



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

July 31, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
State Superintendent of Education

**RE:** Gifted Education Program - Act No. 2024-351 and ETF Budget Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

For the 2024-2025 school year, the Alabama Legislature set aside \$12.35 million for gifted education and local education agencies (LEAs) receive funding based on Child Count. According to Act No. 2024-351, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) will offer grants to LEAs for the purpose of developing new advanced educational and specialized programs for gifted or talented children. For the 2024-2025 school year, the cumulative disbursement will be based on a \$10.925 million budget allocation. The remaining \$1.425 million will be awarded to LEAs through a competitive grant process.

The ALSDE will award available grants to public schools for the purpose of initiating new programs or continuing existing programs to offer advanced and specialized educational services to gifted or talented children. The maximum award for an applicant is \$30,000. The appropriate LEA must match five percent (5%) of any grant funds awarded by the ALSDE under this act.

To access the enclosed Application for Gifted and Talented Students Education Program, click on this link: [2024-2025 Grants for Gifted and Talented Education](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Ashley Strickland at 334-694-4782.

EGM/AS/TZK

Enclosure

cc: City and County Special Education Coordinators  
City and County Gifted Coordinators  
Mrs. Angela Martin  
Mrs. Shanthia Washington  
Dr. Brandon T. Payne  
Dr. DaLee Chambers  
Mrs. Erika Richburg  
Ms. Alicia Hodge  
Mrs. Ashley Strickland

**FY24-2055**

Alabama  
State Board  
of Education

Governor Kay Ivey  
President

Jackie Zeigler  
District I

Tracie West  
District II

Stephanie Bell  
District III

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.  
District IV

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.  
District V  
Vice President

Marie Manning  
District VI  
President Pro Tem

Belinda McRae  
District VII

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.  
District VIII

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
Secretary and  
Executive Officer

# APPLICATION PACKAGE FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Authorized under  
Alabama Act No. 2024-351

**2024-2025**

These instructions are provided to help prepare a grant application/proposal for gifted and talented programs for students in Grades K-12. Specific instructions are provided for key features and proposal requirements. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Ashley Strickland at 334-694-4782 or email at [ashley.strickland@alsde.edu](mailto:ashley.strickland@alsde.edu).



# GRANTS FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION

## Background and Guidelines for Applications

### 2024-2025

**Authorizing Statute:** Based on recent legislation, Act No. 2024-351, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) will offer grants to local education agencies (LEAs) for the purpose of developing new advanced educational and specialized programs for gifted or talented children.

**Appropriation: \$1,425,000 for FY 2025**

**Who is Eligible to Apply:** All Alabama public school systems.

**Funding Availability:** The maximum award for an applicant is \$30,000.

**Deadline for Grant Application:** 4 p.m. on September 13, 2024.

## Application Information

---

- A. Purpose:** The purpose of this grant is to support public schools in the development of new, advanced educational and specialized programs or continuing programs for gifted or talented children in Grades K-12.
- B. Grant Criteria:** The grant will be funded based on consideration of the following criteria:
- a. Grants should be awarded to programs specifically targeted towards gifted or talented children that meet the *Alabama Administrative Code (AAC)* criteria.
  - b. The quality of the proposed curriculum and personnel is a primary concern.
  - c. Preference is given to programs that are offered during the traditional school day or, alternatively, to programs that provide afterschool transportation.
  - d. Preference is given to students from traditionally underserved populations.
  - e. All programs awarded grants pursuant to this act must provide a means for assessing the impact of the program on participating students' academic growth.
  - f. The local board of education shall match up to five percent (5%) of any grant funds awarded by the department under this act.
- C. Grant Application Procedures:** The following procedures will be implemented:
- Grant applications must be received no later than **4 p.m. on September 13, 2024**.
  - Grant applications must be submitted electronically via DocuSign.
  - Grant applications will be reviewed and scored within four weeks of the receipt of the grant application.
  - A minimum of three reviewers will read and score each grant using a rubric based on the requirements of each grant.

- Grant applications submitted after available grant funds have been expended will not be read or scored. Applicants will be notified that all funds have been expended and that they may reapply during the next grant cycle.
- Grant applications submitted after the specified timeline will not be accepted and will be returned to the applicant along with a standard letter of explanation.
- Grant applications that do not meet the specified grant requirements will not be accepted and will be returned to the applicant along with a letter of explanation.

D. There are two types of proposals submitted for the Gifted and Talented Students Education Program Grant: Administrative and Student Proposals.

**(1) Administrative Proposals**

**(2) Student Proposals**

When completing the application process, select the specific type of proposal, either an **Administrative** or **Student** Proposal, and address the questions in the application packet related to the type of proposal selected.

E. **Application Timeline:** Eligible applicants must submit a completed electronic application by **4 p.m. on September 13, 2024.**

The following is a tentative timeline for grant deadlines.

<b>Tentative Timeline</b>	
<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Application Deadline	September 13, 2024, by 4 p.m.
Application Review Deadline	October 11, 2024
Acceptance Notification	November 1, 2024
Grant Cycle	October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025
Deadline for Project Completion	September 30, 2025
Final Analysis and Evaluation Deadline	September 30, 2025

F. **Award Conditions:** Funds for the project must be expended by September 30, 2025.

G. **Reporting Requirements:** A final analysis and evaluation **must** be submitted that summarizes the outcomes and Evidence of Success that is documented in the Evaluation.

H. **Rejection of Proposals:** The ALSDE reserves the right to reject any and all proposals as a result of this announcement and will do so if the proposal does not adhere to funding specifications or application preparation.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete in DocuSign by **4 p.m.** on **September 13, 2024.**



**Alabama State Department of Education  
GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS  
EDUCATION PROGRAM GRANT**

If you have questions regarding the grant, please email [ashley.strickland@alsde.edu](mailto:ashley.strickland@alsde.edu).

Year  
**FY-2025**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Applying Institution or Organization

Student Project/Proposal Title

Project Director	Title	Phone Area/No.
Email		Fax Area/No.
Street Address	City	Zip Code

**II. GRANT REQUEST**

Total Amount Requested	Date Submitted <i>Mo./Day/Yr.</i>
------------------------	-----------------------------------

**III. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**

Name of Program Director (Type/Print)	Name of Chief School Financial Officer (CSFO) (Type/Print)
Name of LEA Superintendent (Type/Print)	

**IV. CERTIFICATION BY AUTHORIZED OFFICIALS**

**THE APPLICANT CERTIFIES** that to the best of his/her knowledge the information in this application is correct, that the filing of this application is duly authorized by the governing body of this organization, or institution, and that the applicant will comply with the attached statement of assurances.

Signatures of Authorized Officials:

_____ Program Director	_____ Date
_____ Chief School Financial Officer (CSFO)	_____ Date
_____ LEA Superintendent	_____ Date

_____ State Superintendent of Education	_____ Date
For ALSDE use only	

**STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES**

A grant shall be made for a single year and renewed for a single additional year contingent upon available funding and appropriate program evaluation. Grants shall be awarded upon consideration of all of the following criteria:

- a. Grants should be awarded to programs specifically targeted at gifted or talented children that meet the *Alabama Administrative Code* (AAC) criteria.
- b. The quality of the proposed curriculum and personnel is a primary concern.
- c. Preference is given to programs that are offered during the traditional school day or, alternatively, to programs that provide afterschool transportation.
- d. Preference is given to students from traditionally underserved populations.
- e. All programs awarded grants pursuant to this act must provide a means for assessing the impact of the program on participating students' academic growth.
- f. The appropriate local board of education must match local funds five percent (5%) of any grant funds awarded by the department under this act.

**STUDENT PROPOSAL SUMMARY**

In the space below, provide a title for your project, and a one paragraph summary of your proposal, describing what you are planning to do, and how you are planning to do it. State whether this is a new project or an expansion of an existing project.

If you received a *Grants for Gifted and Talented Education* in the past, state whether a final analysis and evaluation report was submitted by the deadline stated in the application packet.

**A. Student Needs Statement**

Discuss the needs of your students (e.g., student interests, affective needs, creative or academic needs) and how the proposed project will address those needs. The needs statement should be brief, but include the demographics of your community that could impact the learning opportunities and needs in your school or LEA. Include items such as the local industries/career opportunities, socio-economic status (SES), rural vs. urban location, and ethnic make-up.

**B. School and Student Participation**

If your Local Education Agency (LEA) uses the *Alabama Administrative Code* (AAC) criteria to identify students for gifted services, state this clearly.

If your school/district identifies students for Enrichment Model services that do not meet the AAC criteria please provide a description of the process, procedures, tools/measures, and criteria that are culturally and linguistically responsive to identify a diverse range of students.

Provide a brief description of the population of students that will benefit from this project. State the number of schools, grade levels, and number of students at each grade level.



	<b>C. Underrepresented Populations Participating in the Project</b>	
--	---	--

Provide the percentage of underrepresented GT students that will be participating in your project.

**D. Quality of the Project**

Explain where and how this project fits into a concept-based unit of study designed to meet the needs of gifted students and state the essential understanding(s). Your description should address the importance of the field of knowledge, rigor, and other specific needs of gifted learners. You should also address how the project provides opportunities for creative expression.

If your project does not follow the concept-based curriculum model, state the alternative model and explain how it addresses the importance of the field of knowledge, rigor, and other specific needs of gifted students. You should also address how the project provides opportunities for creative expression.

**E. Budget**

- First, provide a detailed budget narrative for the proposed project. Clearly indicate how the project costs were calculated. Use the state guidelines for expenditures.
- Second, complete the **Budget Summary Form**. The proposed budget total should match the total in your narrative.

**F. Student Outcomes and Learning Opportunities and Evaluation**

Use **Attachment F** to list the Alabama Gifted Standards and Student Outcomes that will be addressed in your project, and the learning opportunities that best connect with them. List a few of the major learning opportunities in sequential order, providing a snapshot of how students will progress through the unit of study associated with this project. List the costs associated with the project. Provide the evidence and artifacts (e.g., pre- and post-inventories, journaling, lab notes, teacher observation, artifacts, rubrics) that will be used to measure student outcomes and how they will be analyzed.

**G. Return on Investment (ROI)**

Briefly explain how your project will provide a good return on investment. In your explanation state:

- The potential long-term effects this project will have on students (e.g., student motivation, affective development, skills development, preparedness for future work force). If your project includes an expensive out-of-state field study experience, explain why this experience cannot be provided in a less expensive way.
- How the project will build school capacity to sustain services for students with gifts and talents (e.g., reusable materials and equipment).

H. LEA Plan for Gifted

Check whether the LEA has a current Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)-approved LEA Plan for Gifted on file with the ALSDE.

- YES.** The LEA has a current LEA Plan for Gifted in place.
- NO.** The LEA does **not** have a current LEA Plan for Gifted in place.

**Comments**



## BUDGET SUMMARY FORM

### GIFTED EDUCATION PROGRAM GRANT PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2025

Revenue Code = 1286; Program Code = 2800; Fund Source = 1286

Function Code	Object Code	Description	Budget (Round to whole dollars.)
1100	014	Salaries – Gifted Teacher	\$ _____
		Benefits: (As applicable)	
1100	230	Social Security (6.2%)	_____
1100	240	Medicare (1.45%)	_____
1100	220	Retirement (13.57% Tier I, 12.60% Tier II)	_____
1100	250	Unemployment Compensation (LEA’s individual rate)	_____
1100	382	In-State Travel	_____
1100	311	Student Education Services	_____
2215	312	Purchased Services - Staff Educational Services	_____
2215	319	Purchased Services - Other Professional Educational Services	_____
1100	411	Student Classroom Supplies	_____
1100	414	Instructional Software	_____
1100	491	Instructional Equipment (Less than \$5,000 per unit)	_____
1100	495	Computer Hardware (Less than \$5,000 per unit)	_____
1100	589	Other Equipment (Capital Outlay)	_____
_____	623	Registration Fees	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**MATCH INFORMATION**

Use Special Use Code 0038 – Gifted Student Competitive Grant Match