

Early Entrance Definitions

Accelerated Placement

Accelerated placement is the process of placing a student at the instructional level that best aligns with their current level of academic achievement. Students typically eligible for acceleration are performing at an academic level that requires access to a curriculum and a learning environment of older children either through early entrance to kindergarten, first grade, whole grade level acceleration, or single subject acceleration.

Early Entrance to Kindergarten

Early entrance to kindergarten is the admission of a student to kindergarten who will not yet be five years old by September 1 of that school year and whose birthday falls between September 2 and September 30, as documented by a certified copy of the birth certificate.

Early Entrance to First Grade

Early entrance to first grade is the admission of a student to first grade who will not yet be six years old by September 1 of the school year and whose birthday falls between September 2 and December 31, as documented by a certified copy of the birth certificate. Students who are younger than six upon starting first grade but who were admitted to early kindergarten do not need to be reevaluated prior to admission to first grade.

Whole Grade Acceleration

Whole grade acceleration involves assigning a student to a grade level that is higher than the child's current grade level than is typical for the student's age on a full-time basis. The purpose of this placement is to provide access to an appropriately challenging learning environment.

Individual Subject Acceleration

Individual subject acceleration involves assigning a student to a higher instructional level in a specific content area than is typical at the student's age-appropriate grade level to provide access to an appropriately challenging learning environment in one or more subject areas.

Acceleration may not be appropriate for students in the following instances:

- _Is sufficiently challenged by the curriculum and his/her current grade level
- _Has a sibling at the grade level to which the student would be accelerated
- _Would be significantly less emotionally mature than typical students at the grade level to which he/she may be accelerated
- _Responds negatively to the possibility of acceleration