



Nita Mickelsen/Daily Nebraskan

Mensa schedules standard IQ test for membership

By Deb Pederson

People often wonder how their intellect compares with others. Lincoln residents now have a chance to learn.

Mensa, the "International High IQ Society," will give a qualifying test Feb. 11 at Bennett Martin Public Library, 14th and N streets.

Steve Batie, who administers the tests, said studying won't help on the exam. The tests used are standard IQ tests, designed to measure intellectual ability rather than knowledge.

Applicants 14 years old or older take two one-hour IQ tests. A score above 98 percent on either test qualifies the applicant for membership.

College entrance exam scores also may be used for membership. A sampling of these is: American College Testing 29, Scholastic Aptitude Test 1300, College Entrance Examination Boards 1250.

Mensa gives members an opportunity to get together and discuss a variety of topics.

"Mensa is a social club, like the Elks," Batie said. Jerry Baugh, a former Mensa president, said Mensa has informal meetings once a month. Meetings may be in a member's home, or, if they have a guest speaker, at American Charter.

Individuals can explore interest in science, religion and other topics through one of the 160 national special interest groups or through local special interest groups, Baugh said. Newsletters, correspondence, and meetings keep members informed of the latest developments in their topic, he said.

Baugh said Mensa was founded around 1947 in London, England and began in the United States in 1952. The Mensa club in Lincoln was founded in 1966.

Advanced registration for the test is preferred but not required. Pre-registration for Mensa tests takes place at the library at 9:30 a.m. or contact Jack Wunderlich (477-2900) or Batie (435-8010), or send \$15 to Mensa, 2821 P St., Lincoln, Neb.

68503. The \$15 fee covers all testing and scoring.

Mensa gives this test as a courtesy, at no profit for itself, Batie said.

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