

Single Subject Acceleration Q&As

QUESTION	ANSWER
If my child is already in AIG does he need to test for SSA?	Yes, SSA is a separate part of the program. AIG classes are enrichment classes provided a couple of times a week that build on current grade level content; SSA is skipping an entire grade in math OR reading.
Are there any tests/assessments we can give our child at home to help us decide if SSA is a good fit?	Yes! There are some old (released) EOGs on NC DPI's site . Scroll down to "Released" and find the grade above your child's current placement. The idea is for your child to perform well on these tests since he or she will be skipping a year's worth of content. WCPSS expects students in SSA to perform at the top of the class even when they've skipped content.
What is WGA?	<p>This is when a child skips all of the content of an entire grade level. This process needs to start closer to the beginning of the year as it is very expansive and requires extensive data collection and formal observations.</p> <p>"Whole Grade Advancement occurs when students move through traditional curriculum at rates faster than typical. It means matching the level and complexity of the curriculum with the readiness and motivation of the student. The student who is whole grade advanced is placed into the next grade and should achieve at the same level as the top students in the next grade. The student should be able to maintain this high level of performance throughout his/her school career."</p>
How do I know if WGA is a good fit for my child?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Talk to your child's current teacher and teacher form last year.2. Look at testing data - we can look this up for you at school. Keep in mind that COVID kept us from delivering many standardized tests.3. Use old (released) EOGs on NC DPI's site to gather info at home (this cannot be

	<p>used at the school level).</p> <p>WGA is rigorous and it is an option for the few, highly gifted students who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● consistently perform one or more grade levels above his or her current grade level in all subject areas. ● are cognitively and conceptually capable of handling the increased demands of the next grade level by transferring previous learning and acquired knowledge to accomplish complex cognitive tasks. ● are socially and emotionally mature and typically demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills in their interactions with adults, age-mates as well as with both older and younger students. ● may be strong learners, who actively seek and persist in new and rigorous academic challenges. These students may be self-motivated and self-sustainable.
<p>What happens if my child passes the SSA test? Will he/she join a different program?</p>	<p>If your child passes the SSA exam, SSA services will begin on the first day of the next school year. Students will be accelerated through one academic year of either Math or Language Arts and would receive instruction in the grade above their current placement.</p> <p>In 5th and 8th grade, students will participate in virtual SSA classes through Canvas.</p>
<p>If a student gets selected to SSA this year in one subject, can he still apply to SSA in future years to another subject?</p>	<p>No. Students may only qualify for SSA in either math or reading.</p>
<p>Can the student take the test , and later on, choose to opt out in case they are selected?</p>	<p>Yes, that is your right.</p>
<p>Will the test be in school hours or out of school hours?</p>	<p>The test will take place during school hours on campus. Ms. Sanders will contact families with dates & times.</p>
<p>How does SSA relate to full grade change (I believe there is an option to skip a grade with WCPSS)?</p>	<p>Whole-Grade Advancement is a separate process. Families pursuing whole-grade advancement (WGA) must prove, through</p>

	multiple data sources compiled in a portfolio, that a student is consistently performing 1-2 grades above his/her peers in all subject areas. Additionally, students must demonstrate the required social/emotional skills necessary for a whole-grade advancement.
If a student has done EKE, can they qualify for WGA?	Early Kindergarten Entry (EKE) students can advance a whole grade in the future, but not during the kindergarten year. Extensive amounts of quantitative and qualitative data would be required for future advancement along with consults from the school psychologist and counselor.