Area of Giftedness: Specific Academic Aptitude (without Cognitive)

Content areas for specific academic aptitude include: reading, writing, math, science, social studies and world language. **Two pathways may lead to identification in the area of specific academic aptitude.**

Second, a student may not score 95th percentile or above on a cognitive assessment. However, a review team may determine a comprehensive body of evidence demonstrates gifted academic ability. Content specific measurement tools to meet criteria for identification should include at least three or more measures from two of the three areas below. When cognitive data does not meet gifted criteria, identification in a specific academic aptitude requires an examination of multiple data points and trends over time.

---

**Criterion- or Norm-referenced Achievement Test**

- Advanced/Distinguished/Exceeds Standards on State Assessment
- 95th percentile or above on norm-referenced achievement test
- 95th percentile or above on CDE Resource Bank or district bank of approved assessments for non-state tested standards

**Norm-referenced Observation Scale**

- 95th percentile or above on norm-referenced observation scale for specific content area

**Performance Evaluation**

- State or national academic contest – top place or ranking
- Expert juried performance (Advanced or Distinguished)
- Teacher/Expert assessed portfolio review (Advanced / Distinguished/Above Grade Level)

---

Note: Using this pathway in the early years, requires caution and sufficient data from multiple data points. At any time when the team needs more time to make a determination, ongoing opportunities in the specific domain are needed. Additionally, continued examination of multiple data points and trend data over time, three years or less, may be necessary.