

KENTUCKY COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS ALLIANCE (KYCCRA)

THE IMPORTANCE OF COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Educators and policymakers across the country are focused on ensuring that **students graduate from high school prepared to succeed in college or careers**. Yet most states are far from achieving this goal. Kentucky's Senate Bill 1 (2009) seeks to increase the percentage of students who are college and career ready from the 2009 rate of 34 percent to 67 percent by 2015.

al·li·ance *noun*

: the state of being joined in some activity or effort
: the state of being allied

REL APPALACHIA

REL Appalachia is one of 10 federal Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs). We partner with regionally based research alliances made up of schools, districts, and state departments of education to conduct research on K–12 education. We share the results with educators and help them put this new knowledge to work for students.

REL Appalachia collaborates with the alliances to address high-priority education needs. We are currently focused on three priorities:

- Improving low-achieving schools.
- Ensuring students' college and career readiness.
- Supporting effective teachers and school leaders.

REL Appalachia established the Kentucky College and Career Readiness Alliance (KyCCRA) to build the capacity of Kentucky's schools and educators to meet the state's college and career readiness goals.

GOALS OF THE ALLIANCE

The goals of the alliance are to help members:

- Understand the use and effectiveness of strategies to prepare students for college and careers, particularly dual enrollment/dual credit courses.
- Understand and increase student engagement in schools.

PLANNED RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Six projects are proposed to help educators ready students for life after high school. Alliance members will partner with REL Appalachia to:

- Conduct a webinar reviewing the research on student engagement and surveys for measuring it.
- Organize professional development workshops on the selection, administration, and interpretation of student engagement surveys.*
- Catalog existing data on Kentucky's dual enrollment/dual credit programs.
- Use extant data to summarize enrollment and completion of dual enrollment/dual credit programs across Kentucky.*
- Explore the implementation of dual enrollment/dual credit programs in six case study districts.*
- Organize professional development workshops reviewing interventions to aid struggling students across different grade levels.

ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP

Alliance members are the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), and educators in five regional educational cooperatives: Central Kentucky (CKEC), Green River Regional (GRREC), Kentucky Valley (KVEC), Ohio Valley (OVEC), and Southeast/South-Central (SE/SC).

Questions? Interested in participating in the alliance or its projects?
Contact Patricia Kannapel at kannapelp@cna.org or 502-581-0324.

*Project under review