

## A New Era in Gifted Education in Colorado

As a result of HB 07-1244, ECEA now says ( <i>italics added for emphasis</i> ):	What does this mean?
<b>22-20-103 (12) (b). Definitions</b>	
...Pursuant to section 22-20-104.5 (1), an administrative unit <i>shall adopt and submit to the department a program plan to identify and serve gifted children</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Includes in the definition of gifted children the <i>requirement</i> that all administrative units in Colorado develop a program plan to identify and serve gifted children.</li> <li>◆ The plan <i>must</i> be submitted to Colorado Department of Education (CDE).</li> </ul>
<b>22-20-104 (1) (a) (XI). Administration – advisory committee – rules.</b>	
... Administration of this article shall include the recommendation to the state of board of reasonable rules necessary to implement this article, including but not limited to: Criteria for administrative units to satisfy in adopting program plans to identify and serve gifted children.	Provides the authority for CDE to recommend rules and for the State Board of Education to adopt rules, which administrative units must follow in developing and submitting plans for identifying and serving gifted children.
<b>22-20-104.5. Plan for academic excellence – inclusion of gifted children – cooperation.</b>	
Each administrative unit <i>shall adopt and implement a program plan to identify and serve gifted children. . . .</i>	As stipulated in the definition of gifted children, this section <i>requires</i> every administrative unit <i>to develop and implement</i> a plan to identify and serve gifted children.
A program plan adopted by an administrative unit pursuant to this section <i>shall be consistent with the advanced learning plans of the gifted children who are identified by the administrative unit. . . .</i>	The plan for serving gifted children <i>must</i> reflect programming options and strategies that <i>specifically address the educational needs</i> of the gifted children identified by the administrative unit.
and the program plan <i>shall be implemented to the extent that funds are provided for such implementation.</i>	The program plan as developed and adopted by the administrative unit <i>must be affordable</i> within the constraints of funds, both local and state, that are provided for gifted education.
Nothing in this article shall be construed to require an administrative unit to implement a program plan in the event that sufficient moneys are not provided for such implementation.	The administrative unit <i>cannot</i> be compelled to implement a program plan that it cannot afford.
<b>22-20-106 (3) (a). Special educational programs.</b>	
...[E]ach administrative unit <i>shall ensure that its constituent schools and school districts make available appropriate special provisions for gifted children to the extent that funds are provided for such implementation.</i>	Every administrative unit <i>must make sure</i> that every school and district that make up the administrative unit <i>are making available special educational provisions for gifted students</i> , given both local and state funds provided for the specific purpose of educating gifted children.