



TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Donlynn Rice, Senior Administrator, Curriculum and Instruction  
Mary Duffy, Director of High Ability Learning

SUBJECT: High Ability Learners Report

**Proposed Board Action:**

None

**Background Information:**

In 1996-1997, the Nebraska Legislature, enacted legislation that would benefit gifted children and high ability learners across Nebraska. LB 900 was enacted into law which resulted in the establishment of Regulations Governing High Ability Learners Title 2, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 3, better known as Rule 3. This rule became operational on December 15, 1998.  
Each year funds are allocated to districts, based on a formula, to provide local programming. Each district wanting to receive funds must have an approved plan for the delivery of accelerated or differentiated curriculum programs for high ability learners. Rule 3 sets the requirements for the HAL plans. The total amount of funds that have been made available to Nebraska districts this year is \$2,300,000. A total of 232 districts have applied for funds. The number of districts applying for base funds only is 23. The majority of districts, 209, have applied for base and matching funds. The number of students identified is 42,479.  
This report will provide information the above mentioned topics along with additional information on model programs throughout the state; funding per district; latest research on issues in identification (twice exceptional, English language learners, high poverty and early childhood); national issues; and plans to update Rule 3 to bring it into compliance with state statutes.

**Estimated Cost:**

No additional

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

**For Additional Information on this item:**

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