Methods Briefs

In addition to publishing high-quality research in our field, we have a goal to provide articles that are instructive and that address methods issues (quantitative, qualitative, and/or mixed methods) within our field so that the practice of gifted education research may be improved. Methods issues of interest may stem from typical challenges that gifted education researchers encounter when analyzing data. Alternatively, Methods Briefs may address methods or applications where current research practices appear to have room for improvement. Methods Briefs also may inform gifted education researchers about methods that are emerging or otherwise not yet widely used in giftedness research, or that are otherwise difficult to access (e.g., due to mathematical complexity of published articles).

In developing a Methods Brief, authors should:
- Provide a clear, succinct description of the method or application. If appropriate, comment on why current gifted education research practice is in need of improvement.
- Depending on the purpose of the brief, either:
  - Describe when it is appropriate to use the method and how to use or apply it. (The topic may be technical, but its presentation should still be written in an accessible way. We prefer clear, accessible language, but we also encourage authors to provide an appendix for online-only publication in which a more thorough and complex mathematical treatment of the topic is provided, if appropriate. The appendix would not be included in the page or figure counts.)
  - Provide a clear explanation of the challenge or issue and the solution(s).
- Incorporate at least one example related to gifted education exemplifying how to use the method.
  - If relevant, provide an appendix with well-documented statistical or analytic code and/or sample data files showing how to implement the solution or use the method. Depending on the length, this may be published in the print version, electronically, or both. If presented as an online-only supplemental file, it would not be included in the page or figure counts.
  - If code is provided, indicate how to modify the code to accommodate other data. This code may be provided for multiple software options.
- Address practical considerations and limitations of the methods.
- If appropriate, explain current best practices in how to report, interpret, and/or present the results.
- Provide a description of any ethical considerations that might be warranted.
- Cite a small number (2 to 5) of key readings for additional information.

Methods Briefs must follow the GCQ Author Submission Guidelines. Note that Methods Briefs should be no longer than 4500 words (about 18 pages), excluding references, tables, and figures. They also should have no more than 5 tables or figures. If your Methods Brief is longer, please contact us at GCQuarterly@gmail.com before submitting to justify and request an exemption.