

## Items to Consider

All students are unique. As you think about the Early Graduation Option there are many factors which may affect your decision.

- Has your child met the benchmarks on state or school assessments?
- Is your child emotionally mature enough to work independently?
- Is your child socially mature and able to participate in classes with older students?
- Does your child have clear academic and/or career goals in mind?
- Would your child benefit from taking advanced level AP or dual credit courses to gain college credit while remaining in high school?
- Are you ready financially to send your child to college early?
- Are there scholarships, academic opportunities or events in high school that would benefit your child by staying four years?
- Does your child have a Career and Technical Education (CTE) career pathway that he/she plans to complete to become college/career ready by staying four years in high school?
- Does early graduation adequately prepare your child for his/her academic plan?
- Will your child be willing to forego traditional activities such as prom, banquets, award ceremonies, trips, competitions, and recognitions?
- Will your child be willing to forego participation in athletic activities?
- Will your child's college/university allow him/her to participate in athletic activities?
- Will your child be eligible for scholarships?

For more information  
contact your child's  
guidance counselor

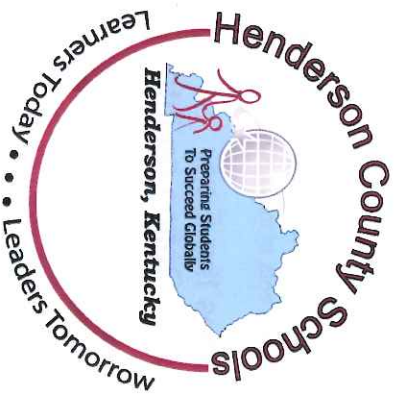
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**HENDERSON  
COUNTY SCHOOLS**

## Early Graduation Option



## What is the Early Graduation Option?

The Early Graduation Option is intended to target students who have shown high achievement and express their intention to move on an accelerated timeline through high school and graduate college-ready in three academic years or less.

## What are the requirements of the Early Graduation Option?

Students choosing to participate must:

- Meet proficiency benchmarks on Kentucky required end-of-course assessments. Currently those classes are English II, Algebra II, Biology, and US History.
- Meet the Council of Post Secondary Education (CPE) defined college readiness benchmarks on college readiness exams. Current benchmarks for the ACT are English-18, Reading-20, Mathematics-19.

## What are the incentives for students who choose the Early Graduation Option?

- Students shall earn an Early Graduation Certificate and be eligible for a one-time scholarship award to be paid directly to a SACS accredited Kentucky college or university. The award shall be equal to one-half of the state portion of the average statewide per pupil guarantee for one year.

- Students who are eligible for the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) program and graduate from a Kentucky high school in three years may be eligible for a KEES award equivalent to four years of high school, based on the average of GPA awards.

- Students may enroll in a Kentucky college at least a year early if they meet the requirements of that institution.

## When does the Early Graduation Option go into effect?

The Early Graduation Option takes effect in 2014-2015.

## Who decides if a student is eligible to participate in the Early Graduation Option?

- An Early Graduation Committee consisting of school personnel, parents, and student will make the decision concerning participation.
- The committee must be in agreement before a student can enter the program.

## How does a student apply for the program?

- Any student interested in the Early Graduation Option should complete a Letter of Intent by September 15 of their intended year of early graduation. This may be done as early as the freshman year but no later than the junior year.
- Any student considering the Early Graduation option is advised to speak with a counselor or advisory teacher to discuss options of Early Graduation.

