

ACCELERATION (High School)

- Acceleration opportunities exist in core classes. The student and parent, guardian or legal custodian must make a written request to the principal and or counselor to pursue the acceleration option. This request should occur sufficiently in advance of the new school year, but no later than March 1.

Students can accelerate through a course by “testing out” of the content. Each department will determine and administer the appropriate assessment(s) to determine mastery of the course.

A list of standard, benchmarks and objective areas covered on the examinations will be available to students who are interested in pursuing this option.

Another method of acceleration will be granted through online course. Students who desire to accelerate through required courses should make a request to the school counselor. Online courses must be completed at an A level (90%) to receive credit.

Determination for acceleration will be made by the principal, counselor and department personnel. Considerations will include:

- Advanced achievement levels on standardized tests. Grades in the most recent course of a similar content area.
- The student’s four year plan.
- The principal or designee will inform the student and parent, guardian or legal custodian as to the receipt of their request. This will include date of examination and any other procedures. Results of the assessment will be given to the parent, guardian or legal custodian as soon as they’re available.

Demonstration of mastery:

- Each content area will require different methods of assessment for students to demonstrate mastery and achievement for particular courses. These assessments may include, but not be limited to, writing portfolio, research project, mid-term and final exam, lab activity, and a speech.
- In order to successfully accelerate or to “test out,” the student must perform at an A (90%) level or better to advance to the next level course.
- A committee of teachers representing each department will check the respective assessments and will inform the student and the principal of the outcome.
- Upon demonstrating mastery the student will receive a grade of “P” on his or her transcript and with the appropriate unit of credit for the course.

Legal Ref: Iowa Code §§ 256.11,; 279.8.
281 I.A.C.; 12.5(16).

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