QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q: What is the current status of Kentucky's Consolidated State Plan?

A: Kentucky's Consolidated State Plan to implement the requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), has been revised. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has released the plan for public comment and submitted it to Gov. Matt Bevin for review.

The plan required adjustments due to recent legislative changes following the 2019 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. Under the federal law, state education agencies are required to submit a plan detailing the implementation of the law and how federal education dollars will be spent. After public comments and the governor's review, the state plan must be resubmitted to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) for review. The plan can be accessed online. Changes since March 1 are indicated in yellow.

The Kentucky Consolidated State Plan initially was submitted to USED in September 2017, and after making revisions required by USED, it received federal approval in May 2018. The plan was grounded in a year and a half of extensive outreach and engagement efforts with Kentuckians, including educators at all levels, families, businesses, education partners, policymakers and communities. Senate Bill 1, passed by the Kentucky General Assembly in 2017, further guided the development of the state plan.

The first year of implementation of the state plan occurred in the 2017-2018 academic year, with the first results of the new accountability system being reported in September 2018. In the first year of implementation, schools were identified with the following federally-required designations:

- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) – performance in the bottom 5 percent of schools or graduation rate below 80 percent;
- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) – at least one significantly underperforming student group; or
- Other – all other schools not identified as CSI or TSI.

[Note: In the second year of implementation, with results to be reported in fall 2019, in addition to schools identified for CSI and TSI, all schools will be rated using the accountability system's new 5-star rating system. Accountability information for all Kentucky public schools can be accessed online at kyschoolreportcard.com]
Several changes have been made to the new accountability system during its first year of implementation. The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approved changes to the state’s accountability system that impact multiple parts of Section A, Title I of the ESSA State Plan on Feb. 6, 2019. An updated Consolidated State Plan was submitted on March 1, 2019, to reflect these changes.

Additionally, during the 2019 legislative session, the Kentucky General Assembly passed and the Governor signed Senate Bill 175. To align the state’s accountability system with the statute, the KBE made additional amendments to the state’s accountability system regulation on April 10, 2019. These changes necessitate another modification of Kentucky’s Consolidated State Plan, particularly as it relates to postsecondary readiness and the identification of schools for targeted support and improvement. The plan also has been updated to reflect the current status of new content area standards and the education of migratory children. The changes reflected in the amended plan involve the state’s accountability system as well as Title I and Title 4 sections.

Public comments on the draft revisions to Kentucky’s state plan must be received by close of business May 31. Comments may be emailed to kdecommunications@education.ky.gov or submitted to Todd Allen, Deputy General Counsel, Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Blvd, 5th Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601. You also may submit comments via fax at (502) 564-9321. All comments that are received timely will be considered before submission of the revised state plan to USED.

### Important Dates

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 8–June 7</td>
<td>K-PREP Testing Window in Kentucky Schools</td>
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<td>April 8–June 7</td>
<td>OSAA Site Visits During K-PREP Testing</td>
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<td>April 24–June 12</td>
<td>K-PREP Rosters Open in SDRR</td>
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<td>May 31</td>
<td>Deadline to Submit Public Comments on Kentucky’s State Plan</td>
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<td>June 5</td>
<td>SRD Closes for Alternate K-PREP Window 2 and TAR Score Entry</td>
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<td>June 13</td>
<td>OSAA Monthly DAC Webcast</td>
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<td>June 14</td>
<td>Deadline to Submit Assistive Technology Survey (List of Survey Questions)</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>Deadline to Submit School Reconfiguration Changes for 2019-2020 School Year</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>Deadline to Enter G-Codes in Infinite Campus</td>
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<td>July 22</td>
<td>KAAC New DAC Informational Seminar</td>
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<td>July 23</td>
<td>K Screen Training of Trainers (TOT), Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Frankfort</td>
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**ALTERNATE K-PREP STUDENT REGISTRATION DATABASE (SRD) TO CLOSE**

Score entry for Test Window 2 and the Transition Attainment Record (TAR) will officially end on Wednesday, June 5. Teachers who had access to enter scores during Window 1 will continue to have access for score entry during Window 2. District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) will have the same level of access that was provided during Window 1.

All access to the SRD will close on June 5. Due to timelines for early fall reporting, KDE will not be able to provide extensions past the June 5 deadline.

For any questions about score entry into the SRD, please contact Kevin O’Hair by phone at (502) 564-4394.

**HELPFUL ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY CONTACTS**

The Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) would like to share some helpful contacts that may be useful to assist in end of year work in schools and districts. The [Helpful Assessment and Accountability Contacts](#) document is a resource identifying contact information for the staff in areas linked to assessment and accountability. The resource can also be accessed on the [Assessment and Accountability Resources](#) page of the KDE website.

**NEW DISTRICT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR (DAC) INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR**

The New District Assessment Coordinator Informational Seminar will be presented by the Kentucky Association for Assessment Coordinators (KAAC) on Monday, July 22, from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. ET. It will be held at the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) Office Building, 100 Airport Road, Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601. [Registration](#) is now open.

**KYOTE ASSESSMENT SCORES IN INFINITE CAMPUS (IC)**

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) strives to publish student results data in IC as it becomes available. In this spirit, 2018-2019 KYOTE scores have been imported into the State Edition of IC. KDE will publish these scores to all districts beginning on Wednesday, May 29. Please e-mail Raymond Carter with any questions on this matter.

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**DAC Spotlight**

The Breathitt County School District is located in southeastern Kentucky, and serves 1,748 students in four schools: LBJ Elementary (K-6), Marie Roberts-Caney Elementary (K-6), Highland-Turner Elementary (K-6), and Breathitt High (grades 7-12). The district promotes a student-centered mission focused on six guiding expectations for all administrators, faculty and staff:

1. Putting students FIRST in ALL decision making,
2. Setting high expectations for student achievement,
3. Advocating for every child,
4. Promoting growth for students and staff,
5. Actively engaging community stakeholders, and
6. Promoting positive school/community culture.

The district focuses on three “big rocks” for continuous improvement: Communication, Positive Behavior in Schools (PBIS) and Curriculum. Current efforts to support growth in these areas include using feedback from stakeholders to make updates to the internal/external communication plan, strategic planning, and the use of Plan-Do-Study-Act as an integral part of improvement planning and professional learning communities. Additionally, as a recipient of the Striving Readers grant, the district has been able to place a more fully supported, intentional focus on literacy district wide, including the development of teacher leaders across the district.

Disclaimer: Any views or opinions presented in the article are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).

Previous Topics

GRADUATION CODES DEADLINE
The end of the year is a very busy time and there are so many things to finalize, just a reminder that G-Codes are due soon. Rodney Bennett, with the Division of District Services, monitors G-code entry and the Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) will use that data for Graduation Rate and Transition Readiness indicators for reporting this fall. All G-codes must be in Infinite Campus (IC) by June 30. The G-code end status and graduation tab must be complete in IC for all summer school graduates by July 31. OAA will run and provide to districts initial graduation rates based on final year G-codes from June 30. OAA will monitor for any data quality issues and follow-up with DACs in July and calculate final graduation rates in early August based on any changes from summer graduates.

For assistance with cohort questions, in SDRR, click on the I NEED HELP button and choose Cohort. If you do not find the answer there, contact David Curd via e-mail or phone (502) 564-9853, ext. 4744.

REVISED MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
On April 5, 2019, Kentucky's new minimum high school graduation requirements became law, 704 KAR 3:305. The changes add "graduation prerequisites" and "graduation qualifiers" to ensure students have basic mathematics and reading skills, as well as experiences that can help them be prepared to enter college or the workforce.

A Minimum High School Graduation Requirements FAQ has been prepared to help answer district questions about the new requirements.

You may also find the following two charts to be helpful. The first, KDE: New Minimum Graduation Requirements, provides an overview of the required foundational and personalized credits, and the options and timelines for graduation
qualifiers and prerequisites. The second, Minimum Graduation Requirements Freshman Classes 2018-2019 Through 2020-2021, provides a side by side comparison of the previous graduation requirements, which apply to students who entered high school in 2018-2019 and prior, and the new graduation requirements as they phase in for students entering high school in 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 and after.

If you need further help, please contact Damien.sweeney@education.ky.gov.

KDE SEEKING FEEDBACK ON DRAFT ASSESSMENT BLUEPRINTS FOR READING/Writing, MATHEMATICS AND SOCIAL STUDIES
(FRANKFORT, KY) – The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is seeking feedback on draft assessment blueprints for reading/writing, mathematics and social studies.

Senate Bill 1 (2017) calls for KDE to implement a process for reviewing all academic standards and aligned assessments with one or two content areas to be reviewed each year, and every six years after that on a rotating basis.

Beginning May 22 and continuing through June 21, people may review the draft blueprints and share feedback and suggestions for use in the review process for the new assessments. Feedback and comments will be thoughtfully considered and any needed revisions made before bringing forward a final set of proposed blueprints for further comment and eventual approval by the Kentucky Board of Education.

Interested individuals can view the assessment blueprints and provide feedback by clicking reading/writing, mathematics and/or social studies. Due to the amount of text within the survey, it is recommended that surveys be completed on a full-size computer or laptop.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability Division of Assessment and Accountability Support (502) 564-4394 KDE DAC Information