

Kentucky Board of Education  
April 13, 2016  
Report from the Secretary  
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

**Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment (High Schools)**

Expanding dual credit opportunities for students in Kentucky high schools is a priority for the Education & Workforce Development Cabinet. The postsecondary outcomes for students who have participated in dual enrollment experiences are clear: students participating in those experiences have a higher likelihood of enrolling in postsecondary education immediately following high school graduation, and they are more likely to complete postsecondary credentials, including certificates, associate's degrees, and bachelor's degrees. As such, the Cabinet is supporting making dual enrollment experiences available to all high school students. These courses should not be limited to high achieving students. To that end, the Cabinet will continue to advocate for the expansion of dual credit offerings, not only in core academic areas, but also in career and technical education (CTE).

**Recognized Industry Certifications (High Schools)**

The Kentucky Workforce Investment Board (KWIB) in cooperation with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is engaged in an effort to refine the list of recognized industry certifications available to students in Kentucky high schools. In partnership, the cooperating entities have surveyed business and industry leaders for their feedback on the certifications currently being offered. Their feedback is being used to begin refining that list, with the goal of having a smaller menu of certification options available to students. The eventual refined list will include certification options that are recognized by Kentucky employers, and clearly aligned with demand in Kentucky.

**Transparency**

Believing that the bright lights of transparency are an effective and low cost measure to promote fiscal integrity, the Cabinet is undertaking an online checkbook initiative. When complete, the searchable database will cover all workforce expenditures and contracts statewide, including those of our local partner agencies across the state.

Our hope is that KDE will adopt a similar plan for all school districts and will join us in this initiative.