

## **Gifted and Talented State Grants**

The Gifted and Talented State Grant (GTSG) Program administers state-funded grants to assist school districts in meeting the requirements under Administrative Rules of Montana 10.55.804 Gifted and Talented, and the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) 20-7-901 through 904. One program specialist administers, oversees, and monitors the GTSG Program. Approximately 7,400 identified gifted and talented students in Montana benefit from the educational services provided through the GTSG Program. Each school district in Montana develops its own philosophy, definition, identification process and services for gifted and talented students. Districts determine the specific grades to provide services and these services range from Kindergarten through grade 12.

The Gifted and Talented State Grant Program:

- Evaluates applications annually from school districts for Gifted and Talented grants, distributing funds and monitoring grant awardees. In FY 2010-11, the GTSG Program awarded a state total of \$229,813 in formula grants to 76 Montana schools. These funds support educational services for approximately 7,400 students identified as gifted and talented.
- Hosts approximately 10 regional trainings per year for teachers, administrators and parents in using the best educational practices for meeting the state standards for Gifted and Talented Programs.
- Conducts approximately 15 on-site visits per year to school districts across the state to assist schools in ways to best serve Montana's Gifted and Talented students.
- Collects data on the number and percentage of Montana students identified as gifted and talented at every grade level to increase achievement for all gifted and talented students.
- Works cooperatively with the Montana Association of Gifted and Talented Education by co-sponsoring professional learning workshops for teachers and parents.
- Develops, disseminates and implements gifted education program guides, classroom resources and parent information materials to improve services to gifted and talented students.