



Tony T. Howard  
Executive Director

**Office of Access and Enrollment**  
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Dear Parent:

On June 26, 2019, the Chicago Board of Education voted to adopt a policy in response to the State of Illinois Accelerated Placement Act, which allows for Whole-Grade Acceleration (grade skipping) and Single-Subject Acceleration (acceleration in math and/or reading). The following provides information on these processes.

**Whole-Grade Acceleration** is the full-time admission of a student in grade 3 through grade 6 to the next grade level in order to provide appropriately challenging learning opportunities. Students can only apply for Whole-Grade Acceleration for the school in which they are currently enrolled. In order to be considered for Whole-Grade Acceleration, the student must:

- Have a minimum score at the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile in both reading and math on the NWEA for two consecutive testing seasons;
- Have a minimum grade point average of 3.75 in reading, math, science, and social science from the previous school year; and
- Perform in the “Exceeds” test category from the previous school year on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) in both reading and math (3<sup>rd</sup> graders are exempt).

Students who meet these criteria will be assessed by the school on the Iowa Acceleration Scale; if the student qualifies, they will be scheduled for an Academic Ability, Aptitude, and Achievement test at the Illinois Institute of Technology. A testing fee of \$250.00 will apply; students who qualify for instructional waivers are exempt from this fee. If the student scores within the required range for Whole-Grade Acceleration, the school principal will have the final decision as to whether the student is approved.

**Single-Subject Acceleration** is the assignment of a student in grade 3 through grade 6 to math and/or reading at the next grade level to provide appropriately challenging learning opportunities. Students can only apply for Single-Subject Acceleration for the school in which they are currently enrolled. In order to be considered for Single-Subject Acceleration, the student must:

- Have a minimum score at the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile on the NWEA for two consecutive testing seasons in the subject area in which acceleration is sought;
- Have a minimum grade point average of 4.0 in the past two years in the subject area in which acceleration is sought; and
- Perform in the “Exceeds” test category from the previous school year on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) in the subject area in which acceleration is sought (3<sup>rd</sup> graders are exempt).

Students who meet these criteria will be assessed by the school on the Iowa Acceleration Scale; if the student qualifies, they will be scheduled for an Aptitude test at the Illinois Institute of Technology. A testing fee of \$35.00 will apply; students who qualify for instructional fee waivers are exempt from the testing fee. If the student scores within the required range for Single-Subject Acceleration, the school principal will have the final decision as to whether the student is approved.

**If you are interested in applying your child for Whole-Grade Acceleration or Single-Subject Acceleration, please complete an Accelerated Placement Act application, available on [go.cps.edu/accelerated-placement](http://go.cps.edu/accelerated-placement), and submit it to your child’s school.**

For more information or if you have questions, visit [go.cps.edu/accelerated-placement](http://go.cps.edu/accelerated-placement), call the Office of Access and Enrollment at 773-553-2060, or email the Policy Program Manager, Ali Fendrick, at [afendrick@cps.edu](mailto:afendrick@cps.edu).

Sincerely,

Tony T. Howard, Executive Director

cc: Ali Fendrick