE [School Act – Section 44(4)].

Out of Calgary Students: If the parents or legal guardians OR the independent status students live outside the geographic boundaries of the Calgary Board of Education, they are not residents of the CBE.

Francophone Students: If the parent(s) or the legal guardian(s) OR the independent status student live within the geographic boundaries of the Calgary Board of Education and the first language of the parents (or the Independent Student) is French AND they wish to exercise their Section 23 rights, they are residents of the Conseils Scolaires Catholique et Francophones du sud de l'Alberta and not residents of the CBE. If they do not wish to exercise their Section 23 rights, it must still be determined if they are residents of the Calgary Board of Education or the Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School Division.

Dual Residency: If both parents (or legal guardians) have care and custody of a student and each is a resident of a different school district or division and they wish to have the student considered as a resident of the Calgary Board of Education, they must declare that to be the case by checking YES to the Declaration of Residency and signing the Registration Form. School Act - Section 44(8)).

Reference: CBE Administrative Regulation 6090, online at <http://www.cbe.ab.ca/policies/adminregs.asp#Students>

GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) Programming

Checklist for the Placement Consideration Package (non-CBE enrolled Students)

Student Name: _____

Student CBE ID (when available): _____

Primary Home Contact:
(Name / relationship / email) _____

Current School: _____

Current Grade: _____

Next year's Grade (+1) _____

Please collate the following documents (preferably in this order) for ease of reference of the placement committee:

1. This Checklist (required)
2. Cognitive Assessment (required)
3. Standardized Achievement Assessment (required)
(sometimes in the same report as #2 above)
4. Most recent Report Card (required)
5. Parent Form (required)
6. Student Response (included) or (not available)
7. IPP (student previously identified) (included) or (newly identified, no IPP available)
8. Last Provincial Achievement Tests (included) or (not applicable/available)
(when applicable/available)
9. Student Strength Sample (included) or (not available)

GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) Programming

Checklist for the Placement Consideration Package (CBE enrolled Students)

Student Name: _____

Student CBE ID: _____

Primary School Contact: _____
(Name / role / email)

Current School: _____

Current Grade: _____

Next year's Grade (+1) _____

Please collate the following documents (preferably in this order) for ease of reference of the placement committee:

1. This Checklist (required)
2. Cognitive Assessment (required)
3. Standardized Achievement Assessment (required)
(sometimes in the same report as #2 above)
4. Most recent Report Card (required)
5. School Form (required)
6. Parent Form (required)
7. Student Response (required)
8. IPP (student previously identified) (included) or (newly identified, no IPP available)
9. Last Provincial Achievement Tests (included) or (not applicable/available)
10. Student Strength Sample (included) or (not available)