

A photograph of a school hallway with a wide staircase. Several students with backpacks are walking on the stairs. Large windows in the background show trees and a building. A blue semi-transparent banner is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text for the event.

# G/T Tuesday

Special Populations – Gifted/Talented Education

January 5, 2021

- G/T Information
- Clarifications
- Grouping
- Shout Outs
- Resources

## 12/7/2020

## 1/5/2021

### School Reported COVID-19 Cases in Texas Public Schools

Cumulative positive student cases

**40,985**

Cumulative positive staff cases

**24,567**

New Weekly COVID-19 positive student cases



**2,873,692**

Estimated students on campus as of  
October 30, 2020

New Weekly COVID-19 positive staff cases



**800,078**

2019-2020 Staff Count

On-campus case counts were only reported for weeks in which students were receiving on-campus instruction and activities. Follow this link to see the distribution of start dates across Texas public school systems.  
<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/SY-20-21-Texas-Public-School-Start-Dates.pdf>

### School Reported COVID-19 Cases in Texas Public Schools

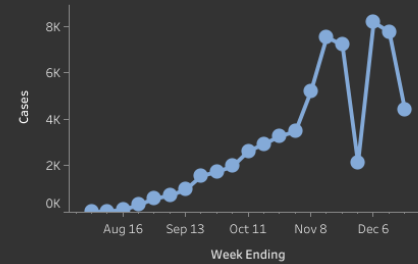
Cumulative positive student cases

**62,675**

Cumulative positive staff cases

**35,926**

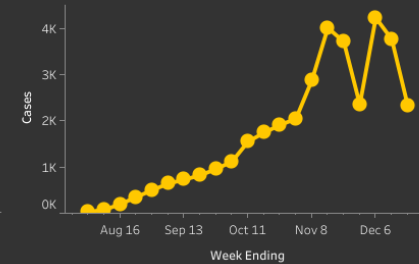
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<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/schools/texas-education-agency/>

# Wellness Check

## Main Page

- <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>

## Instructional Continuity Planning

- <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/instructional-continuity-planning>

## SPED and Special Populations

- <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/special-education-and-special-populations>

- In 2021, participants must register in advance for the meetings. The links below are the Spring registration links for the G/T Tuesdays.

Morning Edition @ 9:00 am starting at 1/5/2021

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsduChpz8jHdYl-0uCzYcOzmQV72ltl261>

Afternoon Edition @ 1:00 pm starting at 1/19/2021

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckdeGppjwqHt0U1UHwtq3kcjkzVzwXd7tM>

- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## Gifted Talented Education Resources

Welcome to the Gifted/Talented Education Resources page pertaining to the implementation of the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students.

### G/T Tuesdays 2020

	Expand All
<a href="#">November 10 2020</a>	▼
<a href="#">October 27 2020</a>	▼
<a href="#">October 13 2020</a>	▼
<a href="#">September 15 2020</a>	▼
<a href="#">September 1 2020</a>	▼

### G/T Tuesdays Implementation Series

#### Related Content

[Gifted/Talented Education](#)

[Guidance for Interpreting the State Plan](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions \(PDF\)](#)

[HB 3 in 30](#)

[Regional Educational Service Center - G/T List](#)

#### Contact Information

**Monica Brewer, Statewide Coordinator,  
Gifted/Talented Education**

[monica.brewer@tea.texas.gov](mailto:monica.brewer@tea.texas.gov)

Texas Education Agency  
1701 North Congress Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78701-1401

**TEA** SY 20-21 Gifted/Talented Education Guidance **STRONG START**  
 August 24, 2020

(512) 463-9000 | disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov | tea.texas.gov/coronavirus

**Gifted/Talented FAQ: Section Topics**

Click on the links below to go directly to that section of the FAQ.

- Program Services
- Identification
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Professional Learning
- Family and Community Involvement

*Note: This guidance only applies to the 2020-2021 school year and may include updates to guidance provided in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting school closures during the 2019-2020 school year.*

**Program Services**

- What are LEAs responsible for regarding G/T services during school reopening and potential closures?
 

LEAs should continue providing program services for G/T students. (TEC §29.122(a); 19 TAC §89.3, State Plan (2.16, 3.1, 3.6 & 4.1- Texas G/T State Plan 2019)).
- Who is responsible for G/T coordination?
 

LEA G/T services are coordinated by appropriately trained G/T education administrators, coordinators, and specialists (G/T Staff).
- Per House Bill 3, Sec 29.124, each school district shall annually certify to the commissioner that the district has established a program for gifted and talented students, that the program is consistent with the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students, and the use of funds on the district's program for G/T students. How will this be implemented during the 2020-2021 school year?
  - LEAs will continue to follow the certification process implemented in 2019-2020.
    - Identify and serve G/T students
    - Identify LEA G/T program service options
    - Report the use of G/T funds
    - Submit the plan for G/T services in all learning platforms
  - The agency will roll out the next phase of the certification process as a pilot with LEA trainings for full implementation in 2021-2022.

If you have further questions, please submit them to [disasterinfo@tea.Texas.gov](mailto:disasterinfo@tea.Texas.gov) and [monica.brewer@tea.Texas.gov](mailto:monica.brewer@tea.Texas.gov)

**TEA** Gifted/Talented Education **STRONG START**  
 October 15, 2020

(512) 463-9000 | disasterinfo@tea.texas.gov | tea.texas.gov/coronavirus

This guidance only applies to the 2020-2021 school year provided in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) must provide Gifted and Talented (G/T) services for students in all learning settings. The G/T assessment waiver for new identification ended in May 2020. LEAs are expected to resume the 2019-2020 identification and start the 2020-2021 identification for G/T process.

**State Goal for Services for G/T Students**  
 Students who participate in services designed for G/T students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment. High school graduates who have participated in services for G/T students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

**Table of Contents**

- Gifted/Talented Education.....1
- Fidelity of Services .....3
- Student Assessment for G/T Services .....4
- Continuation of 2019-2020 Assessment .....4
- Assessment Considerations .....4
- Community Information .....7
- Student Placement.....8
- Service Options .....9
- Acceleration .....10
- Remote Instruction .....10
- Considerations from the field .....11
- Curriculum & Instruction .....19
- Differentiated Instruction .....19
- Cluster and Flexible Grouping.....20
- Texas Performance Standards Project.....20
- Adapting or Modifying the Curriculum .....21
- Twice Exceptional .....21

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/SY-20-21-GT-Guidance.pdf>





<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTEA/subscriber/new>

- November 3, 2020: General election for federal, state, and county officers
- November 9, 2020: Bill prefiling begins
- January 12, 2021: 87th Legislature convenes at noon
- March 12, 2021: 60-day bill filing deadline
- May 31, 2021: Adjournment sine die
- June 20, 2021: Post-session 20-day deadline for Governor to sign or veto

**The State definition:** “...gifted and talented students” means: a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

- Exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area,
- Possess an unusual capacity for leadership, or
- Excels in a specific academic field.

Students who participate in services designed for gifted/talented students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research and communication as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment. High school graduates who have participated in services for gifted/talented students will have produced products and performances of professional quality as part of their program services.

## Program Design

- In School
- Virtual

## Professional Development

- Local Guidelines
- Timeline
- Documentation

## Array of Learning Opportunities

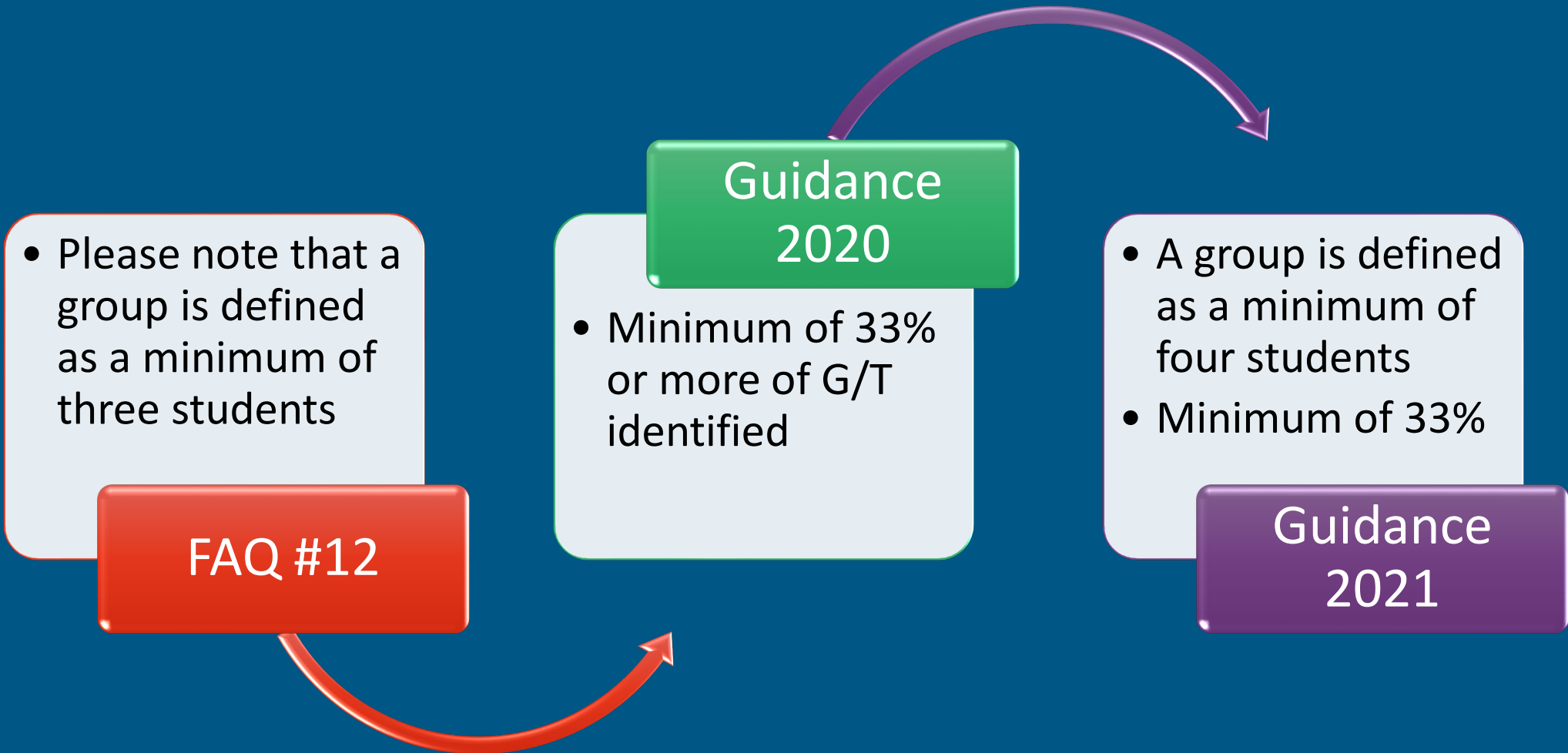
- In School
- Virtual

## Identification

- In School
- Virtual

- While there is no minimum time requirement for G/T services, identified G/T students **MUST** be served according to the LEA's defined program services and policies. LEAs must ensure that G/T program services occur during the school day for the entire school year (TAC §89.3(3) and State Plan 3.1).
- Considerations:
  - Include in your local G/T Program Manual/Handbook
  - Communicate with administrators, parents and leadership

# Defining a Group



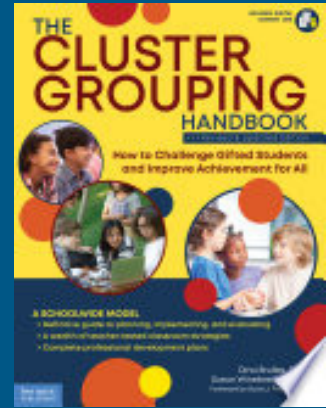
- When G/T students are provided services in the regular classroom, they must be provided with opportunities to work together within that classroom during core subject instruction (State Plan 3.4). All G/T students must be assured an array of learning opportunities that are commensurate with their abilities and that emphasize content in the four foundation curricular areas throughout the school year (TAC §89.3(1) and (3); State Plan 3.1).



- To ensure successful delivery of differentiated instruction, modification of curricula (State Plan 4.9), access to the opportunities required in State Plan 3.1 and 3.4, and gifted programming consistent with the State Plan, the Commissioner's Advisory Council on the Education of Gifted Students provided input on guidelines for defining a group when G/T students are provided services in the regular classroom.

- To be consistent with the State Plan, a group is composed of gifted students that are assigned to a classroom where a minimum of 33% or more of the classroom roster is made up of their G/T peers.
- Alternatively, if fewer students than 33% of a classroom roster are G/T identified in the campus grade level\*, to be consistent with the State Plan:
  - The G/T-identified students in a campus grade level\* are placed in one group during core subject instruction.
  - An LEA may make alternative grouping assignments with parent permission or when necessary to meet the documented instructional needs of a G/T student. G/T services must be delivered in the alternative grouping assignment unless the furlough or exit process has been completed for the student. The rationale for alternative grouping assignments should be described in LEA certification submitted under TEC §29.124.
- \* in the secondary setting, “grade level” may be interchanged with “course.”

- The Cluster Grouping Handbook: A Schoolwide Model: How to Challenge Gifted Students and Improve Achievement for All by Susan Winebrenner and Dina Brulles
- Improving Performance for Gifted Students in a Cluster Grouping Model by Dina Brulles, Rachel Saunders, and Sanford Cohn
- What do gifted students need? by Susan Winebrenner
- Cluster Grouping Of Gifted Students: How To Provide Full-time Services On A Part-time Budget by Susan Winebrenner and Barbara Devlin





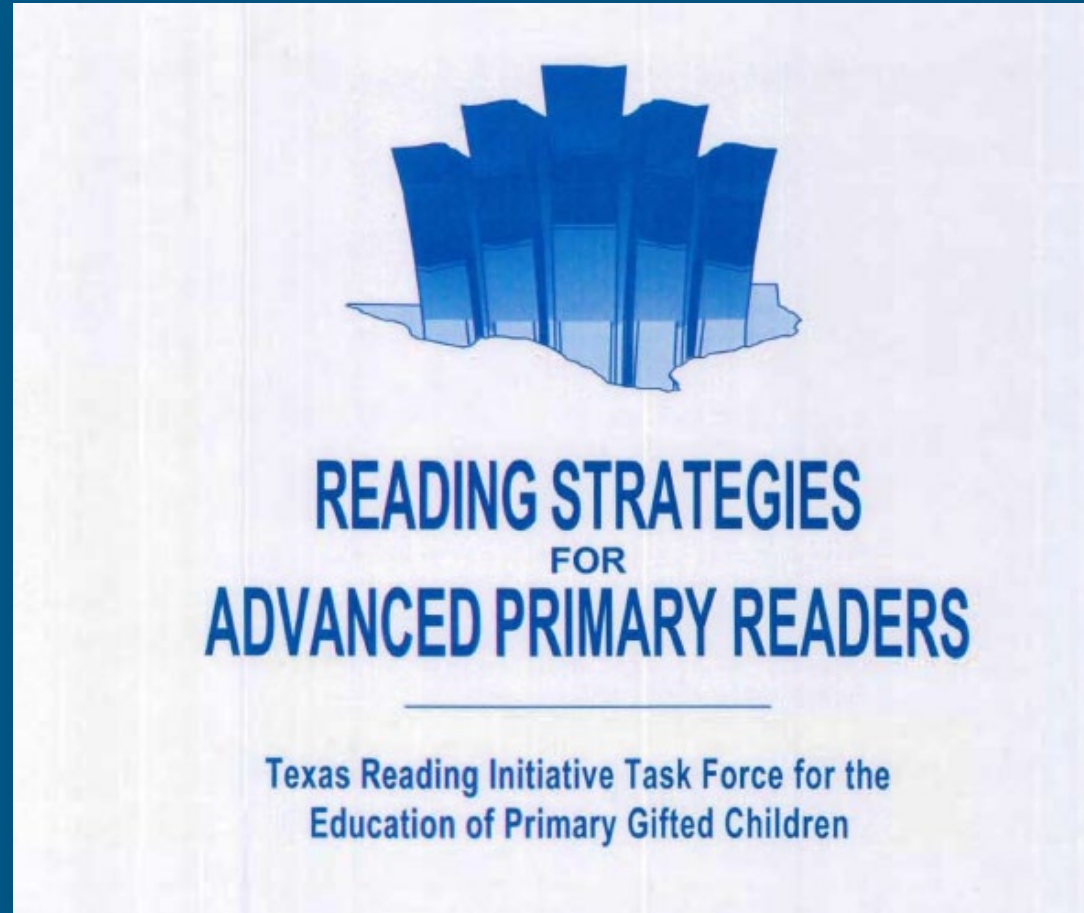
What if?

My question is...

Have you thought  
about?

Could we?





<https://tea.texas.gov/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=25769814865>



TexasHomeLearning

- Online TEKS aligned curriculum
- Online TEKS aligned resources
- Remote Learning Platform – Schoology or incorporate into LEA platform
- Supports for all learners
- <https://texashomelearning.org/>

[texasprojectrestore.org](https://texasprojectrestore.org)







- **Each video:**
  - 25-35 minutes long
  - Include facilitation companion guide
  - Transcripts
  - Earn CEUs
  - Counts toward SB 11 grief and trauma-informed training requirement
- [www.texasprojectrestore.org](http://www.texasprojectrestore.org)



# Contact Information

Monica Brewer, M.S.E.

[Monica.brewer@tea.texas.gov](mailto:Monica.brewer@tea.texas.gov)

[GTED@tea.texas.gov](mailto:GTED@tea.texas.gov)

512-463-9414