



As you may know, the Alabama State Department of Education has recently submitted its budget request for the Education Trust Fund (ETF) for the fiscal year 2024. The request includes significant increases in funding for K-12 education, community colleges, and higher education, including a specific line item for gifted education. [This is a link for the summary that is being considered - Dr. Mackey's is the second column and Governor Ivey's is the third column.](#)

Dr. Eric Mackey, the State Superintendent of Education, has worked tirelessly to develop a budget that addresses the needs of Alabama's students and educators, including those who are gifted. However, it is important to note that the proposed budget request must be approved by the Alabama State Senate and House of Representatives before it can become a reality. This is where we need your help! We urge you to take action by reaching out to your Alabama State Senators and Representatives and encouraging them to support Dr. Mackey's budget request for the ETF 2024, especially for the gifted education line item. There are two ways you can make your voice heard: by email or by sending a letter.

To email your state legislators, visit the Alabama Legislature website <https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/> and find your senator and representative's contact information. In your email, please express your support for Dr. Mackey's budget request and emphasize the importance of investing in gifted education. Key members are listed on our advocacy page - <https://alabamagifted.org/advocacy/>

Alternatively, you can write a letter to your state legislators and mail it to their offices. A handwritten letter can have a significant impact and show your legislators that you are passionate about supporting gifted education in Alabama.

Investing in gifted education is crucial for the future of our state. By providing our gifted students with the resources they need, we can help them reach their full potential and contribute to our society in significant ways. Gifted education also helps to reduce the achievement gap and increase equity in our education system.

Please take a moment to email or write a letter to your state legislators and voice your support for Dr. Mackey's budget request, with a specific focus on the gifted education line item. Your voice matters, and together we can make a difference.

Thank you for your support, and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Audrey Peacock
Executive Director
Alabama Association for Gifted Children