

CCSD Gifted and Talented Nomination Testing

What is it?

Every year, the CCSD Gifted and Talented Department offers “nomination testing” for students in grades 3-11. *This testing event is separate from the Grade 2 gifted identification “census testing” that happens in October in which ALL second graders are administered aptitude & achievement tests to determine initial identifications.*

What we refer to as “nomination testing” is aptitude testing that is given to students who have been nominated for possible academic gifted and talented identification. Aptitude is what is evaluated in **Dimension A** of the gifted identification process. Aptitude is different from achievement.

Aptitude

Indicates how well a child may reason through content/problems they have NOT been explicitly taught

Achievement

Indicates how well a child retains the content/curriculum they have ALREADY been taught

Who is eligible?

ANY CCSD parent, teacher, administrator, or student can nominate ANY CCSD student in grades 3-11

How do I know if a child should be nominated?

We typically recommend nomination testing for students who are:

- considered partially identified and have met dimension B or C previously
- showing signs of talent or growth or may be in need of additional academic challenge
- new to CCSD from another district and:
 - *Have not had the opportunity for aptitude testing previously*
 - *parents are requesting evaluation for gifted program*
 - *Have strong fall MAP scores (especially those have scores at or above 94%ile in reading or math indicating they have met Dimension B for gifted identification)*

How can a child be nominated?

Parents, teachers, administrators, or students can use online or paper Nomination Forms:

- PREFERRED - online google form is available on our website [CCSD Gifted and Talented Website](#)
- Paper form - download from our website; return to GT teacher at school level

What tests are used?

CCSD uses the Cognitive Abilities Test and the Otis-Lennon School Abilities Test for this purpose.

- Grades 3-5 will take the online COGAT Form 7
- Grades 6-11 will take the paper/pencil OLSAT

When does the testing occur?

- Grades 6-11 will be assessed in November
- Grades 3-5 will be assessed in December
- After Grade 2 census testing, but before second semester and winter MAP

What about students who are virtual?

Aptitude testing will occur on site at school for all students. Virtual students will be scheduled to test at their home school.

Who can I contact with additional questions?

- Your school's gifted and talented teacher is the best place to start
- The Gifted and Talented Office - 843-402-7836
- Elizabeth Uptegrove, Gifted Coordinator - elizabeth_uptegrove@charleston.k12.sc.us
- Karen Reed, Gifted Lead Teacher - karen_reed@charleston.k12.sc.us