

ACCELERATION
CRITERIA FOR
KINDERGARTEN

In accordance with State Board rules, the Board has approved procedures to allow a child who is five years old at the beginning of the school year to be assigned initially to grade 1 rather than kindergarten.

Acceleration criteria for kindergarten shall include:

1. A score of 80 percent or higher on a District-approved criterion-referenced test in each of the following areas: language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. The criterion-referenced test shall be administered by District personnel at the appropriate level of instruction.
2. Recommendation for acceleration from a committee established by the principal.
3. Written approval by the parent or guardian.

EXAMINATIONS FOR
ACCELERATION OR
COURSE CREDIT

If a student in grades 1–12 wishes to accelerate to the next grade level or earn course credit without having received prior instruction in the grade level or course, the District shall offer opportunities in accordance with state law and State Board rules for the student to take a Board-approved examination for this purpose.

Grades 1-5: To skip a grade level, the student must score an 80 percent or higher on the Credit by Examination (CBE) assessment in each of the following areas: language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies to be placed in the next grade level.

Grades 6-12: Credit by Examination Without Prior Instruction (Secondary): The student must score an 80 percent or above on all CBE assessments for acceleration for the applicable course. If such credit is given, the District shall enter the examination score on the student's transcript.

Grades 6-12: Credit by Examination With Prior Instruction (Secondary): The student must score 70 percent or above on all CBE assessments for acceleration for the applicable course. If such credit is given, the District shall enter the examination score on the student's transcript.

ACCELERATION IN
MATH, GRADES 3-5

Acceleration in math for grades 3-5 will be determined when a student has taken the following assessments and met the requirements. The assessments are to be administered on different dates.

1. STAAR Released Test at Grade Level and Passed at Level III Masters
2. Texas Tech or University of Texas Credit by Exam for Current Grade Level Passed at 90% (CBE)

When the student meets the requirements, they may attend the next grade level math instruction. At the end of the first grading period, if the student is not performing at 80% or higher, the student will return to the grade-level class and take the grade-level math course with differentiation. At the end of the school year, the student must have an average of 75 or higher or they will be scheduled to take the course again the following school year.

ACCELERATION
THROUGH ADVANCED
PLACEMENT

Acceleration through Advanced Placement Testing occurs when a student takes an AP test without prior instruction. Credit is earned if a student scores a 3 or higher on a Board approved AP test that is offered in EMS ISD. The student receives a P indicating a pass on his or her grade history. This is not calculated into the student's GPA, and the pass/fail option does not count toward the 4-credit limit.

APPLICATION
FORMS

Application forms for available Credit by Examination opportunities are found on the District website under Departments – Testing and Title Programs.