



Sara McPhee  
Executive Director

**Office of Access and Enrollment**  
42 West Madison Street, Garden Level • Chicago, Illinois 60602  
Telephone: 773/553-2060 • Fax: 773/553-2061

Janice K. Jackson, EdD  
Chief Executive Officer

LaTanya D. McDade  
Chief Education Officer

December 2020

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; and
- Have a minimum grade point average of 3.75 in reading, math, science, and social science from the previous school year.

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 Academic Ability, Aptitude, and Achievement tests 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; and
- Have a minimum grade point average of 4.0 in the past two years in the subject area in which acceleration is sought.

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.

It is important to note that the school will take the student's academic performance and socioemotional skills into equal consideration when making their final decision about a student's acceleration.

**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](https://go.cps.edu/accelerated-placement). The application window will open on December 7, 2020, and close on March 1, 2021.**

For more information or if you have questions, visit [go.cps.edu/accelerated-placement](https://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,

Sara McPhee, Executive Director

cc: Ali Fendrick