



Accelerated Math FAQs

What is Accelerated Math?

At West Hills Middle School, we offer an Accelerated Math program for 7th graders that allows students to move through math courses at a faster pace than the standard Core classes. The result is that students end up one year ahead in math by the 9th grade. In 7th grade, accelerated students will cover 7th and 8th grade Utah State standards. In 8th grade, students will take Secondary Math 1 Honors (typically a 9th grade course.) In 9th grade, students will take Secondary Math 2 Honors (typically a 10th grade course.)

What are the Pros and Cons of Accelerated Math?

The main advantage of math acceleration is that it helps students who learn math quickly stay engaged in middle school math. It helps students with strong math skills not become bored because the pace is too slow.

The data is mixed about long-term benefits of math acceleration. Many students who begin an accelerated math program end up leaving the program later on. Some students who remain in an accelerated math program are unsure which math class to take as a high school senior. Students who know which college degree they plan to pursue may benefit the most from math acceleration.

How do I know if Accelerated Math is right for my student?

Success in Accelerated Math involves many factors. It is an individual decision.

Here are some factors to consider:

- ✓ 6th grade Math RISE score
- ✓ Student learns math quickly
- ✓ Student shows strong interest in math
- ✓ Student has good study skills and does homework consistently every evening

How much homework can my student expect in Accelerated Math?

Students will have daily homework to do outside of class time, averaging between 30 minutes to 1 hour. Homework is used to assess the pace and progress of the student and the class. It is essential that students keep up with assigned homework. After school support is provided for students from 3:00-3:30 multiple days of the week.

What if my student struggles in Accelerated Math?

Students may ask for limited one-on-one help from the teacher, especially when they have missed school due to illness. However, we cannot provide ongoing one-on-one tutoring to help students keep up with the pace of Accelerated Math. The teacher is available after school multiple times a week to assist with some guidance and support.

If a student struggles to keep up or needs ongoing tutoring, then they would be better served in a Core math class, and we recommend that they transfer.

Which math classes will my student take in 8th and 9th grade?

7th grade = Accelerated Math 7th/8th curriculum combined

8th grade = Secondary Math 1 Honors (typically a 9th grade course)

9th grade = Secondary Math 2 Honors (typically a 10th grade course)

If I take Accelerated Math, does that mean I won't have to take math when I'm a senior in high school?

It is **strongly discouraged** for students to take a year off from math their senior year of high school. To be ready for college, students need continuous math instruction all four years of high school.

In the Accelerated Math program, students complete AP Calculus during their junior year of high school. The question is, which math class will benefit them the most during their senior year? Students may take AP Statistics as a senior. However, depending on the degree your student plans to pursue in college, it may be in their best interest to take a college math class from SLCC during their senior year. You will need to work with your student's high school counselor and math teacher to determine the best plan for your student.

Other questions? Call the Counseling Center at 801-412-2315.

Students can opt to move directly to 8th grade by taking a 7th grade competency exam and scoring at least 80% or higher.

Registration Process

Students can register online by accessing the Google Form through the QR code below.



Location

Testing takes place at Jordan Credit Center (3706 West 9800 South, South Jordan, UT)

Dates

Wednesday, February 18th 4:00 PM

Wednesday, February 25th 4:00 PM

Friday, March 13th 3:00 PM

For questions about acceleration, mathematics, or testing, please contact:

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