# Gifted Magnet Schools – Selection Criteria and Application Process

#### In order to attend an SLPS gifted magnet school, students must:

- Meet one of the following two minimum residency requirements:
  - Be a resident of the City of St. Louis.
  - Be a non-African-American student entering grades K-12 and live in the Affton, Bayless, Brentwood, Clayton, Hancock Place, Kirkwood, Ladue, Lindbergh, Mehlville, Parkway, Pattonville, Ritenour, Rockwood, Valley Park or Webster Groves school districts.
    - Please note: County residents are not eligible for SLPS pre-kindergarten.
- Meet both gifted testing requirements:
  - 90th percentile on the Intelligence Test

- AND -

- 90th percentile on the Academic Test
  - Please note: The SLPS Gifted and Talented Office does not inform parents of the test instrument(s) being used at any time prior to the administration of the test for their child.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- How do I have my child tested for Gifted Services?
  - Contact the SLPS Gifted and Talented Office at 314-345-4548 to schedule testing.
    - Please note: SLPS does not accept testing results from outside or private agencies.
- How often can I have my child tested for gifted?
  - A minimum of one calendar year (365 days) must pass between testing dates.
- What happens during the gifted testing?
  - Testing is administered at the SLPS Board of Education Central Office, 801 N.
     11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63101
  - The Intelligence Test administered depends on the age of the child and previous testing.



- The Academic Test administered depends on the grade level of the child being tested.
- The length of the test is dependent on the child's age and abilities (25 minutes –
   2.5 hours).
- Results are discussed with parents following the testing session, and a written report will be delivered by mail.

## ❖ How do I apply?

- Applications are accepted online at <u>slpsmagnetschools.org</u>; click on APPLY NOW in the top right-hand corner
- If you need assistance, please contact the Student Recruitment and Placement Office at 314-633-5200.

## What happens next?

- A confirmation receipt will be emailed or mailed to your home.
- Placement priority will be assigned based on the information submitted with your application and existing information in the SLPS student database, if applicable.
- The application will be delivered to the Gifted and Talented Office.
- The application will be screened.
- If the applicant meets eligibility criteria, then a testing appointment will be scheduled.
- All applicants will be entered into the gifted and magnet school lottery. The
  number of applicants for specific schools and grade levels often exceeds the
  number of available spaces, so all applications are entered into a lottery.
   Students will be offered seats based on the results of the lottery.
  - Please note: Testing is not required for an applicant to be considered in the lottery, but Gifted Eligible status is required for a student to be accepted and offered a seat.



## ❖ What is the lottery?

- The lottery system is used to guarantee an equal chance of placement—within established placement priority categories—for all students applying to magnet schools.
- Applications are electronically reviewed and assigned a placement priority category based on several factors, including but not limited to:
  - Continuity: the student is coming from an SLPS school that feeds into his/her school of choice.
  - Sibling Status: the student has a sibling at his/her school of choice.
  - Neighborhood: the student lives in the same neighborhood as the school of his/her choice.
- When the lottery is run, the system randomly selects an application within the
  placement priority order and attempts to assign the applicant to his/her first
  choice and then to his/her second choice, if needed.
- Applicants who are unable to be placed because all seats are taken will be added to waiting lists.

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

- SLPS Student Recruitment and Placement Office: 314-633-5200, <a href="www.slps.org/magnet">www.slps.org/magnet</a>
- SLPS Gifted and Talented Office: 314-345-4548, <a href="www.slps.org/gifted">www.slps.org/gifted</a>

