

Procedure for Grade Level Acceleration (Skipping)
(and for other acceleration models)
Franklin Community School Corporation

The request for consideration of acceleration options can come from a student, parent, guardian, teacher, or administrator. In addition, principals and teachers are encouraged to identify students that might be a good candidate for acceleration or enrichment options because that student is working well above grade level.

Once a request has been received, the building principal or designee should schedule an exploratory meeting with the parents (and student if the student desires to be in the meeting). At this meeting the request should be outlined by the nominator, and if the parents are interested in grade level acceleration as an option, the process of using the Iowa Acceleration Scale should be explained to parents and initiated. The Iowa Acceleration Scale is a tool to help educators determine if grade level acceleration is an appropriate option. The Iowa Acceleration Scale is available from the Franklin Community School Corporation High Ability Coordinator. It is necessary to compile achievement testing data, cognitive ability testing data, and aptitude testing data to use the Iowa Acceleration Scale.

The Iowa Acceleration Scale should be utilized and then a second meeting should occur with the stakeholders (parent(s), student, classroom teacher(s), building principal or designee). At this meeting the Iowa Acceleration Scale process should be completed and a decision reached collaboratively about the student's future educational programming. The building principal or designee would make the decision if the group is not able to come to a conclusion together. If the parent(s) wish to appeal the decision, they could do so to the superintendent (or designee). The superintendent or designee would make the final decision and no further appeal is possible.

Grade level acceleration (skipping) is one type of acceleration available to qualified students. Other options include: subject acceleration (skipping), advanced placement, dual/concurrent enrollment, early graduation, early entrance, honors classes. There are separate policies in place for early graduation from high school and for early entrance to kindergarten or 1st grade.

For additional information and research on acceleration, the following sources are recommended:

Institute for Research and Policy on Acceleration at <http://www.accelerationinstitute.org/>

IRPA's Q & A at <http://www.accelerationinstitute.org/Resources/QA/>

A Nation Deceived at http://www.accelerationinstitute.org/Nation_Deceived/Get_Report.aspx