



Homeschool Students:

Several of the required materials for applying to the Discovery Program need special provision for students who are homeschooled. In order to provide all students the ability to demonstrate a need for this gifted programming, please follow the guidance below:

Teacher Rating Form & Report Card:

- Parents/guardian must select a qualified person, other than the parent, to evaluate the student's grade level progress. Any expenses incurred for this evaluation will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.
- A qualified person is: 1) a certified teacher, 2) a teacher who is employed by an independent or parochial school, 3) a licensed psychologist, or 4) a person with a graduate degree in education.
- See guidelines below for this qualified evaluator.

Achievement Data:

- Students who have reached grade three or above should submit results of the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) (or similar nationally normed instrument) achievement test.

Guidelines for Qualified Evaluator Assessment:

- Use DRA-2 or similar reading assessment to determine performance level. (Attach protocol and student results to Teacher Rating Form.)
- Use Douglas County Homeschool District guidelines for evaluation of math achievement. (Attach protocol to Teacher Rating Form.)
- Use an age appropriate writing prompt to determine the student's writing performance, and score using a research based grade level rubric to evaluate. The student writing sample must be included with the application.
- Complete Behavioral Characteristics portion as best you can as you work with the student on the above assessments.

Performance:

- Homeschool work completed at the high school or advanced level must be done through an accredited program. (Check with the Douglas County School District Homeschool Office for clarification.)