

Questions and Answers for School Administrators

Regarding Regulation 2590.1 - Programs for Gifted Students

2000-2001

What is the purpose of regulation 2590.1?

The regulation cancels DS Manual 2590.2, "Schoolwide Enrichment Guide." It establishes uniform policies and assigns responsibilities for the development and delivery of educational services for students identified as gifted in the DoDEA schools.

How does the regulation define giftedness?

The regulation uses the federal definition of giftedness as a descriptor for those students with outstanding talent who perform or show the potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment when compared with others of their age, experience, or environment.

What does the regulation require?

The regulation specifies that gifted students shall experience a program that assesses their giftedness and offers appropriately differentiated learning experiences.

How will the regulation be implemented?

Upon issuance, the director, DoDEA will provide a supporting procedural manual to guide deputy directors, superintendents, and school principals in the implementation of identification procedures. The procedural manual specifies steps in the identification process, guidelines for the local school Gifted Review Committee, and tools for assessment, determination of eligibility, and record keeping.

Who can provide assistance in implementing new identification procedures?

Help is available at headquarters. Janice Robbins, coordinator, gifted education, will respond to questions, assist with staff development plans, and provide general support for districts and schools. She can be reached at jrobbins@hq.odedodea.edu or 703-696-7652 ext. 1923.

What is the requirement regarding programming for gifted students?

Regulation 2590.1 specifies that each school in the district offers gifted students appropriate education opportunities. Schools must provide varied and challenging learning opportunities matched to the needs and talents of these learners. Differentiated learning experiences adjust content, strategies, and expectations of student performance.

How will programming for identified students be defined?

During the 2000-2001 school year part II of the procedural manual for gifted programs will be developed. This part of the manual will provide a framework for gifted programs to be offered by local schools. Options for service delivery and models for differentiation will be presented. Current DoDEA curriculum standards will form the basis for differentiation.

When will new program options for gifted students begin?

Implementation of the program options will begin during the 2001-2002 school year. Training in program models and curriculum differentiation will begin during the summer of 2001 and will continue into the 2001-2002 school year.

What are the first steps for school administrators in implementing regulation 2590.1?

School administrators should familiarize themselves with the regulation and its accompanying manual on identification. Principals should appoint a standing Gifted Review Committee. Committee members should participate in staff development opportunities during the first semester of the 2000-2001 school year so that they will be prepared to implement procedures during the second semester. An information session or distribution of information materials to school registrars, counselors, and classroom teachers should be completed. Local schools should provide parents with information about the identification procedures to be used in the spring for identification of students for 2001-2002.