

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO: Teacher Applicants**

**FROM: Advanced Studies**

**RE: Gifted In-Field Endorsement Candidate Application Packet**

**DATE: March 29, 2017**

Thank you for your interest in further developing your skills to effectively identify and serve gifted students in Fulton County Schools. The Gifted In-field Endorsement Program is offered through a partnership between the Professional Learning Department, the Advanced Studies Department and Metro RESA. The program ensures that FCSS has highly qualified teachers to work with our gifted students. Teachers seeking the gifted endorsement must be prepared to do graduate level work and have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to work with advanced students. Based upon the standards set by the Professional Standards Commission (PSC), an internship component is required as part of the Gifted In-field Endorsement Program in addition to the course requirements. The internship requires that teachers pursuing the endorsement complete a minimum of 20 hours of observation and work with gifted students in all aspects of gifted education. Principals who recommend teachers for the endorsement must allow the teachers to take one duty leave day for internship work. The substitutes for the duty leave days will be provided by the Professional Learning Department.

Attached is the Gifted In-Field Endorsement Candidate Packet with further information on the program. In the packet, you will find the candidate application forms that require your principal’s signature. **The completed application packet is due to the Advanced Studies Department at the Administrative Services Building by May 15, 2017.**

**Qualifications for Candidates enrolling in the Gifted Endorsement**:

1. Candidates must complete the application.
2. Candidates must hold a valid, Georgia Teaching certificate (Induction 1-3, Professional, Advanced Professional or Lead Professional Georgia Teaching Certificate)

3) Candidates must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 from their last degree program.

4) Candidates must have at least three years of teaching experience.

5) Candidates must be recommended by their employing principal.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Advanced Studies/TAG Department at (470) 254-6811 or Stacy Wilson, [wilsonsg@fultonschools.org](mailto:wilsonsg@fultonschools.org)

**GIFTED IN-FIELD ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM**

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING-FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

In order to apply to the Professional Standards Commission for a Gifted In-field Endorsement, a certified teacher must satisfactorily complete an approved program. Fulton County Schools Professional Learning Department, in conjunction with the Advanced Studies Office, partners with Metro RESA to offer an approved program which consists of the following courses:

Characteristics of the Gifted 5 PLUs

Identification and Assessment of the Gifted 4 PLUs

Curriculum and Strategies for the Gifted 5 PLUs

Program Development for the Gifted 4 PLUs

Internship 2 PLUs

The selection of candidates for the Gifted In-field Endorsement Program is based upon the beliefs that student learning is the primary focus of our school system and quality staff is imperative for student achievement. Therefore, the selection process reflects a commitment that ensures candidates possess the qualifications and dedication which are critical to successfully teaching gifted students.

Candidates applying to enroll in the Gifted In-field Endorsement Program must submit the following:

* Completed Gifted In-field Endorsement Program Application
* Copy of a valid, clear, and renewable Georgia Teaching Certificate
* Copy of the latest degree transcript reflecting a 2.5+ GPA
* Principal’s Recommendation form

**The deadline for submitting an application packet to the Advanced Studies Office is May 15, 2017.**

**Teachers will be notified of their acceptance by May 26, 2017**

Teachers accepted to the Gifted In-Field Endorsement Program are expected to complete all 5 courses within two school calendar years. If a teacher knows that s/he cannot make this commitment, s/he should apply at a later date.

All courses are taught in the blended model with 50% of the course taken in a virtual setting. **Attendance at the face to face sessions is mandatory**- these sessions are scheduled from 5:00pm-9:00pm. Teachers will be registered for one location for each course and must attend at that location unless prior approval is obtained.

Teachers accepted to the Gifted In-Field Endorsement Program are required to submit an application to the Professional Standards Commission for a nonrenewable certificate for gifted endorsement. The teacher or the school is responsible for the associated application fee (paid and submitted to the PSC). Please contact Nataya Robinson-White in the Fulton County Schools Certification Department with questions.

**2017/2018 Fulton Gifted Endorsement**

All courses are taught in the blended model with 50% of the course taken in a virtual setting. **Attendance at the face to face sessions is mandatory**- these sessions are scheduled from 5:00pm-8:30pm. Teachers will be registered for one location/cohort and must attend at that location unless prior approval is obtained.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course- online classes | Tuesdays  (South) | Tuesdays  (NLC-room 106) | Tuesdays  (NPES) | Thursdays  (WBMS) |
| Characteristics of the Gifted Learner  Fall 2017 | Sept. 5  Sept. 12  Sept. 19  Sept. 26  Oct. 3  Oct. 10  Oct. 17  Oct. 24  Nov. 7  Nov. 14 | Sept. 5  Sept. 12  Sept. 19  Sept. 26  Oct. 3  Oct. 10  Oct. 17  Oct. 24  Nov. 7  Nov. 14 | Sept. 5  Sept. 12  Sept. 19  Sept. 26  Oct. 3  Oct. 10  Oct. 17  Oct. 24  Nov. 7  Nov. 14 | Sept. 7  Sept. 14  Sept. 21  Sept. 28  Oct. 5  Oct. 12  Oct. 19  Oct. 26  Nov. 9  Nov. 16 |
| Curriculum & Strategies for the Gifted Learner  Fall 2017-Wtr 2018 | Nov. 28  Dec. 5  Dec. 12  Dec. 19  Jan. 9  Jan. 16  Jan. 23  Jan. 30  Feb. 6  Feb. 13 | Nov. 28  Dec. 5  Dec. 12  Dec. 19  Jan. 9  Jan. 16  Jan. 23  Jan. 30  Feb. 6  Feb. 13 | Nov. 28  Dec. 5  Dec. 12  Dec. 19  Jan. 9  Jan. 16  Jan. 23  Jan. 30  Feb. 6  Feb. 13 | Nov. 30  Dec. 7  Dec. 14  Dec. 21  Jan. 11  Jan. 18  Jan. 25  Feb. 1  Feb. 8  Feb. 15 |
| Identification and Assessment of the Gifted Learner  Winter 2018 | Feb. 27  Mar. 6  Mar. 13  Mar. 20  Mar. 27  Apr 10  Apr. 17  Apr. 24 | Feb. 27  Mar. 6  Mar. 13  Mar. 20  Mar. 27  Apr 10  Apr. 17  Apr. 24 | Feb. 27  Mar. 6  Mar. 13  Mar. 20  Mar. 27  Apr 10  Apr. 17  Apr. 24 | Mar. 1  Mar. 8  Mar. 15  Mar. 22  Mar. 29  Apr 12  Apr. 19  Apr. 26 |
| Program Development  Summer 2018 - TBD  Fall 2018 - TBD |  |  |  |  |

Gifted In-field Endorsement Program Application

**Directions:** Please complete the application and return it to the Advanced Studies Department or send via email**.** If you have any questions, contact Stacy Wilson at [wilsonsg@fultonschools.org](mailto:wilsonsg@fultonschools.org)

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA –**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ­­­­­

**1. Candidates must hold an Induction 1-3, Professional, Advanced Professional or Lead**

**Professional Georgia Teaching Certificate-** (attach copy of Certificate)

A copy of your teaching certificate may be obtained at <https://mypsc.gapsc.org/Home.aspx>

**2. GPA for lat****est degree is greater than 2.5**: □ yes □ no

**3. Candidates are required to have at least three years of successful teaching experience**.

* Current Teaching Position (Grade/Subject): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Full-Time/Part-time/Substitute **(circle or highlight one)** Number of years teaching: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Candidates must be recommended for participation in the program by their employing**

**principal**.

Rank order your choices for location of cohort (1=First Choice, 2=Second Choice, 3=Third Choice):

\_\_\_\_\_ North Fulton Area \_\_\_\_\_Sandy Springs Area \_\_\_\_\_ South Fulton Area

***(There are no guarantees that you will receive your first choice in location.)***

**Self Assessment:** Respond to the following statements using the scale:

1 2 3 4

strongly disagree disagree agree strongly agree.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| \_\_\_\_\_1.  \_\_\_\_\_2.  \_\_\_\_\_3.  \_\_\_\_\_4.  \_\_\_\_\_5.  \_\_\_\_\_6.  \_\_\_\_\_7.  \_\_\_\_\_8.  \_\_\_\_\_9.  \_\_\_\_\_10.  \_\_\_\_\_11.  \_\_\_\_\_12.  \_\_\_\_\_13. |  | I demonstrate a consistent attitude of enthusiasm toward subject matter.  I consider myself to possess a strong orientation towards achievement.  I am the first to participate in and/or sponsors student, teacher, school, division and/or community activities or events.  I demonstrate flexibility in addressing student needs.  I demonstrate the ability to apply my content knowledge to solve real-life problems.  I am able to maintain positive communication with all stakeholders.  I share responsibilities for the department, office, team and total school program and goals.  I build positive relationships with students, staff, parents, and community agencies.  I provide for the multi-cultural diversity and cultural needs of my students.  I am considered by others to respect all individuals.  I am able to create a climate that is conducive to learning.  I am able to create a climate where creativity and a tolerance for ambiguity are admired.  I am able to create a climate where a democratic attitude is embraced. |

**LEVEL OF INTEREST**

Share your reasoning for desire and commitment to be trained and to serve as a teacher of gifted students.

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**Candidate’s Commitment:**

**COMMITMENTS:**

* I understand
  + that the program is a series of courses including a 20-hour internship that requires during and after school responsibilities.
  + that I will have out of class readings and assignments.
  + attendance at ALL face-to-face class sessions is expected of the candidate.

* I will
  + attend all sessions on time and will contact instructor if there are extenuating circumstances requiring me to be late or miss a class session
  + come to class prepared and will actively participate in all sessions
  + appropriately use technology during class (cell phones need to be off or on vibrate)
  + not multi task on work not related to the gifted endorsement program during the sessions
  + be responsible for arranging duty free leave for my field experiences and internship as required for each course.
  + submit my assignments to my instructor on the specified due date.

**I agree that all information on this application is accurate and to the commitments above.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant’s signature Date**

**Recommendation by Current Principal**

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Current School:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Subject Area and Grade Level : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please rate the applicant in the areas indicated.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Applicant’s Job Performance | Highly Competent | Competent | Unsatisfactory Performance | Unknown |
| **Professional Qualities** | | | | |
| Demonstrates a consistent attitude of enthusiasm toward subject matter |  |  |  |  |
| Possesses a strong orientation towards achievement |  |  |  |  |
| Participates in and/or sponsors student, teacher, school, division and/or community activities or events |  |  |  |  |
| Demonstrates flexibility in addressing student needs |  |  |  |  |
| Demonstrates the ability to apply content knowledge to solve real-life problems |  |  |  |  |
| **Interpersonal Skills** | | | | |
| Maintains positive communication with all stakeholders |  |  |  |  |
| Shares responsibilities for the department, office, team and total school program and goals |  |  |  |  |
| Builds positive relationships with students, staff, parents and community agencies |  |  |  |  |
| Provides for multi-cultural diversity and cultural needs |  |  |  |  |
| Demonstrates respect for all individuals |  |  |  |  |
| Creates a climate that is conducive to learning |  |  |  |  |
| Creates a climate where creativity and a tolerance for ambiguity are admired |  |  |  |  |
| Creates a climate where a democratic attitude is embraced |  |  |  |  |

Additional comments regarding teacher applicant (optional). If needed, please use the back of the form:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Does your school have a special initiative for the 2017-18 school year that requires this teacher be enrolled in the program?

□ yes (elementary gifted cluster ) □ yes (middle or high TAG class) □ no

If this teacher is accepted into the program, I agree to release him/her from teaching duties for one school day to complete program requirements, i.e. observe a veteran gifted education teacher, teach sample lessons, assist with TAG testing, etc.

**Teachers who will be assigned to teach a TAG course must apply for the non-renewable certificate through the PSC. The school or the teacher is required to pay the application fee – currently $20.**

Principal Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Principals: Please forward the recommendation directly to Stacy Wilson, Advanced Studies**

**Department/Powers Ferry Admin Bldg.**