



**Kentucky Department of**

*Our  
Children,*

*Our  
Commonwealth*

**Education**



# Early Graduation

**Revised** guidance for schools and districts

# Early Graduation

- ▶ Early Graduation is a deliberate pathway for students in grades 9-11 who wish to move on when ready, receive a diploma from the district and be eligible for acceptance into Kentucky public universities and non-profit independent colleges and universities.
- ▶ Students participating in the pathway must meet the requirements set forth by [704](#)  
[KAR 3:305.](#)



# Early Graduation Counseling

- ▶ **The following topics should be discussed and considered by students, parents and school personnel prior to declaring an intent to participate in the Early Graduation pathway:**
- ▶ Social/emotional maturity
- ▶ Future goals and aspirations
- ▶ Student's desire to take multiple Advanced Placement (AP) or dual credit courses in high school
- ▶ Financial readiness to support college tuition
- ▶ Student's ability to complete the requirements for Early Graduation within three years or less
- ▶ Participation in local events traditionally determined by grade classification (i.e. prom attendance, valedictorian, Governor's Scholar programs, etc.)



# Early Graduation Counseling

- ▶ Regularly scheduled counseling sessions should be scheduled between the school counselor and the student to monitor the student's emotional and social progress as well as the student's academic progress.
- ▶ Meeting Early Graduation does not ensure acceptance to a two or four year post-secondary institution. Students, along with families and counselors, are encouraged to have preliminary talks, BEFORE ENTERING EARLY GRADUATION with the admissions counselors at the institutions of their choice to determine all pre-admission requirements for acceptance.



# Early Graduation Criteria for approval

- ▶ Students must notify the school principal within the **first 30 days of the school year in which they intend to graduate.**
- ▶ Students must enter the Early Graduation pathway prior to **October 1** of the year in which they intend to graduate early.
- ▶ Students must **graduate in three years or less.** Students exceeding three years do not qualify for the incentives identified with Early Graduation.
- ▶ Students must take and achieve **ACT benchmarks** as designated by the Council for Postsecondary Education (CPE).
- ▶ Students must take and score **proficient on all required End-of-Course Assessments (EOCs).**



# Early Graduation Criteria for approval

- ▶ As a result of the End-of-Course (EOC) requirements specified in [704 KAR 3:305](#), the Kentucky Department of Education **(KDE) will provide EOCs** for those students participating in the Early Graduation Pathway.



# Early Graduation Criteria for approval

- ▶ **End-of Course assessments are not the same as our End-of-Course field tests which are currently under development. The End-of-Course field tests offered during the 2017-2018 school year will not serve as the assessments to demonstrate proficiency for the Early Graduation Pathway.**





# Early Graduation End-of-Course Testing

- ▶ Using an adhoc filter within Infinite Campus, District Assessment Coordinators (DACs) will be asked to submit an order report to the KDE identifying students on the Early Graduation Pathway.
- ▶ The report will include:
  - Student's name
  - SSID
  - Intended year of graduation
  - EOC exam name
  - Testing window



# Early Graduation End-of-Course Testing

- ▶ The order report will be submitted to the KDE, who will process the order for test materials to arrive within the ten (10) day period prior to testing.
- ▶ All test materials will be delivered “To the attention of the DAC.”



# Early Graduation End-of-Course Testing



► The testing windows will be:

- **Test Window 1:** December 4, 2017-December 15, 2017, return shipping deadline December 19, 2017
- **Test Window 2:** February 26, 2018-March 9, 2018, return shipping deadline March 13, 2017
- **Test Window 3:** April 23, 2018-May 4, 2018, return shipping deadline May 8, 2017

# Early Graduation End-of-Course Testing

- ▶ Anyone administering the EOCs is required to be trained in the *Administration Code for Kentucky's Educational Assessment Program* (704 KAR 5:080), and for anyone providing accommodations, *the Inclusion of Special Populations in the State-required Assessment and Accountability Programs* (703 KAR 5:070).
- ▶ All materials are to be kept secure.
- ▶ The materials are copyrighted and are not to be reproduced in any way. The materials should be treated in the same manner as any other state-required assessment.



# Early Graduation End-of-Course Testing

- ▶ Districts will return all testing materials including test booklets and answer documents on or before the established return shipping deadline.
- ▶ **Districts are encouraged to return all materials as soon as testing is complete to ensure timely scoring.**



# Early Graduation End-of-Course Testing

- ▶ **Scores will be provided to districts in a limited format.**
- ▶ **The KDE will provide score reports with names and scale scores listed.**
- ▶ **The limited format will allow for Early Graduation determinations to be made.**
- ▶ **Scores will be uploaded to the assessment tab in Infinite Campus.**



# Early Graduation Contacts

## ▶ Early Graduation Contact

Robin McCoy

Office of Teaching and Learning

Email: [robin.mccoy@education.ky.gov](mailto:robin.mccoy@education.ky.gov)

## ▶ Early Graduation End-of-Course Contact

Jenni Larkins

Office of Assessment and Accountability

Email: [jennifer.larkins@education.ky.gov](mailto:jennifer.larkins@education.ky.gov)



# 5 Things To Know Before You Go

- ▶ **Accountability Regulation 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading by the Kentucky Board of Education – Tomorrow, August 23.**
- ▶ **KDE's Draft ESSA Plan is out for Public Review**
- ▶ **Seeking Teachers of ELA and Mathematics to serve on Standards Review and Development Committees (RDCs) and Advisory Panels (APs)– Applications Due September 1, 2017 <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/62MTDCT>**
- ▶ **2017-18 Through Course Task (TCT) Expectations**
- ▶ **Application to Assist with Standards for Elective Bible Literacy Course - Applications Due September 1, 2017. The application is available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GTCJDFL>**

