



## Graduating from Kentucky Public High Schools Graduation Pathways

<b>PATHWAY</b>	<b>YEARS IN HS</b>	<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>CREDIT HOURS</b>	<b>OUTCOMES</b>
<p><b>Traditional Pathway</b> Student completed state and district minimum high school graduation requirements.</p> <p><b>Regulation:</b> <a href="#">704 KAR 3:305</a></p>	4 or more COHORT* years	Student completed all state and district minimum required credits for graduation.	Student shall have a total of at least 22 credits for high school graduation with the possibility of additional required credits as determined by each district.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District diploma</li> <li>• District retains ADA for the days the student is in attendance over four years.</li> <li>• Student has the potential to receive KEES money calculated for four full years.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Early Graduation Pathway</b> Student completed state and district minimum high school graduation requirements as determined for Early Graduation.</p> <p><b>Regulation:</b> <a href="#">704 KAR 3:305</a> Sections 1 and 9</p>	3 COHORT* years or less	<p>Student met required criteria for Early Graduation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student must enter the Early Graduation pathway prior to October 1 of the year in which they intend to graduate early.</li> <li>• Student must take and achieve ACT benchmarks as designated by the Council for Postsecondary Education (CPE).</li> <li>• Student must take and score proficient on all required End-of-Course Assessments (EOCs).</li> </ul>	N/A: Credit hours do not apply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District diploma</li> <li>• District retains ADA for the days the student is in attendance for three years.</li> <li>• The KDE sends .5 ADA for year four directly to KHEAA for distribution for an “Early Graduation Certificate” to be directly awarded to the student’s identified postsecondary institution.</li> <li>• If enrolled for three full years, the student may receive a Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) Early Graduate award equivalent to completing high school in four years.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mid-Year Graduate Pathway</b> Student completed state and district</p>	Less than 4 COHORT* years	Student completed all state and district minimum required credits for graduation.	Student shall have a total of at least 22 credits for high school graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District diploma</li> <li>• District receives ADA for the days the student is in attendance.</li> </ul>

<p>minimum high school graduation requirements early but was <u>not</u> enrolled in the Early Graduation pathway.</p> <p><b>Regulation:</b>  <a href="#">704 KAR 3:305</a>  Section 6</p>			<p>with the possibility of additional required credits as determined by each district.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student awarded possible KEES scholarship based on actual courses and years attended.</li> </ul>
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\*A COHORT year is defined as four years after a student enrolls in high school as a freshman. Kentucky uses the COHORT rate to track high school graduation rates, for more information visit: [Graduation Rate Data \(Cohort\)](#).