



COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools

July 23, 2020

Work-Based Learning Opportunities

As local education agencies (LEAs) consider their plans for reopening schools in the fall of 2020, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) is providing the following guidance related to student work-based learning experiences and placements.

Please be advised that all types of work-based learning experiences may be implemented once school resumes, so long as all parties (student, parent/guardian, school and employer) are agreeable to the student placement. If the student is over the age of 18, parent/guardian consent is not required. However, notice of participation to parents/guardians is advised. The district shall document such agreement by all relevant parties prior to the start of the work-based learning experience.

Additionally, Kentucky's [Healthy at Work](#) and [Healthy at School](#) guidelines shall be adhered to by all parties for all student experiences and placements. The district and/or school should work closely with their designated [Healthy at Work](#) officer regarding the development of a plan for addressing students who test positive for COVID-19 or who are notified of potential exposure to a positive case of COVID-19 due to their work-based learning placement. This plan should be established prior to the start of the fall 2020 semester with input from the local health department. The plan should be reviewed with the employer to ensure consistency with their workplace protocols and communication plans should be established between the employer and the school in the event a student has been exposed to COVID-19 while at the workplace.

As a reminder, [Kentucky's Work-Based Learning Manual](#) provides an overview of the types of permissible work-based learning experiences, as well as implementation guidance for each type of student opportunity. For more information, contact the KDE OCTE at (502) 564-4286. You may also email Leslie Slaughter, OCTE executive advisor, directly at leslie.slaughter@education.ky.gov.

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