

WHAT ■ ■ ■
STARTS
■ HERE ■
CHANGES
■ EVERYTHING.

SSA PARENT

INFORMATION

Fuller SSA Contact: Barbara Owens, bowens@wcpss.net



WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

What is Single Subject Acceleration (SSA)?

Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) is the practice of placing a student in a higher-grade level in one subject area. This type of acceleration is for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in either Math or English Language Arts.

Who can be tested for SSA?

- Current Kindergarten students through 7th grade students

Requests for SSA testing comes from parents

SSA Process from Test Request to Results

Test Request

Parent fills out the [Fuller SSA Test Request Google Form](#) between March 20-March 24th at 4:00pm. Paper option in front office.
<https://www.wcpss.net/full>



SSA test requests can only be submitted during the test request windows for that school. Schools prepare for testing.

Testing

All students (Except Kindergarten) test on a computer while **in the school building** during the *Testing Window (April 18-May 3)*.



Schools wait for final results from Advance Learning Services.

Results

Schools share results with parents.



Results will be used to plan instruction for the following school year.

Request and Testing Windows

SSA Parent Test Request Windows

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Leadership Academies and Modified Calendar: Feb. 20-24 | Year Round Track 1: Feb. 20-24 |
| Traditional Calendar and Year Round Tracks 2, 3, and 4: March 20-24 | |

Test Requests will NOT be accepted after the window has closed.

Testing Windows

| | |
|---|--|
| Leadership Academies: March 28-April 11 | Modified Calendar, Year Round Tracks 1, 2, and 3: April 4-19 |
| Traditional Calendar, Year Round Track 4 April 18-May 3 | |

Test Request Form



Spring 2023 Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) Test Request Form

The Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) Board of Education defines acceleration as allowing a student to move through traditional educational organizations more rapidly, based on readiness and motivation. Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) is the practice of placing a student in a higher-grade level in one subject area. This type of acceleration is for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in either math or English Language Arts.

Is your child a good candidate for SSA?

- ✓ Consider your child's social and emotional maturity.
- ✓ Your child may be taking classes with peers who may be older.
- ✓ Consider your child's organizational skills and ability to focus.
- ✓ Can your child begin or complete projects by themselves?
- ✓ Your child will be skipping an entire year's worth of content and background knowledge. The AIG teacher and homeroom teachers are not responsible for covering any content your child skipped as a result of receiving SSA services.
- ✓ If your child qualifies for SSA in math or ELA in elementary or middle school, some courses take place online. During the school day, students participate independently in these online courses.
- ✓ SSA may result in a different class schedule. To accommodate your child's academic needs, the school may assign your child a nontraditional schedule. The final decision about scheduling will be made by the principal at each school.

SSA Assessment Information

Assessment for SSA will include a comprehensive examination to establish mastery of the foundational skills and content this course /subject requires. Specifically:

- ✓ Kindergarten students looking to skip first grade math, the student must receive a proficient score on each of the individual constructed response tasks without assistance.
- ✓ Kindergarten students looking to skip first grade ELA, will be assessed using iClass and a written prompt.
- ✓ A 1st-7th grade student in **mathematics** must earn a **minimum of 80% accuracy** on the above grade level comprehensive assessment. The assessments have open response questions.
- ✓ In **English/Language Arts** all students must earn **≥85% correct** on Acceleration Assessment **AND** score proficient (**level 4**) on scored writing prompt for elementary school. Middle school students must score proficient (**level 3**) on a writing prompt.
- ✓ Prior to SSA tests, students may review the content standards for the course or subject area that they are seeking to demonstrate mastery. North Carolina State Standard Course of Study Links: [ELA NC State Standard Course of Study](#) and [Math NC State Standard Course of Study](#).



Section 1 of 4

Fuller SSA Test Request Spring 2023

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The Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) Board of Education defines acceleration as allowing a student to move through traditional educational organizations more rapidly, based on readiness and motivation. Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) is the practice of placing a student in a higher-grade level in one subject area. This type of acceleration is for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in either math or English Language Arts.

Email *

SSA Testing (Elementary School)

A student must test and show mastery of the content area that they desire to skip.

For example:

- a 3rd grade student takes a 4th grade Math or ELA assessment for SSA
- If mastery is shown on the SSA assessment for 4th grade Math or ELA, the third grader will take the fifth grade Math/ELA course during their fourth grade year

Testing Format/ Grades 1-5 Canvas, K students Paper/Pencil

- SSA testing** for students in **grades 1-5 will be through the Canvas platform.**
- **Kindergarten students will test on paper.**

A testing schedule will be made after the test request window closes. The dates will be then shared with parents after spring break.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Tuesday, April 18, 2023 | Wednesday, Apr 19, 2023 | Thursday, Apr 20, | Friday, April 21,2022 School Work day |
| Tuesday, April 25th | Wednesday, April 26th | Thursday, April 27th | Friday, April 28, |



Testing Day Logistics

- *****All students need to come to school with a fully charged Chromebook and power cord.
- All students will test in person at the school. Testing will start at 9:20 each day.
- Please be sure that carpool students are at school by 9:05. If your child is on a bus that is usually late, it would be really helpful if you could bring him or her to school that day.
- Students will go to (breakfast and then) their homeroom to unpack and check in. Students will then go to the media

Testing Day Logistics

- Directions will be given and then students have 90 minutes for testing.**
- No extra time will be given. Students will go back to class when finished testing.**
- Students who pass the multiple choice section of the EL test will be given the written part of the test on a separate day (_____). They will have 90 minutes for this part of the test.**
- Scores will be sent home after the testing window closes May 3rd.**

SSA ELA Assessments

| Student Current Grade Level | Grade/ Course Requesting to Skip | Assessment used to Qualify | Assessment Format | Qualifying Criteria |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| Kindergarten | 1 st Grade ELA | MClass | An in-person written response assessment. | MClass Maze score of 14.5 and proficient (level 4) on written response. |
| 1st Grade | 2 nd Grade ELA | Grade 2 Assessment | All assessments for students that are in grades 1st - 7th are multiple choice with a written response. | In English/Language Arts all students must earn ≥85% correct on Acceleration Assessment AND score proficient (level 4) on scored writing prompt for elementary school. Middle school students must score proficient (level 3) on a writing prompt. |
| 2nd Grade | 3 rd Grade ELA | Grade 3 Assessment | | |
| 3rd Grade | 4 th Grade ELA | Grade 4 Assessment | | |
| 4th Grade | 5 th Grade ELA | Grade 5 Assessment | | |
| 5th Grade | 6 th Grade ELA | Grade 6 Assessment | | |
| 6th Grade | 7 th Grade ELA | Grade 7 Assessment | | |
| 7th Grade | 8th Grade ELA | Grade 8 Assessment | | |

Looking Down the Road...ELA

Student Sequences for English Language Arts Single Subject Acceleration

Core High School English courses and a few English electives must be taken in sequential order. Selective universities expect to see four years of increasingly complex high school English study on applicants' transcripts.

| 22-23 | 5th Grade | 6th Grade | 7th Grade | 8th Grade | Freshman Year | Sophomore Year | Junior Year | Senior Year |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Current Grade: 4 SSA 5th Grade ELA | WCPSS Grade 6 online asynchronous course | Grade 7 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school | Grade 8 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school | English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS) | English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Media Literacy (H) African American Literature (H) Speech (H) Creative Writing I (H) Publications options: newspaper or yearbook Other electives | English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Leadership and Media (H) Creative Writing II (H) Speech II (H) | English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Shakespeare (H) Advanced Forensics and Debate (H) | English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Advanced Research and Forensics (H) |
| 22-23 | 6th Grade | 7th Grade | 8th Grade | Freshman Year | Sophomore Year | Junior Year | Senior Year | Senior Year |
| Current Grade: 5 SSA: 6th Grade ELA | Grade 7 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school | Grade 8 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school | English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS) | English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Media Literacy (H) African American Literature (H) Speech (H) Creative Writing I (H) Publications options: newspaper or yearbook Other electives | English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Leadership and Media (H) Creative Writing II (H) Speech II (H) | English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Shakespeare (H) Advanced Forensics and Debate (H) | English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electives previously listed Advanced Research and Forensics (H) | |

SSA ELA Trajectory

Student Sequences for English Language Arts Single Subject Acceleration

Core High School English courses and a few English electives must be taken in sequential order. Selective universities expect to see four years of increasingly complex high school English study on applicants' transcripts.

| 22-23 | 7th Grade | 8th Grade | Freshman Year | Sophomore Year | Junior Year | Senior Year |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Current Grade: 6</p> <p>SSA: 7th Grade ELA</p> | Grade 8 ELA Face-to-face at your middle school | English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS) | English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) | English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) | English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) | English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) |
| <p>Current Grade: 7</p> <p>SSA 8th Grade ELA</p> | English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS) | English I (H) or English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) | English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) | English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) | English IV or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: (offerings vary by school) (see elective options on the previous slide) | Once students have completed Grade 8 ELA courses, the succession of courses may vary and are contingent on the high school in which the student will be attending. Some courses may not be available and/or may be limited. |

Upper-level English courses include complex texts and mature thematic content. When making decisions regarding acceleration, students and parents are advised to consider the age and maturity in relation to the content of these courses. While students will be able to complete all basic graduation requirements in English prior to Grade 12, students and parents should be aware that most selective universities look for four years of increasingly complex high school English study on applicants' transcripts.

SSA Math Assessments

| Student Current Grade Level | Grade/ Course Requesting to Skip | Assessment used to Qualify | Assessment Format | Qualifying Criteria |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Kindergarten | 1 st Grade Math | 1 st Grade NCDPI Summative Math Assessment | Individual constructed response tasks, created by NCDPI | Student receives a 3 (proficient) on each assessment task (will be reviewed by centralized team) |
| 1st Grade | 2 nd Grade Math | Grade 2 Assessment | Multiple choice <u>and</u> gridded response items with both calculator active and inactive sections. | ≥80% correct on Acceleration Assessment |
| 2nd Grade | 3 rd Grade Math | Grade 3 Assessment | | |
| 3rd Grade | 4 th Grade Math | Grade 4 Assessment | | |
| 4th Grade | 5 th Grade Math | Grade 5 Assessment | | |
| 5th Grade | 6 PLUS Math | 6 PLUS Assessment | | |
| 6th Grade and 7th Grade | 7 PLUS Math | 7 PLUS Assessment | | |

SSA Math Trajectory

| Current Math Course | Next Math Course in Sequence | Next Math Course in Sequence | Next Math Course in Sequence | Next Math Course in Sequence | Next Math Course in Sequence |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| 4th Grade Math (SSA: 5th Grade Math) | Math 6+ (face-to-face OR asynchronous) | Math 7+ (face-to-face) | NC Math 1 (for high school credit) | NC Math 2 (for high school credit) | NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit) |
| 5th Grade Math (SSA: Math 6+) | Math 7+ (face-to-face) | NC Math 1 (for high school credit) | NC Math 2 (for high school credit) | NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit) | |
| Math 6 (SSA: Math 7+) | NC Math 1 (for high school credit) | NC Math 2 (for high school credit) | NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit) | | |
| Math 6+ (SSA: Math 7+) | NC Math 1 (for high school credit) | NC Math 2 Honors (for high school credit) | NC Math 3 Honors (for high school credit) | | |
| Math 7 (SSA: Math 7+) | NC Math 1 (for high school credit) | NC Math 2 Honors (for high school credit) | | | |

Waiver Process

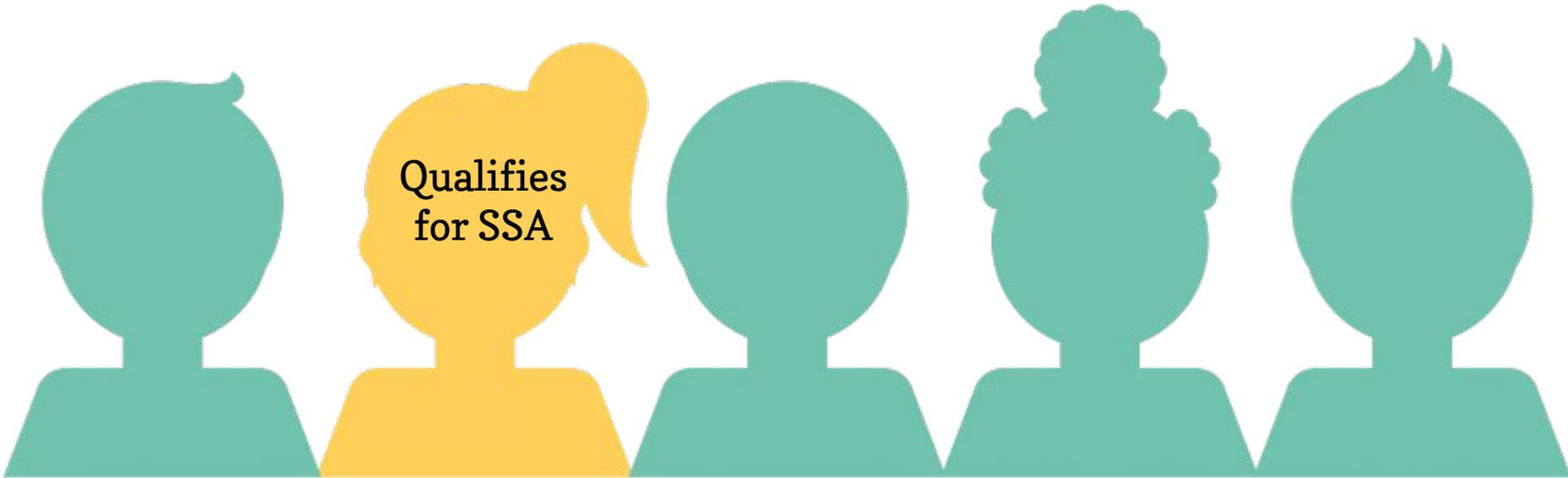
Different placement:

- Parents can request a higher or lower placement
- Process:
 - Complete [the waiver](#) form and return it to your current school principal.
- The principal reviews all waiver requests.
- For additional information please read the [Math Placement Guidelines](#)

Please direct additional questions about math placement to the school counselor.

*****Waivers cannot be submitted to SKIP courses. In order to SKIP courses, students must go through the Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) process.*****

SSA Data of Students Tested in Math



SSA Results

- SSA contact, Mrs. Owens, will communicate results
- SSA services **will not** take place until the **next school year**

Is my child a good candidate for SSA?

- ✓ Consider your child's social and emotional maturity.
- ✓ Your child may be taking classes with peers who may be older.
- ✓ Consider your child's organizational skills and ability to focus.
- ✓ Can your child begin or complete projects by themselves?

Is my child a good candidate for SSA?

- ✓ Your child will be skipping an entire year's worth of content and background knowledge. The AIG teacher and homeroom teachers are not responsible for covering any content your child skipped as a result of receiving SSA services.
- ✓ If your child qualifies for SSA in Math or ELA in elementary or middle school, some courses take place online asynchronous. During the school day, students participate independently in these online courses. **These courses are taught asynchronously.**
- ✓ SSA may result in a different class schedule. To accommodate your child's academic needs, the school may assign your child a nontraditional schedule. The final decision about scheduling will be made by the principal at each school.

Parent Reflection

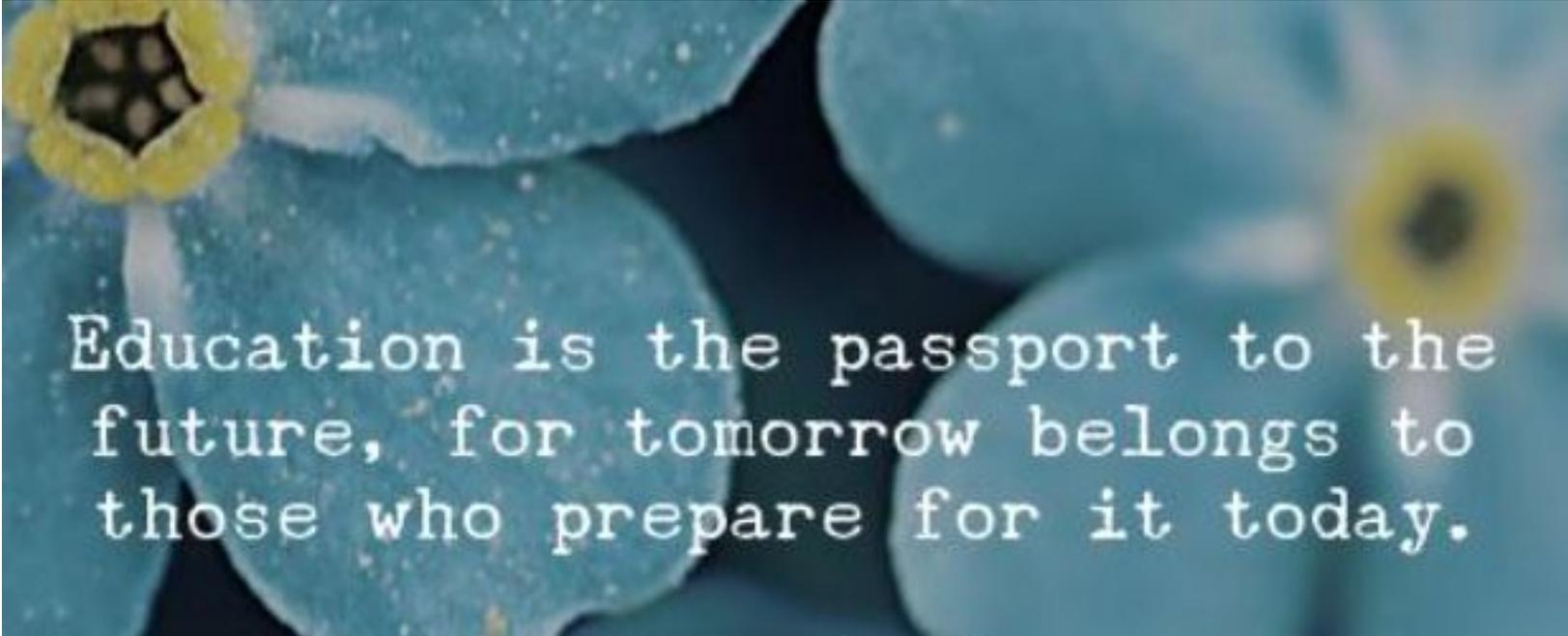
- Have I had conversations about the need for skipping a whole grade level content with my child's teacher?
- How is my child currently performing in the subject area where I might request acceleration?
- Have I considered what SSA might look like and mean for my child in future grades?
- Do all conversations and data indicate that my child has a need for skipping a year's worth of content in order to receive access to rigorous curriculum or challenging curriculum?

Summary

- Single Subject Acceleration is for Wake County Public Schools students in Kindergarten through 7th grade.
 - A student is not allowed to skip Math 1 through the SSA program. Math 1 would be part of the CDM process.
- **Complete the online test request form between March 20th and March 24th.** The link for this form is on our school website under Academics and then SSA.
- **Students can test in one subject area only (reading or math)**

Summary

- The 2nd grade-7th grade math assessment has multiple choice and open ended question types
 - First grade has individual constructed response items
- The ELA assessment has a written portion as well as multiple choice assessment.
- Consider how Single Subject Acceleration will affect your child's educational career for high school and college.

A close-up photograph of several blue flowers with yellow centers, set against a dark background. The flowers are in focus, with some showing the intricate details of their petals and stamens. The text is overlaid on the lower portion of the image.

Education is the passport to the
future, for tomorrow belongs to
those who prepare for it today.