

Zionsville Community Schools High Ability Placement Appeal Form

Please complete and submit this form with all information requested below to the Zionsville Community Schools High Ability Office. Deadlines for appeals are listed on the annual timeline found on the High Ability section of the district website under Academics. Late appeals will not be accepted. The identification committee will review your appeal with any submitted materials and will notify you via email of final decisions. If you have any questions, please email Lori Willy, lwilly@zcs.k12.in.us or call 873-2858, extension 11126.

Send via email or U.S. mail to the High Ability Office.	
Email as attachment to Lori Willy, lwilly@zcs.k12.in.us Subject line: High Ability Placement Appeal—(Student Name)	U.S. Mail to this address: Zionsville Community Schools High Ability Office ATTN: Lori Willy 900 Mulberry Street Zionsville, IN 46077

NOTE: Please know that the committee made its original placement decision based upon data and criteria indicating the best placement for your child. If you are requesting a review of that placement decision, please keep in mind that you should provide evidence indicating why high ability placement should be made despite these indicators being present.

Date _____

Appeal is requested on behalf of:

Student _____

Grade Level for next school year _____

Current school _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Appeal is requested for placement decision in:

_____ High Ability Mathematics

_____ High Ability Language Arts

Reasons presented for placement reconsideration (feel free to attach additional pages):

Please review the information on the next page and attach any samples of student work, tests, and/or other documentation you would like for us to consider. **NOTE: Please do not ask classroom teachers for "recommendation letters" since the Identification Committee will already be soliciting pertinent information from them about your child's classroom performance.**

Consistent with Indiana's definition of giftedness, the application must be accompanied by evidence and/or samples of student work that document the student's academic achievement and/or ability is significantly higher than his/her peers. If private achievement or IQ testing has been done, please submit a copy of the testing report(s). Testing from an outside source will be considered, but is not mandatory, and Zionsville Community Schools is not responsible for any costs incurred if a parent chooses to obtain information in this way. The test must be administered by a licensed psychologist in private practice and not affiliated with a particular public or private school.

The appeal request must be accompanied by documentation and/or samples of student work that demonstrate the student's achievement and/or aptitude. NOTE: Please do not ask classroom teachers for "recommendation letters" since the Identification Committee will already be soliciting pertinent information from them.

- Achievement – Please include documentation and/or samples of student work that demonstrate reading, writing, and speaking skills far beyond the performance of typical peers. Documentation could include examples such as advanced vocabulary, sophisticated syntax, unusual or novel language use, and/or interpretive analysis of complex literary and non-fiction texts. In the area of mathematics, documentation could include examples such as the student's ability to apply ideas from one mathematical problem to another, use of creative or unusual strategies to solve mathematical problems, success with advanced-level mathematical concepts, and/or knowledge about a variety of mathematical topics.
- Aptitude – Please include documentation and/or samples of student work that demonstrate general intellectual ability far beyond the performance/behavior of typical peers. Documentation could include examples of excellent reasoning ability, analysis of issues from many points of view, ability to reach good conclusions based on evidence, ability to rapidly understand novel tasks, and tendency to seek answers to questions (curiosity).

The appeal committee will make a thoughtful decision on a case-by-case, individual basis that is in the best interest of the student. Parents will receive notification of the decision within one week of the identification committee's meeting date. All decisions are final.

Please note that placement decisions are reversed only in instances where extensive documentation is presented providing significant evidence that your child's knowledge, skills, and abilities are superior to those demonstrated on the ability and achievement tests.