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**DATE: February 23, 2026**

**2025-26 Technical Assistance Paper**  
**Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program**

**Summary:** The Talented Twenty program supports efforts to better prepare students for life and work in the 21st century. The purpose of the Talented Twenty program is to guarantee admission to one of the 12 state universities for students who succeed in their respective K-12 public schools and to encourage students to strive for better grades and pursue rigorous academic courses. This document includes information regarding the guidelines to determine students in the top 20% of their graduating class and the specifications they must meet to be eligible for the Talented Twenty program. A district/local educational agency (LEA) has the responsibility of identifying the top 20% from each eligible high school's graduating class and must submit data for those meeting the required specifications. The submission period for schools and districts/LEAs to transmit data begins on February 13, 2026, and ends on March 27, 2026.

The final eligibility report for the graduating class will be available on the first Monday in April. Schools or districts/LEAs should notify seniors of their Talented Twenty program eligibility status (see sample letter in Attachment A).

**Contact:** Bureau of Family and Community Outreach, Talented Twenty Program,  
[Talented20@fldoe.org](mailto:Talented20@fldoe.org).

FASTER Office, [fstr@fldoe.org](mailto:fstr@fldoe.org).

**Status:** Revises and replaces the technical assistance paper: 2025-17, Technical Specifications for the Submission of Talented Twenty Data.

cc: Talented Twenty Program Contacts  
School District Management Information Services (MIS) Coordinators  
School District Student Services Directors  
School District School Counseling Supervisors

Issued by the  
Florida Department of Education  
Division of Public Schools  
Bureau of Family and Community Outreach  
<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/family-community>

## Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program

### 1. General guidelines for determining the top 20% of the graduating class are as follows:

- The top 20% of students in the senior class that meet the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) graduation requirements<sup>1</sup> should be identified as eligible for the Talent Twenty program. Only students from schools that offer a standard diploma, such as traditional district high schools, combination schools, magnet schools, charter schools, alternative schools and other schools identified by the district/local educational agency (LEA) that offer the 18 units of core courses required for State University System (SUS) admission, will be included.
- Students must meet SUS admission requirements to be eligible for the Talented Twenty program. Admission of undergraduate First-Time-in-College, Degree Seeking Freshman can be viewed at [https://www.flbog.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/6.002-Admission-of-Undergraduate-FTIC\\_2025\\_Final-1.pdf](https://www.flbog.edu/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/6.002-Admission-of-Undergraduate-FTIC_2025_Final-1.pdf).
- A school district/LEA must include only the students in the ranking who are scheduled to graduate in the current graduating class. Early graduates must be counted in the graduating class for the year the student will complete high school and must be included in the current graduating class rankings.
- Students in the current graduating class should be ranked using the cumulative grade point average (GPA) calculation methodology<sup>2</sup> used to determine the valedictorian. Placement in the top 20% of each school's students who are scheduled to graduate in the current school year is based upon the ranking by cumulative GPA after the seventh semester of their final high school year. Therefore, if a student is not eligible after the seventh semester grades are posted, he or she cannot qualify or be considered.

### 2. General guidelines for submitting student transcripts are as follows:

- A school district/LEA has the responsibility of identifying the top 20% from each eligible high school's graduating class and must only submit student transcripts for those students identified as eligible. School districts/LEAs that submit in excess of the top 20% or under submit will be flagged and required to correct their submission.
- Student transcripts must be submitted via the Florida Automated System for Transferring Educational Records (FASTER) electronic transcript system.
- Only transcripts for the top 20% of each graduating class should be uploaded into the system. Transcripts for all students graduating **should NOT** be uploaded into the system.
- Transcripts for all members of the current graduating class must be addressed in the same way as transcripts submitted to the Bright Futures system. For example, in 2026, the **Addressed School Code** is 952671. This code changes annually to reflect the year of each current graduating class.
- The Addressed School Codes for early graduates should reflect the school year of graduation. For

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<sup>1</sup> **FDOE Graduation Requirements** can be found at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/k-12-public-schools/sss/graduation-requirements/>.

<sup>2</sup> **FDOE Data Element: Grade Point Average State, Cumulative** can be found at <https://www.fldoe.org/file/20844/2526-125625.pdf>.

## Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program

example, in 2025-26 the **Addressed School Code** for an early graduate should reflect code 952671.

- The **Message Type** (field #5 on the FASTER Header Record, at character positions 36-38) should be set to the value “**Q20**.”
- Re-submission of transcripts will replace what was previously sent whether the data was in error or data needs updating. Resubmission of data must be completed by the submission deadline, which is on Friday, March 27, 2026, by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.
- Student transcripts submitted in error to the Talented Twenty program can be deleted permanently from the list by emailing a request to [Talented20@fldoe.org](mailto:Talented20@fldoe.org). The request must include the district/LEA name, school MSID number, plus the student’s first and last name only. Any other student identifying information **should not** be included (e.g., FLEID, Social Security Number, Date of Birth, etc.).
- Students’ transcript data will be processed nightly beginning on February 13, 2026. Districts/LEAs may submit as many transcript evaluations as needed up to the deadline, which is on Friday, March 27, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.
- The Talented Twenty and Bright Futures systems have separate locking mechanisms to keep the systems from interfering with each other.
- All courses must be on the transcript, including courses in progress, courses students will take during the second half of their last high school year, courses for students on block schedule, courses completed outside the school district/LEA’s virtual course offerings and dual enrollment courses.
- Virtual courses in which students are currently enrolled must be submitted as “In Progress.”
- Virtual schools can submit to the Talented Twenty program if the virtual school issues the diploma. Virtual schools cannot submit to the program if a student’s regular high school issues the diploma.
- Florida Student ID numbers should be verified for accuracy.
- The weighted GPA should be put in the Grade Point Average District, Cumulative, field #43 on the FASTER Demographic (T1) Record, at character positions 897-901.
- The unweighted GPA should be put in the Grade Point Average State, Cumulative, field #44 on the FASTER Demographic (T1) Record, at character positions 902-906.
- The FASTER Aging Report and the FASTER X01 Error Report may be generated by school administrators and school counselors for the purpose of confirming, identifying and/or correcting submitted Talented Twenty information for the Talented Twenty current year. Contact your district/LEA Management Information Systems (MIS) office for additional information, if needed.
- District/LEA administrators should ensure that reporting has occurred from all eligible schools in the district/LEA with graduating seniors.
- School administrators and counselors should carefully review individual student eligibility status. For those students who are mistakenly ineligible, corrections to data can be made and must be resubmitted by Friday, March 27, 2026, by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. After this deadline, the system will be locked and no further processing will occur.

## **Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program**

- The final report of students identified as eligible for the Talented Twenty program will be available on the first Monday in April.
  - After the final posting of the eligibility report, districts/LEAs and schools have the responsibility of notifying students of their Talented Twenty award.
  - The FDOE will notify the school districts/LEAs via email when the Talented Twenty program is closed and the address file for the eligible students is available.
  - The system will archive the information on which the Talented Twenty evaluations were based to maintain a record of students' final Talented Twenty program evaluations.
- 3. General guidelines for reviewing students' final Talented Twenty program evaluations and the information used to determine their eligibility for the Talented Twenty Program are as follows:**
- After logging in (see Attachment B), users will see the Talented Twenty main menu (see Attachment C).
  - The user's school district/LEA will already be entered by the system.
    - For school-level users, the user's school will also be entered by the system (district/LEA-level users will be able to select a school from the drop-down list).
  - All users can then select the graduation year from the third drop-down list. If the current graduation year is selected, the user will have three options (if a later year is chosen then only the third option will be operational).
    - **Option 1: Evaluation Summary for Top 20% of Students** – A sample of this report can be found in Attachment D. This option contains summary totals for the school and identifies students designated as in the top 20%. It also provides the student's name, ID and eligibility status. For students not yet eligible, the number of credits missing in each of the six subject area categories will be available.

The report will be sorted alphabetically by the student's last name. By clicking on the student's eligibility status, the user can then bring up an individual Student Evaluation Report (see Attachment E). The report lists which courses were submitted with the student's transcript, identifies which were applied and how much each course's credits counted toward satisfying one of the Talented Twenty subject area requirements.
    - **Option 2: District Progress Report** – This report is in the same format as the school summary totals in the Evaluation Summary but contains the totals for the entire school district/LEA (this option is only available to district/LEA-level users).
    - **Option 3: Evaluation Summary for All Students** – This report covers every student for the selected graduating class and will contain a column for the student's GPA (an un-weighted calculation based on the credits used in satisfying the 18- or 24-credit state graduation requirement) instead of a column for eligibility status. The report will be sorted in descending order by GPA. Similarly, to the top 20% summary, users can click on a column for the student (in this case, the GPA column) to bring up an individual Student Evaluation Report.

## **Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program**

If you have technical questions concerning the processing of FASTER transcripts, please contact the FASTER Office at [fstr@fldoe.org](mailto:fstr@fldoe.org). If you have questions regarding the Talented Twenty program, please submit an email to [Talented20@fldoe.org](mailto:Talented20@fldoe.org).

Additional information about the Talented Twenty Program can be found at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/family-community/activities-programs/pre-collegiate/talented-twenty-program/>.

**Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the  
Talented Twenty Program**

**Attachment A**

**Sample Letter for Seniors Meeting Talented Twenty Program Criteria  
(Use school district/LEA or school letterhead)**

Date

Dear (Student's Name):

Congratulations on your significant academic accomplishments! Given that you have been ranked in the top 20% of your graduating class, you may be eligible to secure guaranteed admission to one of Florida's 12 state universities, within space and fiscal limitations, through Florida's Talented Twenty program. You must meet the following Talented Twenty eligibility criteria below:

- Enrolled in a Florida public high school and graduate with a standard diploma.
- Ranked in the top 20% of your graduating class after the posting of the seventh semester grades of your final high school year.
- Submit SAT scores from the College Board, ACT scores from ACT, Inc., or Classic Learning Test (CLT) scores from Classic Learning Initiatives.
- Met the minimum State University System (SUS) eligibility requirements listed in the [Board of Governors Regulation 6.002](#).

Talented Twenty students are also given priority in the awarding of funds from the Florida Student Assistance Grant, a needs-based grant. This is only possible if students apply prior to financial awards being distributed. Please visit <http://www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org> for eligibility requirements and additional information on state financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

Please note that while eligible students are guaranteed admission to one of Florida's state universities, within space and fiscal limitations, they may not necessarily be admitted to the university of their choice. Students are required to apply to at least three state universities prior to seeking a special review. Students are strongly encouraged to apply as early as possible in order to have the most options available to them. Additional information, including responses to frequently asked questions regarding the Talented Twenty program, is available online at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/family-community/activities-programs/pre-collegiate/talented-twenty-program/>.

Sincerely,

School Designee or Representative

# Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program

## Attachment B



### Florida's Talented Twenty Program

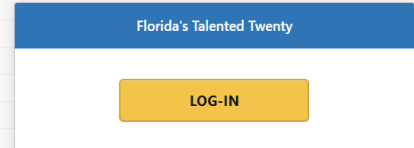


#### Welcome to the Florida's Talented Twenty Application

All users must have an Azure FLDOE SSO Account to access Florida's Talented Twenty Application

**District Users:** If you do not have access to Azure FLDOE SSO, please contact your district LEA SSO Admins.

If you are unsure of your contact, please visit this site: <https://fssportal.fldoe.org/support>



[Return to the Education in Florida Homepage](#) | [Talented Twenty Homepage](#)

# Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program

## Attachment C

District/LEA Menu:



## Florida's Talented Twenty Program

### Main Menu

[Return to Main Menu](#) | [Log Off](#)

SET THESE OPTIONS...

DISTRICT/COUNTY	SCHOOL	GRADUATION YEAR
ALACHUA	ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM(010400N)	Class of 2026

...THEN CLICK ON ONE OF THE LINKS SHOWN

- Download addresses for Eligible Top 20% of Students (for current school)  
**(\*\*\*Note: The final eligibility report will be annually available on the first Monday in April of each year.\*\*\*)**
- Evaluation Summary for Top 20% of Students (for current school)
- District Progress Report (on Top 20% of Students from all schools)
- Evaluation Summary for All Students (for current school)

# Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program

## Attachment D



### Florida's Talented Twenty Program

**Evaluation Summary - Top 20% of Students - Class of 2026**

[Return to Main Menu](#) | [Log Off](#)

<b>District:</b>	<b>School:</b>	<b>Total Students Submitted:</b>
Eligibility for Top 20%:		Total Ineligible Students:
Click on a student's Status to see a report of the courses used in their evaluation.		

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Student ID	Status	English	Math	Natl Sci.	Soc Sci.	For. Language	Electives	Acad Electives
Doe	John		353535353	Eligible							
Doe	Jane		223422565	Eligible							
Row	Colly	Y.	345678234	Eligible							
Roe	Joe		789456432	Eligible							
Rey	Dye	S.	678945676	Eligible							
Saye	Ray		567987342	Eligible							

# Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program

## Attachment E



### Florida's Talented Twenty Program

#### Evaluation Summary - All Students - Class of 2026

[Return to Main Menu](#) | [Log Off](#)

District :	School :	Total Students Submitted :
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Click on a student's GPA to see a report of the courses used in their evaluation.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	Student ID	Unweighted GPA	English	Math	Natl Sci.	Soc Sci.	For. Language	Electives	Acad Electives
Doe	John		353535353	4.00							
Doe	Jane		223422565	4.00							
Row	Colly	Y.	345678234	3.89							
Roe	Joe		789456432	3.80							
Rey	Dye	S.	678945676	3.65							
Saye	Ray		567987342	3.64							

# Technical Specifications for the Submission of Data for the Talented Twenty Program

## Attachment F



### Florida's Talented Twenty Program

#### Student Evaluation Report - Class of 2026

[Return to Main Menu](#) | [Log Off](#)

<b>Student Name :</b>	<b>Student ID :</b>	<b>Evaluation Date :</b>
<b>Status :</b>	<b>Credits Missing :</b>	
<b>List of courses evaluated to determine Talented Twenty eligibility.</b>		

Year-Term	Course#	Course Title	Local Subj Area	Grade	Credit Attempted	Credit Earned	Used T20 Subj Area	T20 Credits Used
20152016-2	2106420	AP US GOVT/POL	AG	IP	0.50	0.00		
20142015-1	2100330	ADV PL U.S. HIST	AH	D	0.50	0.50		
20142015-2	2100330	ADV PL U.S. HIST	AH	C	0.50	0.50	SS	0.50
20112012-2	1200310	ALG 1	A1	A	0.50	0.50	MA	0.50
20112012-2	1200310	ALG 1	A1	A	0.50	0.50	MA	0.50
20132014-1	1200340	ALG 2 HON	A2	A	0.50	0.50	MA	0.50
20132014-2	1200340	ALG 2 HON	A2	A	0.50	0.50	MA	0.50
20122013-2	2000320	BIO 1 HON	BI	B	0.50	0.50	SC	0.50
20122013-2	2000320	BIO 1 HON	BI	B	0.50	0.50	SC	0.50
20152016-1	2102370	ADV PL MACROECON	EC	B	0.50	0.50	SS	0.50
20142015-1	1900300	DRIVER ED CLASS	EL	A	0.50	0.50		
20132014-1	2109380	ADV PL EURO HIST	EL	B	0.50	0.50	SS	0.50
20132014-2	2109380	AP EURO HIST	EL	B	0.50	0.50	SS	0.50
20122013-1	1001320	ENG HON 1	EN	B	0.50	0.50	EN	0.50
20122013-2	1001320	ENG HON 1	EN	B	0.50	0.50	EN	0.50
20132014-1	1001350	ENG HON 2	EN	A	0.50	0.50	EN	0.50
20132014-2	1001350	ENG HON 2	EN	B	0.50	0.50	EN	0.50
20152016-1	1001405	ENG 4-FL COLLEG PREP	EN	A	0.50	0.50	EN	0.50
20152016-2	1001405	ENG 4: FL COLL PREP	EN	IP	0.50	0.00	EN	0.50
20152016-2	1001405	ENG 4: FL COLL PREP	EN	IP	0.50	0.00		

**Attachment G**

**REQUEST FOR FORMAL REVIEW FOR 2026 TALENTED TWENTY ADMISSION**

**Name of Student (as on transcript):**

**Email address of Student:**

**Name of Florida Public High School:**

**School District/Local Educational Agency:**

**Name of High School Counselor:**

**Email address of Counselor:**

**Telephone number of Counselor:**

Students must have applied to at least three state universities and been denied at all. Please indicate which state institutions the above student has applied and received a denial for admissions:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florida A&M University         | <input type="checkbox"/> Florida Atlantic University      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florida Gulf Coast University  | <input type="checkbox"/> Florida International University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florida Polytechnic University | <input type="checkbox"/> Florida State University         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New College of Florida         | <input type="checkbox"/> University of Central Florida    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University of Florida          | <input type="checkbox"/> University of North Florida      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> University of South Florida    | <input type="checkbox"/> University of West Florida       |

It is important for students to realize that appeals decisions may be concluded by June 1st, although it is not guaranteed. Students may receive admission consideration for summer, fall, or spring admission. Degree program admission is not guaranteed.

**PROCESS**

1. School counselors must complete the **Request for Formal Review** form and submit via email to the Board of Governors Office at [SUSTalented20@flbog.edu](mailto:SUSTalented20@flbog.edu) and the Office Pre-Collegiate Programs with the Bureau of Family and Community Outreach at [Talented20@fldoe.org](mailto:Talented20@fldoe.org) to inform them of the potential appeal.
2. A staff member from the Board of Governors, Office of Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) will send the high school counselor information on how to gain access to a shared drive to securely send the request for the formal review.
3. The high school counselor will upload the **Request for Formal Review** form to the share drive along with a copy of the student's unofficial transcript and test scores.
4. The ASA staff member will notify university admission directors of the appeal.
5. Admission directors will review the unofficial transcript and test scores. Those able to provide admission offers will contact the counselor, ASA staff member, and, if possible, the student.
6. Once an unofficial offer for admission consideration has been made, the student is still expected to complete an official admission application.

**FILLABLE FORM AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.**