

Rec'd 4/19/2017

Hello,

I am writing to submit a FOIA request for data on all school districts in the state of Illinois. Please know that I am Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign conducting research. This request is made for a scholarly and scientific purpose and is not for commercial use. I can be reached at redstone@illinois.edu.

*Below, "GT" refers to any gifted and talented programming in the district.

I am requesting:

*School budget data for all districts going back 20 years (if possible). Specifically, I am looking for the total budget and all major budget categories (with GT programming listed separately) for each year.

*Enrollment by grade, sex, and race/ethnicity in GT programming for the last 20 years (or less if needed because the program is more recent).

*Enrollment by grade, sex, and race/ethnicity of the total school population for the last 20 years.

*Any district-level information on the type of GT programming (if any) offered (e.g., pull-out, self-contained classroom, etc...).

I understand this is a substantial request and I am happy to assist in any way that I can to facilitate access, however, I do request a waiver of all fees. Disclosure of the requested information to me is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government (specifically, schools) and is not primarily in my commercial interest. There is currently no centralized source of information available to researchers or scholars on gifted programs, either eligibility or implementation.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if any part would benefit from further clarification. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Ilana R. Akresh

[REDACTED]

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