Is rule 13 of educational legislation for gifted and talented students in universities a valid rule? A preliminary report

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Introduction. Iranian talented university students who take term averages below 17 for at least twice can’t use facilities of educational legislation for gifted and talented students in universities. This study deals with validity of this rule.

Methods. Renzullis three ring conception of giftedness was selected as gifted definition. Obtaining grade point averages equal or more than 15 was regarded as “above average ability” criterion acquisition. A questionnaire, based on scales for rating the behavioral characteristics of superior students (SRBCSS) was designed for “creativity” and “task commitment” evaluation. Score 3.00 or more acquisition by a student in “creativity” and “task commitment” evaluation by evaluators was accounted as meeting other criteria of the definition. Students who were admitted in Isfahan University of medical sciences during 1997-1999 and recognized as gifted were included in the study.

Results. 147 students were included in this study. 50% were female. 20 students’ reports done by 39 students were evaluated. 31 of these 39 students would have been omitted if rule 13 had been implemented. 18 out of 31 students met all three criteria of Renzullis definition.

Conclusion. Currently among gifted students who are prohibited of using educational facilities of IGTC’s legislation there may be some gifted students. Percentage of these unlucky gifted students isn’t low. Policy makers of national gifted program are needed to pay attention to concepts of gifted definitions and identification procedures.

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