

Alternative Education Programs Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
1. Can alternative programs issue diplomas and have graduation ceremonies?	<p>a. Pursuant to 704 KAR 3:305, Section 5, the board issues diplomas, not the schools. Regulations and statutes imply that each district must have a system in place to insure that the local board can rely upon the certification of the superintendent and/or principal that the students presented for graduation have meet both the state and local district graduation requirements as outlined in 704 KAR 3:305. Obviously, the traditional high school set-up is the most common system to make this happen. It is possible for alternative schools to meet the graduation standards and present students for graduation/diploma. However, the local board still issues those diplomas and must certify as such.</p> <p>b. Alternative schools may have graduation ceremonies.</p>
2. Can the local district board set different credit requirements for alternative programs than for the A1 high schools in their district?	Local boards of education may consider different graduation requirements for schools in their districts, but all students must meet the minimum credits for graduation as set forth in 704 KAR 3:305 .
3. Can students graduate with their last enrollment being in an alternative school? Can schools other than A-1 schools end the school year using Graduation Codes?	704 KAR 3:305 indicates that boards have the authority to issue diplomas not schools. Therefore, it is not necessary to limit the use of G-codes to A1 schools only or to require students to be enrolled in an A1 school on the final day of classes. Students may graduate with their last enrollment being in an alternative school, which means that schools other than A-1 schools can enter an end status using a G-code. 703 KAR 5:200, Section 7, (4) (a) indicates that students enrolled for a full academic year shall be included in the calculations for achievement gap, individual student growth, and readiness for college and career for a school and district. The student’s cohort graduation accountability is tied to the last enrollment and is not tracked back to an A1 school, regardless of the number of days enrolled.

4. Which school is the school of accountability for alternative program students?

Accountability scores for achievement, gap, growth, college and career readiness are assigned to students in accordance with [703 KAR 5:240](#), as follows:

Section 2. Assigning Students for School and District Accountability. (1) A student enrolled in an A1 school for a full academic year shall be counted in the membership of the A1 school and shall be attributed to the A1 school for accountability purposes. This shall include state agency children or other students who have been enrolled in an A1 school by any authority. (2) A student enrolled in an A1 school and attending an alternative education program during the year as a result of local school district policies or procedures shall be counted in the membership of the A1 school and shall be attributed to the A1 school for accountability purposes if the student's combined enrollment in the A1 school and alternative education program is a full academic year. (3) A student enrolled in an alternative education program for a full academic year as a result of local school district policies or procedures shall be attributed to the accountability of the A1 school that the student would have attended if not enrolled in the alternative education program. (4) A student not enrolled in any A1 school or an alternative education program for a full academic year, but enrolled in a district for a full academic year, shall be assigned to the district for accountability purposes.

Section 3. Assigning Students for State Accountability. (1) Students enrolled in alternative education programs, and not attributed to an A1 school or district, shall be aggregated into a state level accountability report. (2) If a student, before completing a full academic year in a school or district as provided in Section 2 of this administrative regulation, is enrolled in an alternative education program by a court, a

	<p>governmental agency other than a Kentucky public school, or Kentucky school district, the student shall be accountable to the state.</p> <p>The student’s cohort graduation accountability will be tied to the last enrollment and is not tracked back to an A-1 school, regardless as to the number of days enrolled.</p>
5. Are program administrators required to have an administrative certification?	<p>EPSB interprets KRS 161.020 to mean that if there is a position for which certification is issued, and if an individual carries out those duties, they must hold appropriate certification (regardless of what the position is called).</p> <p>If an individual disciplines students, evaluates and supervises teachers, etc., they must hold appropriate certification. It is similar to other professions such as attorneys. Non-attorneys may not supervise attorneys, as they do not have the knowledge to evaluate the quality of the work. If EPSB receives a valid complaint that an individual is acting outside the scope of their certification, they will pursue an action against the individual, which could result in the loss of their certification.</p> <p>There is also the legal liability that could occur if something happens to a student while a non-certified individual is in this capacity - negligence for failure to properly supervise, etc.</p>
6. Does every alternative program in the district need to be identified Infinite Campus?	Yes, either as an on-site alternative program or as an off-site alternative program.
7. Our district has an early college program that is held within the local community college campus, does this program require alternative program set up in Infinite Campus?	The students should be placed in an a separate schedule structure of the A1 school and the students should be set up based on the onsite alternative course set up.
8. How are onsite alternative programs identified in Infinite Campus?	A section must be added for the content courses provided in the alternative setting with a Special Type selection of <i>02: Alternative Classroom</i> .

9. Is the Individual Learning Plan Addendum (ILPA) currently available?	Yes, use of the ILPA in IC has been required since the the 2014-15 school year.
10. Will the ILPA be located in Career Cruising?	No, the ILPA is available for use as a module in Infinite Campus.
11. What is an ILPA?	The ILPA is a simple action plan for transitioning students into and out of alternative educational programs.
12. Who is responsible for completing and updating the ILPA?	The ILPA should be completed by the alternative program staff; however, the transition team should consist of staff from the student's A1 school.
13. If a student sent to an alternative program has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), does an ILPA have to be completed for the student?	No, if the student has an active IEP, an ILPA does not have to be completed.
14. Does A6 (fully state funded KECSAC) students have to have an ILPA?	No, KECSAC requires an education plan and the ILPA is not necessary.
15. Is there a sample board policy available for alternative programs?	Kentucky School Boards Association (KABA) provided an example of a board policy that districts could use to meet the requirements of 704 KAR 19:002 .
16. Do off-site alternative programs require an SBDM Council?	No.
17. Does every alternative program in the district have to have a separate board policy?	That is a local district decision.
18. Does the regulation require alternative programs to transition the student back to the A1 school?	The regulation does not require students return to the A1 school; however, it should be an option if the student has met all the requirements set forth in their ILPA.

19. What training is available?	A recorded WebEx session and an alternative program guidance document are both available on KDE's Alternative Education Programs website .
20. Do off-site alternative programs require a principal?	No, alternative programs are not required to have a certified principal on staff.
21. Does a certified special education teacher have to be on staff at the alternative program?	No, unless it is specifically stated within a student's IPE as a requirement to meet the student's needs.
22. How often should the progress of the student's goals and objectives be monitored and documented in the ILPA?	Progress of the student's goals and objectives should be monitored on a regular basis. KDE recommends recording progress of the student's goals and objectives in the ILPA on the same timeline as progress is reported in the other schools in your district.

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