

District 202 Accelerated Placement Programming

Elementary Accelerated Placement Programming (Grades 3-5)

Plainfield School District 202 identifies students for Accelerated Placement Programming at the end of second grade, with programming for qualifying students beginning in third grade. The identification process involves compiling and standardizing scores from the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT), a cognitive assessment, and iReady, the district's benchmark assessment administered three times per year.

All students in the district are automatically considered for Accelerated Placement Programming. Standardized scores from OLSAT and iReady are compiled, students are ranked district-wide, and approximately the top 12% in Math and ELA are invited to participate in the program. Some students may qualify for both Accelerated Math and Accelerated ELA.

Students may qualify for accelerated programming in the following areas:

- **Math only:** Based on OLSAT and iReady Math scores.
- **English Language Arts (ELA) only:** Based on OLSAT and iReady Reading scores.
- **Both Math and ELA:** Based on OLSAT, iReady Math, and iReady Reading scores.

Qualifying students are invited to participate in an Accelerated Math class, an Accelerated ELA class, or both. These classes follow a curriculum that is one grade level above their current grade (e.g., third grade accelerated classes use the fourth grade curriculum).

One additional note is that not all elementary schools in the district house Accelerated Placement Program classes. If a qualifying student's home school does not offer Accelerated Placement Program classes, the student will be assigned to an Accelerated Placement Program class at another elementary school. The exact location is determined based on proximity to the student's home school and/or the feeder pattern for the middle school attendance zone.

Families of qualifying students typically receive invitation letters at the end of the school year. Informational meetings are then held at the Accelerated Placement Program host schools during the first few weeks of June.

For questions about the qualification criteria or specific inquiries regarding your student, please contact your building administrator.

Elementary Appeals for Accelerated Placement Programming (Grades 3-5)

Parents, teachers, or administrators may request an appeal for consideration in Accelerated Placement Programming. Written appeals should be directed to the building administrator.

Appeals for Students Who Completed the 2nd Grade Qualifying Process

Students who participated in the district's second grade qualifying process may appeal and gain entrance to Accelerated Placement Programming if a written request is submitted to the building administration by August 1 and the student meets at least one of the following criteria:

1. OLSAT Score

- The student has an overall OLSAT score greater than 130.
- A "non-verbal" OLSAT score greater than 130 qualifies for placement in Accelerated Math.
- A "verbal" OLSAT score greater than 130 qualifies for placement in Accelerated ELA.

2. iReady Scores

- The student has iReady scores with a mean average in the top 5% of local district scores.
- This score may qualify the student for Accelerated Math, Accelerated ELA, or both.

3. Math-Only End-of-Year Assessment

- The student completes the End-of-Year (EOY) Math assessment for the grade level above (e.g., a third grade student completes the fourth grade EOY Math assessment).
- The student must achieve a score of 80% or higher.
- This assessment is available by written request and may only be taken during the summer or first weeks of school; contact the building administration to schedule.

Appeals for Students New to the District or Not Previously Assessed

Students new to District 202 or those who did not participate in the second grade qualifying process may appeal and gain entrance to Accelerated Placement Programming if they meet any of the following criteria:

1. Records from Previous School District

- The student's records include nationally normed standardized assessment scores at or above the 90th percentile for Math, ELA, or both.
- The student's records include normed cognitive assessment scores greater than 130, qualifying them for potential placement in Math, ELA, or both.

2. OLSAT Administration in District

- The student takes the OLSAT in-district and achieves at least one score greater than 130.
 - A "non-verbal" score greater than 130 qualifies for Accelerated Math.
 - A "verbal" score greater than 130 qualifies for Accelerated ELA.
- OLSAT is administered during four testing windows: August, October, February, and May.

- **August Administration:** Testing occurs before school begins and is by appointment only. Contact the building administrator to schedule.
- **Other Testing Windows:** Students take the OLSAT during the first available window if they do not test in August.

3. **iReady Scores**

- The student's initial iReady scores are in the top 5% of local district scores.
 - This score may qualify the student for Accelerated Math, Accelerated ELA, or both.
 - All District 202 students take iReady assessments in August, December, and April.

If you have questions about the appeals process or eligibility, please contact your building administrator.

Acceleration Appeals Committee

The Acceleration Placement Programming Appeals Committee (APPAC) is responsible for reviewing any disagreements with final appeal requests for Accelerated Placement Programming. The APPAC meets quarterly and can be contacted by emailing the Elementary Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

After thorough consideration, the committee will render one of the following decisions:

- **Further Testing:** The student is eligible for additional assessments to determine appropriate placement.
- **Current Placement Affirmed:** The student's existing placement is deemed appropriate.
- **Provisional Placement:** The student is granted a one-year provisional placement in the program. The student's placement for the following year would be considered using the typical process described above.

The decisions made by the Acceleration Appeals Committee are final and apply to all placement appeals for the school year.