

Why Should You Be Concerned?

While No Child Left Behind aims to promote student proficiency, many gifted students are indeed left behind. They are often not taught to persevere beyond traditional standards and therefore do not reach their potential. Without challenge, these students are robbed of the skills necessary to make future innovative contributions to society.

What Is No Child Left Behind?

NCLB is a federal act finalized in 2002. It serves to monitor school and individual students academic progress and growth. It mandates that students demonstrate a certain level of achievement

What Is Adequate Yearly Progress?

The state of North Carolina explains that "AYP measures the yearly progress toward achieving grade level performance for each student group in reading and mathematics" (No Child Left Behind, 2007)

US Department of Education
www.ed.gov/nclb/overview/intro/edpics.jhtml?src=IN

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The Effects of No Child Left Behind on Gifted Students



AIG Camp 2007



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Benefits of NCLB

- ◆ Through the Javits Act of NCLB, federal funds are allotted to school districts for research, support, and services for gifted education services.
- ◆ Due to accountability of AYP, districts are required to develop an AIG plan to identify and monitor gifted education students and services.

Disadvantages of NCLB

- ◆ Gifted students are spending more time reviewing for tests and learning how to take them and less time being challenged.
- ◆ Because of the NCLB emphasis on achieving proficiency, curricula does not support advanced needs of gifted students
- ◆ To bring low performing students up to proficiency , many schools are eliminating gifted services to provide remediation.
- ◆ NCLB mandates testing for all students using the same standards, regardless of ability.
- ◆ Because achievement standards require students to show proficiency, fewer students are able to demonstrate their potential and therefore are being overlooked for gifted services.

Suggestions for Helping Your Gifted Child:



Picking Up Where NCLB Leaves Off



- ◆ Plan with your child's teacher ways to address your child's gifted needs (i.e. preassessments, acceleration, individual work studies).
 - ◆ Enhance classroom instruction by taking educational family trips and attending special events offered in your community, enroll in educational classes offered by local institutions and organizations.
 - ◆ Provide opportunities for pursuit of non-academic interests and strengths (i.e. sports, drama, music, art, etc.) Arrange for your child to explore career interests by shadowing "experts" at work.
 - ◆ Help your child choose rigorous academic and elective classes that accentuate their gifted abilities.
 - ◆ Express to your local school board concerns about appropriate and challenging AIG instruction.
 - ◆ Contact your local school board and finds ways to get involved in the planning of gifted services.
 - ◆ Join your school's PTA and promote interdisciplinary resource classes.
 - ◆ Help focus attention on positive aspects of the AIG program. Highlight and publicize work, both academic and enrichment, between the school and community.
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