

The Program Renewal Application shall be submitted annually by school administrative units (SAUs) that have an approved Initial Application.

All final applications and accompanying approval/non-approval letters and budgets will be posted on the Maine Department of Education's gifted and talented website.

DUE by: September 30, 2018

RETURN BY EMAIL TO: GT.DOE@maine.gov

School administrative unit name: RSU 87

Name and title of person responsible for gifted and talented program:
Nicole Middlewart

Phone number: 207-848-3383

Email address: nmiddlewart@rsu87.org

CERTIFICATION:

The statements made herein are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

John B Backus
Superintendent Name (printed)

Superintendent Signature

Date of initial submission to Maine DOE: October 2, 2018

Date of 1st Revision to Maine DOE: November 28, 2018

JB
Superintendent
Initials

Date of 2nd Revision to Maine DOE: January 7, 2019

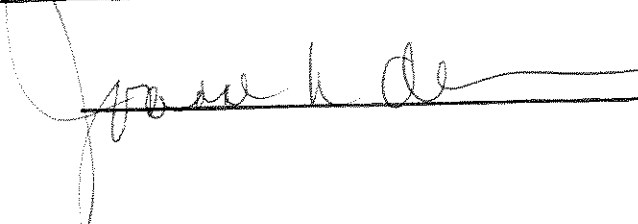
JB
Superintendent
Initials

Date of 3rd Revision to Maine DOE: 1/15/19

JB
Superintendent
Initials

For further information Contact: GT.DOE@maine.gov

Reviewed By: Patti Drapeau

Maine DOE Approval: 

Program Renewal Application

To maintain program approval status, a school administrative unit (SAU) must annually report any information that represents Change (i.e. an alteration, addition, or deletion) to any program category (Maine DOE Chapter 104.14, 1-9) from the reported and approved Initial Application (FY2015-16 or FY2016-17).

For detailed instructions on how to complete the Program Renewal Application, please refer to the Instructions document on the Gifted and Talented website:

<http://www.maine.gov/doe/gifted/programcomponents/forms/index.html>

1. Provide any changes to the detailed description of the SAU's philosophy for both the gifted and talented academic and arts programs.

NO CHANGE

CHANGE

Describe CHANGE here:

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Program Renewal Application

2. Provide any changes to the program abstract for both the academic and arts programs - describe the children to be served and the program(s) to be implemented in the school(s) of the unit.

NO CHANGE

CHANGE

Describe CHANGE here:

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3. Provide a detailed explanation of any changes to the two goals, objectives and activities for the K-12 gifted and talented academic program and two goals, objectives and activities for the K-12 gifted and talented arts program.

NO CHANGE

CHANGE

Describe CHANGE here:

Program Renewal Application

4. Provide any changes to the description of the identification procedures for general intellectual ability, academic aptitude and artistic ability for each of the following program components: screening, selection and placement. Also include any changes to the description of the handling of transfer students, exit procedure, appeals procedure and appropriate notifications.

NO CHANGE

CHANGE

Describe CHANGE here:

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5. Provide a description, including the name, of the staff development that takes place in order to implement the program(s).

NO CHANGE

CHANGE

Describe CHANGE here:

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6. Provide a summary of the management structure including the roles and responsibilities of the professional and auxiliary staff listed below.

NO CHANGE
 CHANGE

Describe CHANGE here:

Table 6A. List PROFESSIONAL STAFF for the K-12 Gifted and Talented Pro

Name of Staff	690 Endorsement (Yes/No)	Teacher or Administrator	Grade Level	Indicate Full-Time or Part-Time in GT

Table 6B. List ALL Auxiliary Staff: Educational Technician

Name of Staff	690 Endorsement (Yes/No)	Teacher or Administrator	Grade Level	Indicate Full-Time or Part-Time in GT

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7. (a.) Indicate any changes to your Approved Initial application self- evaluation process.

NO CHANGE

CHANGE

Describe CHANGE here:

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(b.) Provide a detailed description of the results/effectiveness of the annual program self-evaluation in the academic areas and in the arts regardless of whether or not there has been a change in the program. *(Note: A summation statement on the effectiveness/success of the district's GT program in the academics as well as the arts will suffice.)*

Describe Results here:

Annual Review of GT Program 2017-2018

Philosophy-

After evaluation of our philosophy, the GT team along with administration believes that RSU 87 still has the same philosophy as written.

Screening, selection and placement of identified students-

Academic-

Through our collection of data from teachers, students and parents, we found that our identification process is effective at this point in time but we do need to work a little harder at the screening process earlier in the year for the incoming 3rd graders. The communication between the GT coordinators and the staff implementing the program will continue to be improved to help everyone understand the identification process. Also, underrepresented populations need to be more closely monitored so that we can be sure that this group is being screened and identified appropriately. As of right now 4% of our identified students would be considered underrepresented and that has not changed since last year, meaning that we may need a better system still.

Arts-

In the arts, we found that direct contact with students who were interested was a better way to encourage the students to audition to be a part of the program. This is a method that we will be using this year to help identify which students qualify for the program. According to our survey, there was a lot of improvement in how we advertised for this program and the audition process involved.

Curriculum-

According to our surveys, for each question asked regarding curriculum, about 40% of our students reported being challenged and 62% reported not feeling challenged at all in the classroom. According to our survey, the teachers in our district have varying views of the curriculum that we offer in terms of its opportunities to truly challenge the students. We did more professional development this year regarding GT implementation and offered more administrative assistance as to how we provide services. We do not pull kids out of class for GT but instead require the teachers to differentiate for our identified students. In evaluation of the curriculum, it seems as though the teachers need more resources and ways to enhance our current curriculum to support our identified students. This year we plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the student goals in their personal learning plans more carefully to make sure that the students are participating in activities and enrichment that fit their needs.

Implementation of the program-

Academic-

Assessment-

We have found that although we worked hard to make changes since last year regarding student knowledge of their goals, many students still reported out that they did not know what their goals actually were. Based on the surveys sent to students, only around 56% of the students knew what their goals were in the program and felt challenged in their subject areas. Staff members reported that they were neutral about how the goals were implemented in the classroom and updated throughout the year. Based on this information we are planning to look more carefully at what we provided for the students last year and how we can improve what we did to make the students feel more successful in our program. Our PLC time, once a week, is a place where these goals and other strategies can be discussed. We also plan on doing check ins periodically with teachers and students to make sure that everyone is feeling that the program is helping the students. We would like to continue to provide professional development experiences to help our teachers feel more comfortable with the programs that they are implementing.

Also, we will continue to use our guidance counselor to help make sure we are meeting the social/emotional goals of all identified students and making sure that the students understand the program and our striving towards reaching their full potential in the classroom. Each student was involved in the creation of their goal for this year so will hopefully take more ownership of helping themselves to reach those goals.

Another area that we identified as weak is our tool for showing progress with statistics almost identical to last year. 75% of our students did make some gains but we found that some of our students showed a significant drop in their scores. We need to offer the teachers more resources and tools to help teach these gifted students. With the adoption of the NWEAs as our assessment tool, we can monitor the student progress and more accurately analyze student achievement. For those identified in the un-assessed areas, we are working to develop a system to monitor their progress. We plan to continue to monitor more closely our student progress each trimester and to intervene when progress is not being made. Our new district assessment tool will aide us in this change.

Arts-

According to the surveys, 100% of students enjoyed the time they spent with their arts experiences last year. We plan to continue to provide these experiences for the students and find new and exciting ways for them to experience the arts.

Goals & Objectives-

Students were consulted in the design of the Personal Learning Plans last year more than any year so far. We will continue to involve the students in these goals and implementation of the program.

Evaluation-

We need to begin our evaluation process earlier in the spring each year so that we have ample time to collect data to help enhance our program. It would also benefit us to do more evaluation mid-year so that we don't have to wait until the next year to make changes and improve the program.

Professional Development-

In evaluation of our professional development opportunities, we noticed that although we did offer development in the area of differentiation, we need to communicate that the purpose of some of that differentiation needs to be focused on our GT students instead of just our lower achieving students. We plan to provide development opportunities throughout the year and also to survey the teachers periodically to see what types of strengths and weaknesses they may have and use the people that are already doing it well as resources.

(c.) Include how program effectiveness was determined whether or not there has been a change in the program.

Describe Results here:

Program effectiveness was determined through monitoring the student progress using NWEA and curriculum check points as well as multiple surveys sent out to all involved parties.

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8. Provide a justification/description of the items included in the proposed budget in number 9. (Please remember that materials/supplies are to be used for gifted and talented only and are not part of the regular education budget. Field trips must take place during the school day and are for identified students only.)

Describe justification here:

Stanford Full Battery Test- 10 129.50

OLSAT- 10

99.95

We use these two tests to identify students for placement in our program. We use them because they test all academic areas and we can use the information to place students.

Field trip to Farnsworth Art Museum 166.09

Field Trip to Umaine Art Museum 86.96

Bangor Symphony Day 143.27

Science Conference 138.72

Challenger STEM Program 139.46

Guest Performance- Steiner (performing group to perform for the students and then run a master's class for them) 150

Guest Performance- Renaissance (performing group to perform for the students and then run a master's class for them) 150

Visiting Guest Choral Conductor (Dana Ross- running a master class with the kids) 100

Guest Artist (Steve Wong from Brewer) 150

Guest Band Conductor (Dana Ross- running a master class with the kids) 150

The field trips are designed and chosen to help our GT VPA students experience music in a more diverse and deeper way. Our guest performances are designed and chose for the same reasons.

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9. For those school units requesting approval of allowable program costs for State subsidy, please complete the following budget information. Amounts budgeted for the SAUs Gifted and Talented Program must be reported in the NEO (New Educational Onotology) financial system as part of the Annual Budget Reporting.

NOTE: To be approved as an allowable cost for the current school year, all personnel listed below must be appropriately certified/endorsed by the application deadline of September 30.

Professional Staff Costs

1. Professional Staff Name	Elementary (salary with benefits)	Secondary (salary with benefits)
Nicole Middleswart		
Austin Walker		
Subtotals	0	0

Auxiliary Staff Costs

2. Auxiliary Staff Name	Elementary (salary with benefits)	Secondary (salary with benefits)
Subtotals	0	0

Independent Contractor Costs

3. Independent Contractor Name	Elementary (contract amount)	Secondary (contract amount)	Expertise Area

Subtotals	0	0
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Please list individual product names and costs associated with the district's Gifted and Talented Program.

A. Educational Materials and Supplies:

Elementary: Material/Supply name	Cost	Secondary: Material/Supply name	Cost
Standford Full Batter Test- 10	129.5		
OLSAT- 10	99.95		
Subtotal	229.45	Subtotal	0

B. Other Allowable Costs (i.e. field trips, student fees, membership):

Elementary: Item name	Cost	Secondary: Item name	Cost
Field Trip to Art Museum	166.09		
Field trip to UMaine Art Museum	86.96		
Bangor Symphony Day	143.27		
Science Conference	138.27		
Challenger STEM Program	139.46		
Visiting Guest Choral Conductor	150		
Visiting Guest Vocal Performer	150		
Visiting Guest Choral Conductor	150		
Visiting Guest Vocal Performer	150		
Guest Artist	150		
Subtotal	1424.05	Subtotal	0

C. Student Tuition (i.e. regional programs/ computer programs, college courses in identified area

Elementary: Program name	Cost	Secondary: Program name	Cost
Subtotal	0	Subtotal	0

D. Staff Tuition/Professional Development:

Elementary: Title	Cost	Secondary: Title	Cost
Subtotal	0	Subtotal	0

E. Totals

Subtotals from charts above	Elementary Costs:	Secondary Costs:
Personnel Costs		
1. Professional Staff	0	0
2. Auxiliary Staff	0	0
3. Independent Contractors	0	0
Subtotal:	0	0
Non-Personnel Costs		
1. Materials/Supplies	229.45	0
2. Other Allowable Costs	1424.05	0
3. Student Tuition	0	0
4. Staff Tuition/PD	0	0
Subtotal:	1653.5	0
Grand Total:	1653.5	0