

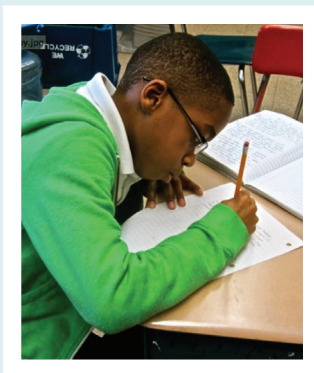
About Advanced Work Class

Advanced Work Class (AWC) is a full-time program in the Boston Public Schools (BPS) that provides an accelerated academic curriculum for highly motivated and academically capable students. Coursework is challenging, and performance standards are high. Students are expected to complete more school work and more home study.

Student participation is by invitation only.

Participation in AWC provides your child with many benefits:

- The accelerated curriculum will provide your child with appropriate academic challenges.
- Your child will be in the classroom with other motivated learners.
- Students who successfully complete AWC are well prepared to compete for admission to the three BPS exam schools or to other accelerated programs.



Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for Advanced Work Class?

All students in grades 3, 4 and 5 are tested for eligibility using the Terra Nova 3, Basic Survey test. Spanish-speaking English language learners are tested in their native language for the Spanish AWC program using the SUPERA test.

When are students tested?

Tests are given in late September or early October each year. These tests—in Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics—are multiple choice and timed.

How will I know if my child is eligible for the AWC program?

BPS will mail to you a letter with your child's test results so that you know how s/he performed on the test. A separate invitation letter will be sent later to children whose test scores are high enough to qualify for AWC, followed by school choice applications in January (grade 5) and February (grades 3 and 4).

How is my child assigned to a school with an AWC program?

BPS follows the same process for AWC assignments as it does for regular assignments. Families must complete the school choice application to indicate their choices. For the best chance of receiving an assignment of their choice, families should return the forms by the stated deadlines for their grade level. Assignments are computer generated.

What if my child is an English language learner?

The Hennigan Elementary School and Timilty Middle School offer citywide AWC programs for Spanish-speaking English language learners.

May I visit the AWC schools?

Yes! Visitors are welcome. We recommend contacting the school in advance to schedule a visit. All schools have visiting hours during School Preview Time, from November through late January. A list of schools offering AWC appears on the back of this brochure.

When will I know where my child is going to school?

Grade 5 students will receive their assignment in mid-March. Grades 3 and 4 students will receive their assignments in late April.

What if I want my child's eligibility reconsidered?

The AWC Review Committee meets as needed to reconsider the eligibility of students. Call the AWC program director for details, 617-635-9420.

Once my child has a seat in the AWC, why does he or she take the test each year?

Tests are administered to fill seats that may become available and to compare student performance from year to year.

Is my child guaranteed a seat each year?

Continuation in the program is not guaranteed. Grade 4 students may continue in grade 5 AWC if they make satisfactory academic progress. All grade 5 students, including those already attending an AWC program, take a test in the fall to determine eligibility for grade 6 AWC classes.

May students take the test if they don't attend the Boston Public Schools?

Yes. The Office of Enrollment Planning & Support provides applications and information to all of Boston's private and parochial schools. Test dates and sites are scheduled by the BPS Office of Data & Accountability.



- Information about Advanced Work Class is also available on the Boston Public Schools website, www.bostonpublicschools.org/awc.
- For more information on the assignment process, please contact the Office of Enrollment Planning & Support at 617-635-9512.
- For information on AWC curriculum, please contact the AWC program coordinator at 617-635-9202.



"My child is eligible for Advanced Work Class. How do I know if it's the right choice?"



Visit the AWC programs available to your child and talk with the teacher. Do the activities and classroom atmosphere seem like a good match for your child's interests, abilities and learning style? You may also ask yourself these questions about your child:

- ▶ Is your child good at solving problems?
- ▶ Is your child a self-motivated learner?
- ▶ Is your child chosen by others to help or lead?
- ▶ Does your child have a large vocabulary in his/her first language?
- ▶ Does your child have a well-developed sense of humor?
- ▶ Did your child read at an early age?
- ▶ Is your child curious and inquisitive?
- ▶ Does your child have a good memory?
- ▶ Does your child complete homework independently?
- ▶ Is your child well-organized and goal-oriented?

If the answer to many of them is "yes," then AWC may be right for your child.

Schools Offering AWC

GRADES 4 & 5

Bates
 ① 617-635-8064
 Bradley
 ① 617-635-8422
 Channing
 ① 617-635-8722
 Condon
 ① 617-635-8606
 Curley K-8
 ① 617-635-8239
 Edison K-8
 ① 617-635-8436
 Hennigan ★
 ① 617-635-8264
 Jackson/Mann
 K-8
 ① 617-635-8532
 Lee
 ① 617-635-8687
 Murphy K-8
 ① 617-635-8781

Ohrenberger
 ① 617-635-8157
 Quincy
 ① 617-635-8497
 Taylor
 ① 617-635-8731
 Winthrop
 ① 617-635-8379

GRADE 6

Curley K-8
 ① 617-635-8239
 Dearborn
 ① 617-635-8412
 Edison K-8
 ① 617-635-8436
 Irving
 ① 617-635-8072
 Jackson/Mann
 K-8
 ① 617-635-8532
 King K-8
 ① 617-635-8212

Lee
 ① 617-635-8687
 McCormack
 ① 617-635-8657
 Murphy K-8
 ① 617-635-8781
 Ohrenberger
 ① 617-635-8157
 Quincy Upper
 ① 617-635-8940
 Rogers
 ① 617-635-8700
 Umana Academy
 ① 617-635-8481

CITYWIDE

Timilty Middle ★
 ① 617-635-8109
 ★ These schools also offer citywide AWC programs for English language learners (Spanish)

AWC choices for eligible students will appear on the student's customized list of school choices.

Important Phone Numbers

AWC Program Coordinator	617-635-9202
Assignments and Test Administration	617-635-9512
BPS Welcome Centers:	
Dorchester	617-635-8015
Roslindale	617-635-8040
Roxbury	617-635-9010

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Boston School Committee

Michael O'Neill, Chairperson

Meg Campbell ■ Hardin Coleman

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Advanced Work Class (AWC)

Ailis Kiernan, Program Coordinator

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September 2013

Boston Public Schools

Advanced Work Class



**Accelerated Academic Curriculum
for Grades 4, 5 and 6**

 **BOSTON**
Public Schools
Focus on Children

2013-2014 School Year