

**From:** [Whitaker, Kiley - Division of Technical Schools and Continuous Improvement](#)  
**Subject:** CTE Assessment/Industry Certification Communication  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 2:20:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

---

CTE Contacts,

Please share this message with administrators, counselors, teachers, and BAC/DACs.

District and School Leaders,

Please see below for important COVID-19 related updates regarding Career and Technical Education (CTE) assessments and industry certifications for the 2019-2020 academic year.

-  
**End-of-Program (EOP) and TRACK Assessments**

The following CTE testing windows for the 2019-2020 academic year were closed on March 13, 2020 due to statewide school closures related to COVID-19:

- CTE End-of-Program (EOP) Assessments (for articulated postsecondary credit)
- Tech Ready Apprentices for Careers in Kentucky (TRACK) Assessments in the Skilled Trades of Carpentry and Electrical (component of a valid industry certification)

Notwithstanding, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) Office of Career and Technical Education and Student Transition (OCTEST) will offer a make-up testing window for those students interested in pursuing the end-of-program articulated credit or TRACK certification; however, these assessments will only be made available for 2019-2020 seniors who were registered for the spring 2020 testing. Possible testing dates are being explored at this time by the KDE and additional information will be forthcoming and would likely extend into the summer or possibly fall. All assessments offered during the make-up window shall be administered at students' home high schools and be proctored pursuant to [703 KAR 5:080](#), Administration Code for Kentucky's Educational Assessment Program and [703 KAR 5:070](#), Inclusion of Special Populations in the State-Required Assessment and Accountability Programs.

Please be advised that the make-up window assessment results will not be reported or included within a school or district's 2019-2020 state and federal accountability, pursuant to Kentucky's approved [federal emergency waiver](#) from the United States Department of Education (USED). Nevertheless, schools and districts are strongly encouraged to make this opportunity available to any eligible 2019-2020 senior student who is interested, as the successful passing of these assessments provide opportunities for postsecondary articulated credit and/or job advancement within the workforce.

**Industry Certifications**

The KDE OCTEST recommends that 2019-2020 senior students wishing to pursue an industry certification be tentatively given the opportunity to do so during the summer or early fall months. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to develop, guidance from the KDE OCTEST will be provided in the coming weeks. These assessment opportunities, whether written, virtual, performance-based or a combination thereof, should be administered and proctored pursuant to [703 KAR 5:080](#), Administration Code for Kentucky's Educational Assessment Program and [703 KAR 5:070](#), Inclusion of Special Populations in the State-Required Assessment and Accountability Programs. Additionally, testing guidelines established by the assessment vendor shall also apply. Please be advised that the KDE does not support non-proctored vendor testing that would otherwise be proctored live and in-person outside of the COVID-19 emergency.

Furthermore, please note there will be no additional funding distributed this academic year for industry certification exams; however, the KDE OCTEST is currently exploring options for the carry forward of state and federal funding that is already allocated for industry certifications. More information will be forthcoming on this topic as it becomes available.

Like EOP and TRACK assessments, please be advised that industry certification assessment results will not be reported or included within a school or district's state and federal accountability for the 2019-2020 academic year. Any valid industry certifications earned by underclassmen prior to March 13, 2020 will carry forward for future years' accountability. Again, schools and districts are strongly encouraged to make certification opportunities available to any senior student who is interested, as the successful earning of a valid industry certification or credential carries labor market value and often provides opportunities for postsecondary and career acceleration.

Should you have questions or concerns regarding these topics, please contact the KDE OCTEST.

Sincerely,



**Kiley Whitaker**

Assistant Director  
Division of Technical Schools and Continuous Improvement  
Office of Career and Technical Education and Student Transitions  
Kentucky Department of Education  
300 Sower Blvd.  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
502-564-4286 Ext. 4217  
Twitter: @KdeKiley  
[Kiley.Whitaker@education.ky.gov](mailto:Kiley.Whitaker@education.ky.gov)

*This email may contain confidential data or information and is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute, or copy this e-mail, and you are requested to notify the sender immediately.*

*The Kentucky Department of Education would like your input on the agency's customer service efforts. Please take a moment to complete an online survey, which may be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QTSNYD5>. All responses will remain anonymous. Thank you!*