

Gifted & Talented Professional Learning Plan

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What are Dickinson ISD requirements for the GT 30 hr. Foundational Training?

The 30 clock hours required by the State of Texas include 6 hours of each of the following topics:

- *Nature and Needs of the Gifted & Talented Learner*
- *Identification and Assessment of the Gifted & Talented Learner*
- *Social and Emotional Needs of the Gifted & Talented Learner*
- *Differentiated Curriculum for the Gifted & Talented Learner*
- *Creativity & Instructional Strategies for the Gifted & Talented Learner*

2. Who needs to have the GT 30 hr. Foundational Training?

According to the Texas Administrative Code § 89.2 (1), teachers who provide services to gifted learners are required to have completed the 30 hours of training prior to their assignment. In the Dickinson ISD this includes classroom teachers who provide services for gifted learners, STEM, Pre-AP, AP, and Dual Credit teachers.

3. Can my AP Summer Institute count for the GT 30 hr. Foundational Training?

Your AP Summer Institute can count for 18 of the 30 hours. It would count for the two days of curriculum: Differentiated Curriculum and Creativity/Instructional Strategies and one day of Social and Emotional Needs. You will still need to attend the sessions for Nature and Needs, Identification and Assessment to meet the DISD requirement.

4. I completed my GT 30 hr. Foundational Training in another district. Will they count in Dickinson ISD?

Yes, upon review by the Educational Services Department. You will need to upload your certificate(s) to Eduphoria and request the appropriate stands for Foundational Credit or Initial Awareness credit in Eduphoria. Or, you must request that your Eduphoria portfolio be transferred to Dickinson ISD electronically for credit approval here.

5. When do I need to have the GT 30 hr. Foundational Training complete?

Teachers are required to have completed the thirty (30) hours of professional development prior to their assignment to a class with gifted learners (TAC § 89.2 (1)). If that is not possible due to reassignments, resignations, or being hired after the academic year begins, teachers without the required training who are assigned to provide instruction and services to gifted learners are required to complete the thirty (30) hours of training within the first semester (19 TAC §89.2 (2)), by December 31 of each school year.

6. How many hours of GT Update Credit do I need?

Teachers who provide instruction and services to gifted learners will receive a minimum of six (6) hours annually of professional development in gifted/talented education that is related to state GT teacher education standards (19 TAC § 89.2 (3) and TAC §233.1).

7. How do I know if a course offered by the Dickinson ISD will give me GT Foundational or Update credit?

Courses that meet the criteria for GT Foundational Training or GT Update Credit will be marked accordingly in Eduphoria. GT Update sessions are designed to meet the needs of gifted learners and their teachers; therefore, not all sessions offered in the Dickinson ISD meet the criteria established by the State of Texas. In Eduphoria, search for courses under course categories (GT) or by credit types (GT Update).

8. I attended a session out-of-district; can I get GT credit for attending the session?

Yes, if the session has been pre-approved by the Educational Services Department. Educational Services highly recommends having the session you want to attend pre-approved before you attend. There is no guarantee you will be awarded GT credit for an out-of-district session after you attend the session, or submit your request, or

received credit in previous years. Please refer to the Gifted and Talented webpage for a list of currently approved out-of-district sessions/training receiving GT credit.

9. I am a campus administrator, or counselor; do I need additional GT training?

Administrators and counselors who have authority for service decisions are required to complete a minimum of six (6) hours of professional development that includes Nature and Needs of Gifted/Talented students and Service Options for Gifted/Talented students (19 TAC § 89.2 (4)). This requirement is not the same as Nature and Needs for Gifted/Talented students required in the GT 30 hr. Foundational Training.

10. How can I find courses that satisfy GT Update or GT Foundational requirements?

All courses that are offered in Dickinson ISD for GT Update or Foundation credits are listed in Eduphoria. Teachers and staff may search by course category (GT) or by course credit types (GT Core or GT Update) for a listing. In addition, a list of all courses currently approved by the district to meet GT Update or Foundational requirements are posted on the Gifted and Talented webpage.