

Illinois State Board of Education Modification Application

Public Hearing
August 22, 2018



Background Information

The Governor of Illinois signed the Accelerated Placement Act on August 25, 2017. However, the Illinois State Board of Education is still in the process of developing its administrative rules for implementing the Act. The Accelerated Placement Act took effect on July 1, 2018. The CEO is requesting a modification of the School Code provision to provide the district time to meet the intent of the mandate in a more effective manner.



The Accelerated Placement Act

CPS requests a modification to 105 ILCS 5/14A-32:

Sec. 14A-32. Accelerated placement; school district responsibilities.

Each school district shall have a policy by the 2019-2020 school year that allows for accelerated placement that includes or incorporates by reference the following components:

(1) a provision that provides that participation in accelerated placement is not limited to those children who have been identified as gifted and talented, but rather is open to all children who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement;

(2) a fair and equitable decision-making process that involves multiple persons and includes a student's parents or guardians;

(3) procedures for notifying parents or guardians of a child of a decision affecting that child's participation in an accelerated placement program; and

(4) an assessment process that includes multiple valid, reliable indicators



Current Practices

For families who elect to participate in an application process, the district provides an annual process for district assessed programs. These programs include:

- Entire School Gifted Centers with full-time grouping and Acceleration of 1-full year in the primary grades and 2-full years in grades 4-8
 - Regional Gifted Centers: Edison, Keller, and Lenart
- Gifted Programs within Neighborhood, Magnet, or Magnet Cluster Schools with full-time grouping and Acceleration in Regional Gifted Centers (English and EL) of 1-full year in the primary grades and 2-full years in grades 4-8; Acceleration in Academic Centers up to 2-full years with a total of a 6-year trajectory of accelerated learning
 - Regional Gifted Centers English: Beasley, Beaubien, Bell, Carnegie, Coonley, National Teachers Academy, Pritzker, South Loop
 - Regional Gifted Centers - EL: Greeley, Orozco, and Pulaski
 - Academic Centers: Brooks, Kenwood, Lane, Lindblom, Morgan Park, Taft, and Whitney Young



- Classical Programming: Some programs apply to the entire population of a school and some within a Neighborhood, Magnet, or Magnet Cluster School with full-time grouping and Acceleration at 1-full year across the school continuum K-6 and K-8
 - Entire Population Classical: Decatur K-6, McDade K-6, Poe K-6 and Skinner North K-8
 - Classical Program within a Neighborhood, Magnet, Magnet Cluster School: Skinner West
- In addition, the Board approved two new classical programs at Bronzeville Classical and Sor Juana Elementary School to begin this fall.



Next Steps

The district has been working on developing a policy for Accelerated Placement, but would like to carefully consider the decision making process for identifying children of high ability using the following steps:

- publicly engage parents and other stakeholders for input on the proposed policy;
- determine what assessments local schools may administer; and
- and train our personnel on implementing the new policy

