

Spring Independent School District  
Grade Acceleration Testing General  
Guidelines – 2023-2024  
Elementary and Middle School

- **Credit By Examination by Grade Level Acceleration**

Exams for Acceleration (EA) offer students in grades K-8 the opportunity to advance a grade level. Students who successfully complete all four course exams may advance one full grade level. Students testing in the fall are eligible to be placed immediately into the next grade level, while those testing in the spring or summer will be eligible the following school year.

- Students must submit the completed application form, including parent signature to his/her Counselor by the stated deadline on the Grade Acceleration Application. Grade reports will be mailed to the parent at the address on the application form.
- Parents are required to complete and return a Parent Checklist for Grade Acceleration to their child's campus counselor.
- Test sequence for acceleration:
  - Grade Level Math
  - Grade Level Social Studies
  - Grade Level Science
  - Grade Level Language Arts
- Students must achieve an 80% in math to continue the Credit by Exam process.
- If a student does not achieve an 80% in **ALL** four content areas, the student is not eligible for grade advancement.
- All study guides and instructional materials will be available on the Spring ISD website. .
- There will be no make-up sessions for any Grade Acceleration Examination. All tests will be administered on the assigned date.
- Tests and scoring are provided by University of Texas.
- There is no fee for Grade Acceleration Examinations.
- **For additional information please contact your school counselor.**

**Application Deadlines:**

- September 5 - September 8, 2023 (Application Deadline 8/16/23)
- January 29 - February 1, 2024 (Application Deadline 1/10/24)
- June 12 & 13 and July 17 & 18, 2024 (Application Deadline 5/22/24)

If you have questions or need additional information,  
please contact your school counselor.

For campus use only Date  
form is received from the  
parent \_\_\_\_\_

## Parent Checklist for Grade Acceleration 2023 - 2024

Please return the completed checklist to your  
child's counselor along with the signed parent statement.

Print legibly and fill in ALL information

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Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Campus \_\_\_\_\_

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Current enrolled grade level \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

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Name of Individual Completing the Form \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Child \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions for completing the checklists on the following pages:

1. Please complete all four checklists (1) Intellectual Ability; (2) Social/Behavioral; (3) Language Arts; and (4) Mathematics in Section A.
2. On each checklist please place a check in the column to the right of each characteristic which you believe best represents the frequency with which your child demonstrates this characteristic.
3. If you check Regularly or Often for a particular characteristic, please also provide a description, or example, of how your child exhibits this characteristic in the last column
4. Please fill out the short answer questions in Section B. If you need more space than provided, please feel free to attach additional sheets.

Section A

Please complete this form for your child. Place a check in the column that best represents how often your child exhibits each characteristic. If you check “regularly” or “often” you must provide a description for that characteristic.

Characteristics of Intellectual Ability	Have not seen evidence (0% of the time)	Rarely: (Less than 25% of the time)	Often: (Between 75% and 25% of the time)	Regularly: (More than 75% of the time)	Description/Example
1. Comprehends abstract ideas and concepts.					
2. Makes quick and valid generalizations and uses them in new situations					
3. Demonstrates skills in reasoning and evaluating situations					
4. Understands cause and effect					
5. Chooses and enjoys challenging tasks or problems					
6. Generates sophisticated and/or creative and unusual ideas and solutions					
7. Demonstrates ability to work independently					
8. Demonstrates great curiosity: asks how, why, and what if					

Characteristics of Social/Behavioral	Have not seen evidence (0% of the time)	Rarely: (Less than 25% of the time)	Often: (Between 25% and 75% of the time)	Regularly: (More than 75% of the time)	Description/Example
1. Holds strong ideas/beliefs/opinions					
2. Questions authority					
3. Focuses intensely on tasks of Personal interest					
4. Subtle sense of humor: develops original jokes and puns					
5. Is bored with routine					
6. Critical of self and/or others					
7. Self-motivated when topics are of personal interest					
8. Comfortable communicating with adults					
9. Impatient or intolerant when others are moving at a slower pace					

Characteristics of Language Arts	Have not seen evidence (0% of the time)	Rarely: (Less than 25% of the time)	Often: (Between 75% and 25% of the time)	Regularly: (More than 75% of the time)	Description/Example
1. Uses an extensive vocabulary in both spoken and written language					
2. Provides rich descriptions with elaborate/vivid detail on topics of personal interest					
3. Writes independently even when writing is not a homework assignment (stories, poems, etc.), and exhibits a love of writing and interest in improving his/her writing					
4. Approaches writing tasks from an unusual perspective or point of view					
5. Writing is focused and exhibits good organization and uses appropriate punctuation and capitalization					
6. Uses sophisticated sentence structure and sentence variety					
7. Avidly reads books/selections beyond grade level					
8. Enjoys research and investigation in areas of personal interest and engages in the process for personal satisfaction in addition to assignments					
9. Eloquently defends and/or expands upon ideas including speaking articulately					
10. Analyzes situations (real and literary) and seeks underlying problems					

Characteristics of Mathematics	Have not seen evidence (0% of the time)	Rarely: (Less than 25% of the time)	Often: (Between 75% and 25% of the time)	Regularly: (More than 75% of the time)	Description/Example
1. Quickly computes arithmetic problems in head					
2. Works on logic puzzles or brain-teasers					
3. Classifies things in categories or groups					
4. Quickly picks up patterns in a problem and sees relationships to previous experiences					
5. Tries different strategies when the first strategy does not work					
6. Solves problems involving multiple steps					
7. Models and communicates thinking processes orally or in writing					
8. Produces solutions which are creative and diverse					
9. Extends problems by generating new problems or ideas					
10. Transfers and applies experiences and strategies to new situations					

Section B

Please answer each question below. Please attach additional paper if needed.

1. Describe how your child relates to other children.

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2. List activities in which your child participates.

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3. Reasons I want my child to accelerate a grade level

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4. Characteristics that your child displays that would make him/her comfortable accelerating a grade level.

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Please feel free to provide any additional information regarding your child's social and academic growth.

# Application for Grade Acceleration 2023 - 2024

Students may not test in grade level in which he/she is currently enrolled for credit at the time of testing. Please review the Credit by Examination Guidelines for more information.

## Section I: Student Information

Please Print legibly and fill in ALL information.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Campus \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: M \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ Student SISD ID number \_\_\_\_\_

Student Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ ~ \_\_\_\_\_ ~ \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Home Phone  
(mm/dd/yyyy)

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(Street Number)

(Street Name)

(Apt. #)

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(City)

(State)

(Zip)

For office use only:

Section II: To be completed by the Counselor or Campus CBE Contact

Current enrolled grade level \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level attempting to test out of \_\_\_\_\_

End of year average for current school year:

Language Arts \_\_\_\_\_

Science \_\_\_\_\_

Math \_\_\_\_\_

Social Studies \_\_\_\_\_

Attach the following documentation to the application:

\*Parent signature page

\*A copy of the student's current STAAR Confidential Student Report (CSR) – if applicable

\*A signed letter from the student's teacher(s) on why the student would benefit academically and emotionally accelerating a grade level

\*Verification of conference with parent

For office use only:

Section III: To be completed by the principal or Campus CBE Contact

The information provided on the application and attached documentation has been verified and is accurate. The student meets the eligibility requirements as stated in SISD policy, CBE guidelines, and attendance.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please call 281-891-6354 if you have any questions

(Please return this form to Matthew Montemayor in the Research, Accountability & Testing  
Department

Revised August 3, 2023