



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB4265

Introduced 1/16/2024, by Rep. Lance Yednock and David Friess

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/14A-32

Amends the Gifted and Talented Children and Children Eligible for Accelerated Placement Article of the School Code. Provides that, by no later than the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, a school district's accelerated placement policy may (instead of shall) allow for the automatic enrollment, in the following school term, of a student into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework offered by the high school if the student exceeds (instead of meets or exceeds) State standards in English language arts, mathematics, or science on a State assessment administered under the School Code. Makes conforming changes. Effective immediately.

LRB103 35705 RJT 65781 b

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 14A-32 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/14A-32)

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

9 (a) Each school district shall have a policy that allows
10 for accelerated placement that includes or incorporates by
11 reference the following components:

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

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

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

23 (4) an assessment process that includes multiple

1 valid, reliable indicators.

2 (a-5) By no later than the beginning of the 2023-2024
3 school year, a school district's accelerated placement policy
4 may ~~shall~~ allow for the automatic enrollment, in the following
5 school term, of a student into the next most rigorous level of
6 advanced coursework offered by the high school if the student
7 ~~meets or~~ exceeds State standards in English language arts,
8 mathematics, or science on a State assessment administered
9 under Section 2-3.64a-5 as follows:

10 (1) A student who ~~meets or~~ exceeds State standards in
11 English language arts may ~~shall~~ be automatically enrolled
12 into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework
13 in English, social studies, humanities, or related
14 subjects.

15 (2) A student who ~~meets or~~ exceeds State standards in
16 mathematics may ~~shall~~ be automatically enrolled into the
17 next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in
18 mathematics.

19 (3) A student who ~~meets or~~ exceeds State standards in
20 science may ~~shall~~ be automatically enrolled into the next
21 most rigorous level of advanced coursework in science.

22 For a student entering grade 12, the next most rigorous
23 level of advanced coursework in English language arts or
24 mathematics shall be a dual credit course, as defined in the
25 Dual Credit Quality Act, an Advanced Placement course, as
26 defined in Section 10 of the College and Career Success for All

1 Students Act, or an International Baccalaureate course;
2 otherwise, the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework
3 under this subsection (a-5) may include a dual credit course,
4 as defined in the Dual Credit Quality Act, an Advanced
5 Placement course, as defined in Section 10 of the College and
6 Career Success for All Students Act, an International
7 Baccalaureate course, an honors class, an enrichment
8 opportunity, a gifted program, or another program offered by
9 the district.

10 A school district may use the student's most recent State
11 assessment results to determine whether a student ~~meets or~~
12 exceeds State standards. For a student entering grade 9,
13 results from the State assessment taken in grades 6 through 8
14 may be used. For other high school grades, the results from a
15 locally selected, nationally normed assessment may be used
16 instead of the State assessment if those results are the most
17 recent.

18 A school district must provide the parent or guardian of a
19 student eligible for automatic enrollment under this
20 subsection (a-5) with the option to instead have the student
21 enroll in alternative coursework that better aligns with the
22 student's postsecondary education or career goals.

23 Nothing in this subsection (a-5) may be interpreted to
24 preclude other students from enrolling in advanced coursework
25 per the policy of a school district.

26 (b) Further, a school district's accelerated placement

1 policy may include or incorporate by reference, but need not
2 be limited to, the following components:

3 (1) procedures for annually informing the community
4 at-large, including parents or guardians, community-based
5 organizations, and providers of out-of-school programs,
6 about the accelerated placement program and the methods
7 used for the identification of children eligible for
8 accelerated placement, including strategies to reach
9 groups of students and families who have been historically
10 underrepresented in accelerated placement programs and
11 advanced coursework;

12 (2) a process for referral that allows for multiple
13 referrers, including a child's parents or guardians; other
14 referrers may include licensed education professionals,
15 the child, with the written consent of a parent or
16 guardian, a peer, through a licensed education
17 professional who has knowledge of the referred child's
18 abilities, or, in case of possible early entrance, a
19 preschool educator, pediatrician, or psychologist who
20 knows the child;

21 (3) a provision that provides that children
22 participating in an accelerated placement program and
23 their parents or guardians will be provided a written plan
24 detailing the type of acceleration the child will receive
25 and strategies to support the child;

26 (4) procedures to provide support and promote success

1 for students who are newly enrolled in an accelerated
2 placement program;

3 (5) a process for the school district to review and
4 utilize disaggregated data on participation in an
5 accelerated placement program to address gaps among
6 demographic groups in accelerated placement opportunities;
7 and

8 (6) procedures to promote equity, which may
9 incorporate one or more of the following evidence-based
10 practices:

11 (A) the use of multiple tools to assess
12 exceptional potential and provide several pathways
13 into advanced academic programs when assessing student
14 need for advanced academic or accelerated programming;

15 (B) providing enrichment opportunities starting in
16 the early grades to address achievement gaps that
17 occur at school entry and provide students with
18 opportunities to demonstrate their advanced potential;

19 (C) the use of universal screening combined with
20 local school-based norms for placement in accelerated
21 and advanced learning programs;

22 (D) developing a continuum of services to identify
23 and develop talent in all learners ranging from
24 enriched learning experiences, such as problem-based
25 learning, performance tasks, critical thinking, and
26 career exploration, to accelerated placement and

1 advanced academic programming; and

2 (E) providing professional learning in gifted
3 education for teachers and other appropriate school
4 personnel to appropriately identify and challenge
5 students from diverse cultures and backgrounds who may
6 benefit from accelerated placement or advanced
7 academic programming.

8 (c) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
9 determine data to be collected and disaggregated by
10 demographic group regarding accelerated placement, including
11 the rates of students who participate in and successfully
12 complete advanced coursework, and a method of making the
13 information available to the public.

14 (d) On or before November 1, 2022, following a review of
15 disaggregated data on the participation and successful
16 completion rates of students enrolled in an accelerated
17 placement program, each school district shall develop a plan
18 to expand access to its accelerated placement program and to
19 ensure the teaching capacity necessary to meet the increased
20 demand.

21 (Source: P.A. 102-209, eff. 11-30-21 (See Section 5 of P.A.
22 102-671 for effective date of P.A. 102-209); 103-263, eff.
23 6-30-23.)

24 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
25 becoming law.