
Credit by Examination for Acceleration

What is Credit by Examination for Acceleration (CEFA)?

Credit by Examination for Acceleration is a means by which high-achieving elementary students with above average grades and test scores may advance one grade level by taking and passing required tests.

Who may apply?

Students in Grades K-5 must contact the school counselor to apply, pending approval (counselor, principal, and parent). Applications must be submitted to the district's Assessment Department. Applications should be uploaded by the school counselor when ordering exams online by specified deadlines by going to: <http://assessment.dallasisd.org/>.

Which test are administered and what is the cost?

Examinations for acceleration, developed through Texas Tech University, are used to assess mastery of the essential elements for students in Grades 1-5. Pre-Kindergarten students may be accelerated to Grade 1 by taking and passing an appropriate kindergarten norm-reference test with the approval of the principal, counselor, classroom teacher(s). Parents of pre-kindergarten students should apply at the end of the Pre-k school year through their home campus. In order to apply for acceleration, pre-kindergarten students must meet the chronological age requirement of entering kindergarten. Students must be five years old by September 1st of the enrollment year. There is no cost to Dallas ISD students when testing within the testing designated testing windows.

What percent mastery must students attain to be promoted one grade level?

Elementary school students who want acceleration must attain 80% mastery or higher in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. Kindergarten students must show mastery of the Kindergarten material by scoring at or above the 70th percentile on an appropriate kindergarten norm-reference test. All result(s) will be sent to students' home school within 4-5 weeks after testing.