

Document Status: Draft Update

INSTRUCTION

6:135 Accelerated Placement Program

The District provides an Accelerated Placement Program (APP). The APP advances the District's goal of providing educational programs with opportunities for each student to develop to his or her maximum potential. The APP provides an educational setting with curriculum options usually reserved for students who are older or in higher grades than the student participating in the APP. APP options include, but may not be limited to: (a) accelerating a student in a single subject; (b) other grade-level acceleration; and (c) early entrance to kindergarten or first grade. Participation in the APP is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It is not limited to students who have been identified as gifted and talented. Eligibility to participate in the District's APP shall not be conditioned upon the protected classifications identified in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, or any factor other than the student's identification as an accelerated learner.

The Superintendent or designee shall implement an APP that includes:

1. Decision-making processes that are fair, equitable, and involve multiple individuals, e.g. District administrators, teachers, and school support personnel, and a student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. Notification processes that notify provide a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) of with:
 - a. Written notification when their child is eligible for enrollment in accelerated courses.^{PRESSPlus1} and
 - b. Notification of a decision affecting a student their child's participation in the APP.
3. Assessment processes that include multiple valid, reliable indicators. and
4. The automatic enrollment, in the following school term, of a student into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework offered by the high school if the student meets or exceeds^{PRESSPlus2} State standards in English language arts, mathematics, or science on a State assessment administered under 105 ILCS 5/2-3.64a-5, as follows:
 - a. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in English language arts shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in English, social studies, humanities, or related subjects.
 - b. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in mathematics shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in mathematics.
 - c. A student who meets or exceeds State standards in science shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in science.

5. Waiver of a course completion requirement under Board policy 6:300, *Graduation Requirements*, if the District determines that the student has demonstrated mastery of or competency in the content of the course or unit of instruction. [PRESSPlus3](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify the community, parent(s)/guardian(s), students, and school personnel about the APP, the process for referring a student for possible evaluation for accelerated placement, and the methods used to determine whether a student is eligible for accelerated placement, including strategies to reach groups of students and families who have been historically underrepresented in accelerated placement programs and advanced coursework. Notification may: (a) include varied communication methods, such as student handbooks and District or school websites; and (b) be provided in multiple languages, as appropriate.

LEGAL REF.:

[105 ILCS 5/14A.](#)

[23 Ill.Admin.Code Part 227](#), Gifted Education.

CROSS REF.: 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:130 (Program for Acceleration and Enrichment), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:50 (School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools)

PRESSPlus Comments

[PRESSPlus 1.](#) Required by 105 ILCS 5/14A-32(a-25), added by P.A. 103-743. **Issue 117, October 2024**

[PRESSPlus 2.](#) This provision originally applied to “a student who meets or exceeds State standards” but was amended by P.A. 103-743 to only apply to “a student who ~~meets or exceeds~~ State standards.” P.A. 103-743 also added new 105 ILCS 5/14A-32(a-10), requiring that by the beginning of the 2027-28 school year, districts with grades 9-12 state in their policy that “a student who meets State standards” will, in the following school term (the 2028-29 school year), be automatically enrolled in the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework offered by the high school. Nothing in the law prohibits districts from continuing to offer automatic enrollment to students who meet State standards before the 2028-29 school year. **Consult with the board attorney to determine whether to keep or strike “meets or” from Item #4 and its subsections (a)-(c).**

Issue 117, October 2024

[PRESSPlus 3.](#) Optional. 105 ILCS 5/14A-32(a-20), added by P.A. 103-743. **Issue 117, October 2024**