

**ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 20**  
Office of Leadership and Learning

**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date:** September 9, 2014

**To:** Elementary and Secondary School Principals

**Subject:** GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION TEACHER  
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

**Department and/or  
Persons Concerned:** Elementary and Secondary Teachers Requesting Gifted and  
Talented Education (GATE) Certification

**Due Date:** September 19, 2014

**Reference:** California Code of Regulations Title 5, 3831, Article 7

**Action Requested:** Announce to faculty and post circular. Duplicate applications for  
interested candidates. Applications due to GATE Department by

**Brief Explanation:**

California Code of Regulations Title 5, 3831, Article 7 stipulates that all elementary and secondary teachers with a major assignment in the area of gifted education must demonstrate knowledge of appropriate characteristics and skills in this field.

San Diego Unified School District requires GATE certification for **all** GATE Seminar and GATE Cluster teachers. Any teacher with an assignment that requires certification must either hold a GATE certificate or have a current application for a certification class on file when he/she begins the assignment. Teachers receive GATE certification by complying with one of the following: a San Diego Unified School District GATE certificate, a graduate certificate in gifted education from an accredited university, or a master's degree in gifted education.

GATE certification **for the 2014-2015 school year will *first* be available to *any* teachers *who need to complete their GATE certification***. If there is space available, any qualified teacher may enroll in either Semester 1-Tier I classes or Semester 2-Tier I classes. Over the two semesters, each major section will be limited to 80 participants. Priority enrollment will be given to teachers assigned to a GATE class. Teachers who have not been previously GATE certified will have first priority.

Please register for GATE certification classes on SDUSD ERO website. Attendance at the initial face to face class at Ballard Center and a check for the \$200.00 fee are required.

Questions about the GATE certification process may be directed to the GATE Office at 619-725-7544.

**Sessions scheduled for 2014-2015**

**Fall semester date:**

**Tier I** – This class will be conducted predominantly online. There will be one mandatory face-to-face class in conjunction with the online classes. The class will meet at Ballard Center Auditorium on Wednesday, October 1, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**Spring semester date:**

**Tier 1** – This class will be conducted predominantly online. There will be one mandatory face-to-face class in conjunction with the online classes. The class will meet at Ballard Center Auditorium on Wednesday, January 28, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**Professional Activities:** In order to complete GATE Teacher Certification, attendance at a GATE or related conference (e.g., ASDEG-Association of San Diego Educators of the Gifted, CAG-California Association for the Gifted, AP conferences, IB Training, etc.). Distinguished Lecture Series or other GATE professional development is required.

**Each applicant must register for the face-to-face class on ERO.**

Teachers accepted for GATE certification classes also have the opportunity for salary advancement or SDSU graduate credits. Both options are explained below.

1. Pay \$75.00 for three (3) units of SDUSD salary advancement credit.
2. Pay for three (3) graduates units through San Diego State University. This option can provide the opportunity to apply this three-unit course to a University GATE certificate which is applicable to a master's degree in special education with a focus on gifted education. (You will be notified of the cost once you are accepted.)

APPROVED:



Jim Solo  
Executive Director  
Office of Leadership and Learning

MC:lc

Distribution: Lists A, D, E, and F