



Illinois State Board of Education

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[Public Act 100-0421](#)

Accelerated Placement Act

SUMMARY

The Accelerated Placement Act expands services to **ALL** students, *not only those identified as gifted and talented by local policy*, who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It requires the development of local policy to identify such students through a fair and equitable decision-making and multiple measure assessment process.

What is the definition of accelerated placement?

Accelerated placement refers to the placement of a student in an academically appropriate instructional setting with appropriate level curriculum that may include, but is not limited to, a child entering kindergarten or first grade early, a child accelerating in a single subject, and a child accelerating through grades.

Who is eligible for accelerated placement?

Students who meet the locally determined criteria for participation are eligible for participation.

How will accelerated placement impact districts/schools?

School districts continue to have the flexibility to design local education policy and instructional programs for gifted and talented children. Local school district policies must include provisions for all students who may benefit from accelerated placement in an *Accelerated Placement Policy* (e.g., metrics used for identification of children for participation, approaches to acceleration used in the school).

What provisions are required by law to be included in an Accelerated Placement Policy?

A district's/school's Accelerated Placement Policy provides guidance for accelerated placement and incorporates the following components:

- Information on how participation in accelerated placement programming is not limited to those children who have been identified as gifted and talented, and how participation is open to all children who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement;
- Processes identifying how parents or guardians of students are included in a fair and equitable decision-making process for identification that involves multiple persons;
- Procedures for notifying parents or guardians of a decision affecting a child's participation in an accelerated placement program; and
- Identification of the district's/school's assessment process that includes multiple valid, reliable indicators.

What are additional factors to consider when designing local policy around accelerated placement?

When designing a district's or school's Accelerated Placement Policy, consider:

- Procedures for annually informing the community at large, including parents or guardians, about the Accelerated Placement Policy and the methods used to identify children eligible for accelerated placement;
- Processes for referral that allow for multiple referrers, including a child's parents or guardians; other referrers may include licensed education professionals, the child (with the written consent of a parent or guardian), a peer (through a licensed education professional who has knowledge of the referred child's abilities), or, in case of possible early entrance, a preschool educator, pediatrician, or psychologist who knows the child; and
- Types of acceleration the child will receive and strategies to support her or his work.

Can a district amend its policy?

Yes. Policies should be reviewed annually for impact and amended as needed.

Is implementation required?

Yes, all school districts must implement [105 ILCS 5/14A-32. Rules](#) are currently being revised in accordance with law. IASB will provide a sample policy for districts that subscribe to the Ill. Assoc. of School Board's Policy Reference Education Subscription Service (PRESS) or PRESS Plus in late May/early June

When does the new law take effect?

July 1, 2018.

Is there professional development available for staff?

ISBE created the Gifted Education Seminar for teachers and administrators. Contact ISBE or your Regional Office of Education to find training in your area.

Who at ISBE shall I contact if I have further questions?

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Please review [Public Act 100-0421](#), *Gifted and Talented Children and Children Eligible for Accelerated Placement*, for complete information.