

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item

704 KAR 3:015, Kentucky All STARS for Preschool Programs (First Reading)

Rationale:

To bring forward a proposed administrative regulation implementing the requirements of KRS 199.8943 for state-funded preschool program sites to participate in Kentucky's quality-based graduated early childhood rating system. The regulation will come forward for a second reading at the April Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) meeting..

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 156.160, KRS 199.8943

History/Background:

Existing Policy: During the 2015 regular session, HB 234 established mandatory participation requirements for public preschool programs in a quality-based graduated early childhood rating system. The quality rating system, also known as Kentucky All STARS, was developed by the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) in consultation with multiple shareholders, including the Governor's Office of Early Childhood (GOEC), the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).

KRS 199.8943 requires CHFS to promulgate administrative regulations governing public preschool's participation in Kentucky All STARS. However, KDE and CHFS have agreed to file separate regulations. KDE has authority established by KRS 156.160 to promulgate regulations for the preschool program. To ensure interagency commitment to a unified quality-based graduated early childhood system, KDE and CHFS will enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) developed by the Governor's Office of Early Childhood.

Summary: This administrative regulation establishes the process for ensuring public preschool participation in the Kentucky All STARS quality rating system.

- Section 1 defines terms used in the administrative regulation.
- Section 2 requires state-funded preschool sites to achieve at least a level three rating in Kentucky All STARS.
- Section 3 requires KDE to use criteria developed in consultation with CHFS and GOEC for determining a preschool site's quality rating level.

- Section 4 requires preschool sites to verify performance annually with KDE to ensure STARS quality is maintained during the three year certification period.
- Section 5 outlines the Kentucky All STARS renewal process for a preschool site.
- Section 6 identifies potential conditions requiring a re-evaluation of a preschool site's certification.
- Section 7 provides the actions KDE may take if a program site does not meet regulatory requirements for the state-funded preschool program.
- Section 8 outlines the appeal process for preschool sites when KDE revokes or takes other action against a site's STAR certification.
- Section 9 incorporates by reference the Kentucky All STARS Rating System.

Budget Impact: The proposed administrative regulation will have minimal fiscal impact on state funds. KDE anticipates the actions required by this administrative regulation will be absorbed by existing structures and procedures designed for monitoring preschool program quality and compliance.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

The Local Superintendents Advisory Council will be reviewing prior to the second read of the proposed regulation.

Contact Person:

Amanda Ellis, Associate Commissioner
Office of Teaching and Learning
(502) 564-9850
Amanda.Ellis@education.ky.gov



Commissioner of Education

Date:

February 2018