SSA Parent Information

WHAT
STARTS
HERE
CHANGES
EVERYTHING.

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.

Current Kindergarten students through 7th grade students may be nominated for SSA testing.

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.

SSA Testing

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 5th grade Math/ELA course during their 4th grade year.

OCE's AIG department will contact parents about results by end of Spring semester 2023.

SSA services **will not** take place until the **next school year.**

SSA Process from Test Request to Results

Test Request

Parent contact child's teacher indicating they want to have their student(s) tested for SSA.

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

Testing

Students test on a computer while in the school building during the Testing Window. All testing must take place in the building.

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.

SSA ELA Assessments

Student Current Grade Level	Grade/ Course Requesting to Skip	Assessment used to Qualify	Assessment Format	Qualifying Criteria
Kindergarten	1st Grade ELA	MClass	An in-person written response assessment.	MClass Maze score of 14.5 and proficient (level 4) on written response.
1st Grade	2nd 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	3rd Grade ELA	Grade 3 Assessment		
3rd Grade	4th Grade ELA	Grade 4 Assessment		
4th Grade	5th Grade ELA	Grade 5 Assessment		
5th Grade	6th Grade ELA	Grade 6 Assessment		
6th Grade	7th 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):* • 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):* • 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):* • 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):* • 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	
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):* • 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):* • 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):* • 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):* • 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
Current Grade: 6 **SSA:** **7th Grade ELA**	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 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)

22-23	8th Grade	Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year	
Current Grade: 7 **SSA** **8th Grade ELA**	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.

WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

www.wcpss.net

SSA Math Assessments

Student Current Grade Level	Grade/ Course Requesting to Skip	Assessment used to Qualify	Assessment Format	Qualifying Criteria
Kindergarten	1st Grade Math	1st 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	2nd Grade Math	Grade 2 Assessment	Multiple choice and gridded response items with both calculator active and inactive sections.	≥80% correct on Acceleration Assessment
2nd Grade	3rd Grade Math	Grade 3 Assessment		
3rd Grade	4th Grade Math	Grade 4 Assessment		
4th Grade	5th Grade Math	Grade 5 Assessment		
5th Grade	6 PLUS Math	6 PLUS Assessment		
6th Grade and 7th Grade	7 PLUS Math	7 PLUS Assessment		

WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

www.wcpss.net

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)			

Parent Reflection

❏ Have I had conversations about the need for skipping a whole grade level content with my **child's teacher**?

❏ How would my child feel about following a **daily schedule different than their peers** (*e.g., potentially attending Specials, Lunch and/or Recess with another grade level*)?

❏ 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 (SSA) is for Wake County Public Schools students in Kindergarten through 7th grade.

- The 2nd grade-7th grade Math assessment has multiple choice and open ended question types. First grade has individual constructed response items. A student is not allowed to skip Math 1 through the SSA program. Math 1 would be part of the CDM process.

- The ELA assessment has a written portion as well as multiple choice assessment.

- Students can test in one subject area only (ELA or Math).

- Consider how Single Subject Acceleration will affect your child's educational career for high school and college.

- To nominate your child for SSA testing, please contact their teacher for a Test Request Google Form by the end of the test request window assigned to your child's school.

Request and Testing Windows

SSA Parent Test Request Windows

Year Round Track 1: **Feb. 20-24** Contact your child's teacher to nominate your child for SSA testing.	Year Round Tracks 1, 2, and 3: **April 4-19** Specific testing dates at OCE will be announced in March.
Year Round Tracks 2, 3, and 4: **March 20-24** Contact your child's teacher to nominate your child for SSA testing.	Year Round Track 4: **April 18-May 3** Specific testing dates at OCE will be announced in March.

SSA Testing Windows

Test Requests will NOT be accepted after the window has closed and testing will not be administered outside of the specific testing dates.

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