



Acceleration Information at UMS

Types of Acceleration:

- Single Subject Acceleration Grades 6-9+
- Whole Grade Acceleration into Grades 7, 8, 9

Referral Process:

A parent may refer their child for acceleration. They must submit the following form to their child's grade level counselor: [Acceleration Forms 7-2018 \(2\).pdf](#)

- 60 days prior to the end of the school year
- To request acceleration for the 24-25 school year, **the deadline is February 29, 2024**

Screening Process:

- All requests will be reviewed and processed within 14 days
- Students must meet the criteria for the subject level wanting to advance in.
 - English-Language Arts Department-The student is performing at or above the 90th percentile using the Reading Composite score based on current grade level Spring norms on the MAP assessment.
 - Math Department-The student is performing at or above the 90th percentile using the Math Composite score based on current grade level Spring norms on the MAP assessment.
 - Science Department-The student is performing at or above the 60th percentile using the Math Composite and Reading Composite scores based on current grade level Spring norms on the MAP assessment.
 - Social Studies, and Foreign Language Departments-The student is performing at or above the 60th percentile using Reading Composite scores based on current grade level Spring norms on the MAP assessment.

Evaluation Process:

- Whole Grade: Each child undergoes assessment in the areas of social-emotional functioning, cognitive ability, academic achievement and academic aptitude
- Single Subject: For each course the student wishes to accelerate beyond, they must pass an End of Course exam developed by each department.
- Passing score on End of Course Exams
 - Science-80%
 - Social Studies-80%
 - ELA- 28pts on writing rubric at desired grade level --
[G6 Argumentative Rubric](#) [G7 Argumentative Rubric](#) [G8 Argumentative Rubric](#)
 - Math-85%



Acceleration Information at UMS

- *ELA Specific Information:*
 - The Language Arts assessment is an On-Demand Argumentative Writing Task. On-Demand signifies that the topic will not be shared ahead of time, and student essay must be completed during the assessment window. Students are provided with an arguable question, accompanying relevant articles, the rubric on which they are scored, and writing materials. They are tasked with developing an essay that states a claim and provides evidence from the articles with which they are provided. This essay is scored on the appropriate grade level's rubric (linked above).
- *Math Specific Information:*
 - Here are links to the curriculum guide as well as each course's scope & sequence for information on units of study covered on the acceleration test.
 1. [UMS Math Department Scope & Sequence](#)
 2. [UMS Curriculum Guide \(Math pages 5 & 6\)](#)
 3. [UMS Acceleration Math Program Criteria & Forms Link](#)
- *Foreign Language Specific Information:*
 - 7th and 8th grade foreign language are introductory level courses. A student entering UMS already at intermediate proficiency could be placed in an appropriate high school class schedule permitting.
 - Foreign Language - 85% on a high school at the end of semester exam in order to enter the subsequent level at the high school.
- *Fine Arts Specific Information:*
 - Music provides an advanced performance group that meets several mornings during the week. These groups are by audition with the director and are open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students.
 - Concert Band
 - Concert Strings
 - Honors Choir
 - Jazz Band

Eligibility Determination:

- Data and information will be reviewed to see if students meet qualifications.
- To meet eligibility criteria, the student must meet passing criteria (set by each department) on the end of course exam.
- If a parent disagrees they have 30 days to appeal.

Acceleration Placement:

- For students recommended for whole grade or single subject acceleration, a meeting is held, including student, parent, counselor, psychologist, and administrator to develop a plan to transition the student into the accelerated placement.