

**State mandated to identify gifted students grades 1-12, no mandate to program.**

All school districts in Connecticut are required by law to develop and implement a process for determining which students attending district public schools in grades K-12 are eligible for identification as academically gifted. These plans have been submitted and approved by the Connecticut State Department of Education.

Hamden Public Schools has a tiered plan of identification depending on the grade of the referred student. While the main identification for TAG occurs each spring, there is also a screening for students in grades 5-8 new to Hamden Public Schools each fall. The process begins when a student's teacher recommends him or her for consideration for TAG.

While identification is required on an annual basis, programming is permissive and is left to the discretion of each district.