

Six-Hour Update Training

The Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 89.2, Gifted/Talented Education, Professional Development, states that school districts shall ensure that:

Teachers who provide instruction and services that are a part of the program for gifted students receive a minimum of six hours annually of professional development in gifted education.

Recommendations:

The Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT) recommendations for the required Six-Hour Update are based on the assumption that the minimum 30 hours have been completed. The Six-Hour Update should provide in-depth study after completion of the 30 hours and address topics based on the TAGT core areas.

Does your six-hour update meet these criteria?

- Relate to at least one of the TAGT core areas and teacher competencies
 - Nature and Needs of G/T Learners
 - Identification and Assessment
 - Social and Emotional Needs
 - Creativity & Instructional Strategies
 - Differentiated Curriculum
- Show clearly in the description that the professional development activity relates primarily to gifted students and to one of the TAGT core areas
- Reflect the clock hours for each competency in the agenda, syllabus, or program
- Exhibit in the presenters' or facilitators' resume experience and/or training in gifted and talented education
- Provide proof that the content relates to current issues in gifted education
- Provide proof that the content is supported by research in gifted education

Possible Six-Hour Update Topics Related to TAGT's Core Areas and Teacher Competencies:

Nature and Needs of G/T Learners

- Addressing the Needs of Twice Exceptional Gifted Students
- Underachievement and Perfectionism: Meeting the Needs of Gifted Students
- Challenging the Gifted Student

Identification and Assessment

- Assessing the Effectiveness of Local Identification Policies, Procedures and Practices
- Identifying Underrepresented Gifted Populations

Social and Emotional Needs

- Understanding the Dissynchronous Aspects of Giftedness
- Counseling the Gifted Student
- Strengthening Parental Involvement and Community Support for the Gifted

Creativity and Instructional Strategies

- Developing Creatively Gifted Students
- Creative Problem Solving as an Option for Gifted Students
- Instructional Strategies for Gifted Students (i.e. mentoring, independent study)
- Implementing a K-12 Gifted Program in Fine Arts, Creativity and/or Leadership

Differentiated Curriculum

- Depth and Complexity for Gifted Students in the Four Core Content Areas
- Interdisciplinary Studies for Gifted Students
- Practical Strategies for Implementation of a Differentiated Curriculum (i.e., tiered assignments, curriculum compacting, etc.)