

WHAT   
STARTS
 HERE 
CHANGES
 EVERYTHING.

SSA PARENT INFORMATION



WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



What is Single Subject Acceleration (SSA)?

Single Subject Acceleration (SSA) is the practice of assigning a student to a higher-grade level than is typical, given the student's age, for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in either Math or English Language Arts.



Who can be tested for SSA?

- Kindergarten through 7th grade in math
- Kindergarten through 7th grade in reading

Requests come from parents



SSA Process from Test Request to Results

Test Request

Parents or teachers complete a test request form during the open Test Request Window.

Schools prepare for testing.

Testing

Students test in a secure setting during the open Testing Window.

Schools submit answer documents to Advanced Learning Services.

Results

Results are shared with parents.

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



Single Subject Acceleration

SSA Parent Test Request Windows

Leadership Academies: Feb. 24-28	Modified Calendar: Feb. 24-28
Year Round Track 1: Feb. 24-28	Year Round Tracks 2, 3, 4: March 23-27
Barwell ES, Fox Rd ES, & Walnut Creek ES: March 16-20	Traditional Calendar: March 23-27

Testing Windows

Leadership Academies: April 6-21	Modified Calendar: April 1-15
Year Round Tracks 1-3: April 13-23	Year Round Track 4: April 28-May 8
Barwell ES, Fox ES & Walnut Creek ES: May 11-27	Traditional Calendar: April 20-30



Test Request Form

2020 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 assigning a student to a higher-grade level than is typical, given the student's age, 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 will be taking classes with peers who may be older or they will be working on their own.
- ✓ Consider your child's organizational skills and ability to focus.
- ✓ 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 an above grade level comprehensive examination to establish mastery of the foundational skills and content this course /subject requires. Specifically:

- ✓ A Kindergarten student looking to skip first grade math, the student must receive a level 3 on each of the individual constructed response tasks without assistance.
- ✓ A Kindergarten student looking to skip first grade ELA, the student must receive an mCLASS TRC Level K with a score of 3 on both written comprehension questions without assistance for both fiction and nonfiction text.
- ✓ 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 a **≥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 the exams, 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](#).
- ✓ Acceleration assessments will be reported as percent correct.
- ✓ Due to test security, items on the test will not be able to be reviewed on any Acceleration Assessment. There will not be a breakdown of question by question response available.
- ✓ Eligibility to accelerate is based on meeting the above criteria. Students who do not meet the criteria for SSA will have an opportunity to test again during the spring of 2021 for the next school year (2021-2022).



SSA Testing

Students test an entire grade level above their current grade level.

For example:

- a 3rd grade student takes a 4th grade assessment,
- a 6th grade student takes a 7th grade assessment.




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> open-ended assessment items with both calculator active and inactive sections. Approximately 25% of the assessment is open-ended math questions.	≥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 ELA Assessments

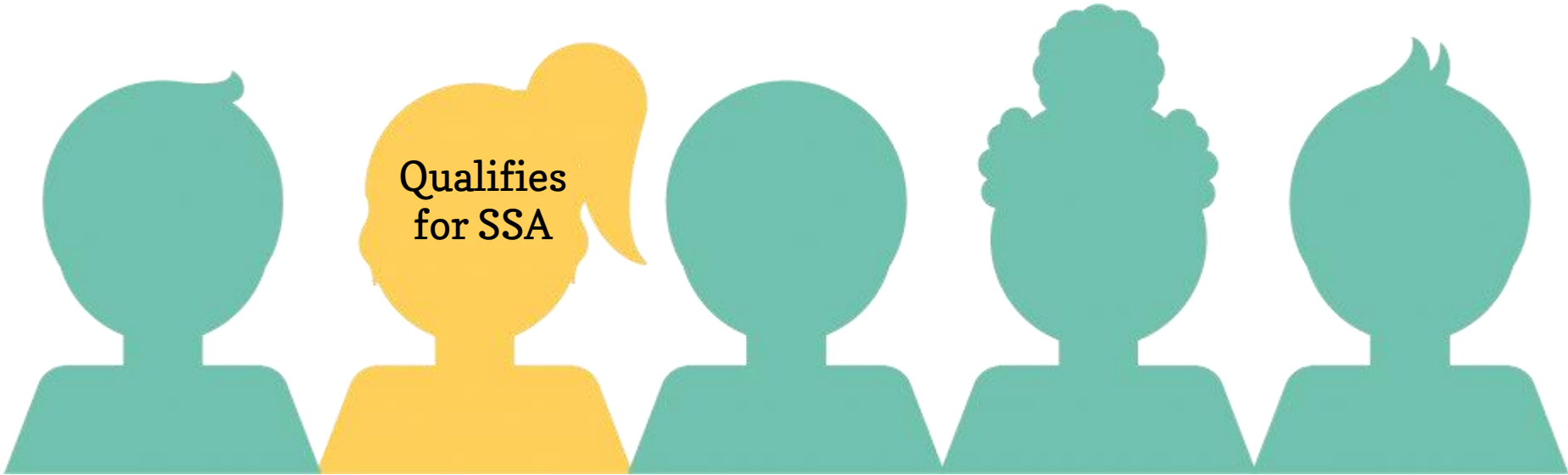
Student Current Grade Level	Grade/ Course Requesting to Skip	Assessment used to Qualify	Assessment Format	Qualifying Criteria
Kindergarten	1 st Grade ELA	mCLASS	mCLASS TRC level, including two written comprehension questions	mCLASS TRC Level K with a score of 3 on the two written comprehension questions for both a fiction and a nonfiction text.
1st Grade	2 nd Grade ELA	Grade 2 Assessment	All assessments are similar to the format used for End of Grade Tests. They are multiple choice.	<p>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.</p> 
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		

SSA Results

- SSA contact will send home a results letter
 - Scores will be reported in percentages.
- SSA services **will not** take place until the **next school year**



SSA Data



Qualifies
for SSA



Is my child a good candidate for SSA?

- ✓ Consider your child's social and emotional maturity, organizational skills, and ability to focus.
- ✓ Students will be skipping an entire year's worth of content and background knowledge.
- ✓ If your child qualifies for SSA in math or ELA in elementary or middle school, understand that some courses take place online.
- ✓ SSA may result in a different schedule.



Parent Reflection

- ☐ Have I had conversations about the need for skipping a whole grade level's 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?



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. Students and families will want to plan accordingly.

2019-20	2020-21	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026- 2027	2027- 2028
Current Grade: 4	WCPPS Grade 6 online course	Grade 7 ELA Face to Face at your middle school in 6th grade	Grade 8 ELA Face to Face at your middle school in 7th grade	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English I (H) 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 I (H)Creative Writing I(H) Publications options: Newspaper or Yearbook <ul style="list-style-type: none">Other electives	English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">All electives previously listedLeadership 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">All electives previously listedShakespeare (H)Advanced Forensics and Debate (H)	English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">All electives previously listedAdvanced Research and Forensics (H)
2019-20	2020-21	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026- 2027	2027- 2028
Current Grade: 5	7 th Grade ELA Face-to-face at your middle school in 6 th grade	8 th Grade ELA Face-to-face at your middle school in 7th grade	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English I (H) English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective (offerings vary by school): <ul style="list-style-type: none">All electives previously listedCultural Media Literacy (H)African American Literature (H)Speech I (H)Creative Writing I(H) Publications options: Newspaper or Yearbook <ul style="list-style-type: none">Other electives	English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">All electives previously listedLeadership 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">All electives previously listedShakespeare (H)Advanced Forensics and Debate (H)	English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">All electives previously listedAdvanced Research and Forensics (H)	



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. Students and families will want to plan accordingly.

2019-20	2020-21	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026		
Current Grade: 6	8 th Grade ELA Face-to-face at your middle school in 7 th grade	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>	English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>	English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>	English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>		
2019-20	2020-21	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025			
Current Grade: 7	English I (NCVPS) or Creative Writing (NCVPS)	English I (H) English II (H) or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>	English II (H) or English III (H) or AP Language & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>	English III (H) or AP Language & Composition or English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>	English IV (H) or AP Literature & Composition and/or (H) Critical Thinking Elective <i>See elective options above.</i>	<p><i>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.</i></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>		



Looking Down the Road...Math

Middle School Math

Typical Student Sequences – See Placement Criteria to Determine Sequence

Current Math Course				
	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade
5 th Grade	Math 6	Math 7	Math 8	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>
5 th Grade	Math 6 PLUS	Math 7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>
5 th Grade	Compacted 6 PLUS/7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Math 6	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade
	Math 7	Math 8	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Math 6 PLUS	Math 7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Compacted 6 PLUS /7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	
Math 7	8 th Grade	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade
	Math 8	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 <i>(for high school credit)</i>
Math 7 PLUS	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	
Math 8	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
	NC Math 1 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 2 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 <i>(for high school credit)</i>	
NC Math 1	NC Math 2 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>		
NC Math 2	NC Math 3 Honors <i>(for high school credit)</i>			

*Some courses may be offered online if there is not a face-to-face option at the school.



Looking Down the Road...Math

Important to Know...

- The content is the same no matter which course you take.
- The thing that changes is the amount of content included in **one** school year.

6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
Math 6	Math 7	Math 8
6 th Grade Standards	7 th Grade Standards	8 th Grade Standards

With Acceleration...

6 th Grade		7 th Grade		8 th Grade
6 Plus		7 Plus		NC Math 1
6 th Grade Standards	7 th Grade Standards	7 th Grade Standards	8 th Grade Standards	NC Math 1 Standards



Looking Down the Road...Math

What is it?

6 th Grade			7 th Grade	8 th Grade
6 Plus/7 Plus Compacted			NC Math 1	NC Math 2
6 th Grade Standards	7 th Grade Standards	8 th Grade Standards	NC Math 1 Standards	NC Math 2 Standards

- Covers 3 years of content in one school year. It covers 6th, 7th, and 8th grade content
 - Accelerative option that does not involve skipping content
 - Requires a student who is ready to both pick up content quickly and at times independently
- **How will schools deliver this?**
 - Traditional Classroom Model
 - Blended Instruction (Math 6 Plus class with online learning modules for Math 7 Plus content)



Summary

- Single Subject Acceleration is for Wake County Public Schools students in Kindergarten through 7 grade.
- Complete the test request form by the end of the test request window assigned to your child's school.
- Students can test in one subject area only (reading or math)



Summary

- The math assessment has multiple choice and open ended question types
- The ELA assessment has a written portion well as reading.
- Consider how Single Subject Acceleration will affect your child's educational career for high school and college.



The beautiful thing about
learning is that ***no one can
take it away from you.***

B.B. King – 1925-2015, Singer/Songwriter

