

## **New York Fails Its Gifted Education Students**

### **The Problem:**

1. New York State is one of only 8 states that fail to mandate Gifted Education and fail to provide dedicated funding for Gifted Education
2. New York State is one of only 15 states that fail to mandate Gifted Education.
3. Four bordering states (PA, NJ, MA, and CT) mandate or fund gifted education, making them more appealing for new industrial development.
4. Lack of sufficient appropriate opportunities for every segment of New York State's school children makes the state less attractive for businesses and developers who need well educated employees of all ability levels.
5. New York State is not recognized as an educational leader in Gifted Education.
6. There is inequity of sufficient appropriate educational opportunities for gifted students across the state – some urban and wealthy suburban districts provide sufficient appropriate education to gifted students, however many rural and urban districts fail to provide these opportunities.
7. Some schools throughout the state refuse to ability group in any grade level, do not accelerate, do not offer Honors classes, do not allow students to challenge exams when ready, do not offer appropriate Gifted Education services, offer very few, if any, AP options, and have no Gifted Education certified teachers on staff, even though every New York State school has gifted students.
8. As budgets tighten around the state all non-mandated services, including Gifted Education, are targets for first cuts.
9. Although statistically every teacher in New York State has some gifted students in their assignments, very few teachers have taken coursework that increases their expertise with this population.
10. Approximately 20% of all school dropouts are intellectually gifted.
11. New York City's Department of Education requires gifted services to all eligible students, while the rest of NYS schools do not necessarily offer these services.
12. Gifted students do not reach their full intellectual potentials without sufficient appropriate educational stimulation throughout their school careers.

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### The Solution:

1. Restore Gifted Education categorical aid funding.
2. Provide equity of opportunities by developing a comprehensive Pre K-12 Acceleration Regulation for all students in New York State schools.
3. Encourage on-line courses and early college entry for students who would excel with this option.
4. Provide incentives and accountability for growth (in level 4 scores) on NYS tests, and high (over 1300) on the SATs or (scores 95+) Regents Exams.
5. Require differentiated opportunities and special programs designed to stimulate and grow the intellectual capacities of every student throughout the state, regardless of where they reside.
6. Require every school district to have at least one certified Gifted Education teacher or purchase Gifted Education services taught by a certified Gifted Education teacher through the local BOCES.
7. Consider modified IEPs for every gifted student throughout the state.
8. Support legislation that requires a dedicated 3 credit gifted education course for every teacher before they receive certification to teach. (Assemblyman Thiele- [Bill AO5506/SO1272](#))
9. Support legislation to require universal gifted education for all eligible students throughout the state. (Senator Addabbo – Bill [S03301/AO3281](#))
10. Support legislation relates to gifted students with special needs (Assemblyman Thiele [A5507/SO1273](#))

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