



# Acceleration Programs- Which is Right For You?

In thinking about choosing courses/programs to accelerate in, use this chart to consider which program is best for you and your academic success.

	Advanced Placement	International Baccalaureate	Dual Enrollment
<b>Location</b>	High school setting	High school setting	High school setting or on college campus
<b>Length of Courses</b>	Semester or one year	Semester or one year	Semester
<b>Types of Courses</b>	Over 30 tests given in all subject areas <a href="https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse">https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse</a> , mostly core	6 core areas and a core <a href="http://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/">http://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/</a> , mostly core	Use of college catalog, often over 100 courses to choose from including core & prerequisites
<b>Teacher Certification</b>	Bachelors degree	Bachelors degree	Masters to doctorate degree in content
<b>Curriculum</b>	Curriculum developed by the AP program (CollegeBoard), district, and teacher	Curriculum developed by the IB program, district, and teacher	Curriculum developed the college institution department and faculty
<b>High School Credits</b>	Earn high school credits, given more weight towards GPA	Earn high school credits, given more weight towards GPA	Earn high school credits, given more weight towards GPA
<b>College Credits</b>	Dependent on end-of-year test scores & college attending	Dependent on end-of-year test scores & college attending	Earned throughout the semester, final grade determines credits
<b>College Transcript</b>	Receive grade for high school, but passing score only earns credit not counted towards college GPA	Receive grade for high school, but passing score only earns credit not counted towards college GPA	Receive both high school and college credit. An official college transcript begins with those grades.
<b>Entrance Into Program</b>	Widely accessible to most students, traditionally not as dependent on GPA or test scores	Limited access program to select students with certain GPA and recommendations	Accessible to students with certain GPA scores and/or passing of determined college entrance exam
<b>Other Pros</b>	<p>Can be mixed in with high school courses</p> <p>Can start as early as 9th grade year, traditionally 11th &amp; 12th</p> <p>Independent courses- not a structured program</p> <p>Teacher support</p>	<p>Can be mixed in with high school courses</p> <p>Students enter program as a 9th or 10th grader.</p> <p>Very structured program with little flexibility</p> <p>Teacher support</p>	<p>Can be mixed in with high school courses</p> <p>Can start as early as 9th grade, traditionally 11th &amp; 12th</p> <p>Independent courses, but part of an overall general studies plan</p> <p>Can receive anywhere from 3-60 credits</p> <p>Career exploration opportunities</p>
<b>Cons</b>	<p>Grades in course does not always represent how they will do on the test</p> <p>Limited course selection at school.</p>	<p>Grades in course does not always represent how they will do on the test.</p> <p>Structured program can inhibit other coursework that is interesting to students</p>	<p>Your final grade is your final grade.</p> <p>If student did poorly it is permanently on their college transcript</p> <p>Fast paced curriculum</p> <p>Very independent, especially on the college campus</p>