

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

**Topic:** 704 KAR 8:080, Required Academic Standards in Career Studies and Financial Literacy  
(Second Reading, New Regulation)

**Date:** October 2019

**Action Requested:**  Review  Action/Consent  Action/Discussion

**Held In:**  Full Board  Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Finance  Operations Management

### SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To take action on the adoption of the *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Career Studies*, in order to meet the requirements of KRS 158.1411, by including financial literacy, and KRS 158.1413, by including essential workplace ethics instruction, embedded within the academic standards and document incorporated by reference. The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) has authority to review and approve the *KAS* for all of the state's common schools.

### COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends the adoption of the Kentucky Academic Standards for Career Studies, as incorporated by reference into 704 KAR 8:080.

### APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 156.160, 156.070(1), 158.1411, 158.1413, 158.645, 158:6451, 158.6453, 160.290,  
704 KAR 3:305

### BACKGROUND:

#### *Existing Policy:*

KRS 156.160 requires the KBE to establish courses of study for the different grades and kinds of common schools, with the courses of study to comply with the expected goals, outcomes and assessment strategies developed under KRS 158.645, 158.6451 and 158.6453. KRS 156.070(1) requires the KBE to manage and control the common schools and all programs operated in the schools. KRS 160.290 authorizes local boards of education to provide for courses and other services for students consistent with the administrative regulations of the KBE.

KRS 158.6453 calls for the KDE to implement a process for reviewing academic standards and aligned assessments, beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. While this process was specified for standards in reading/writing, mathematics, science and social studies, it was used to inform the revision of the current state standards for vocational studies, which were adopted in 2006. Since then, several statutes and regulations were adopted that relate directly to this discipline.

The revised and renamed *KAS for Career Studies* will address one or more requirements of:

- KRS 158.1413 - Essential Workplace Ethics Instruction
- KRS 158.1411 - Financial Literacy

- 704 KAR 3:305 - Minimum High School Graduation Requirements and the Individual Learning Plan (ILP)

704 KAR 3:305 Section 3(1) establishes the minimum high school graduation requirements necessary for entitlement to a public high school diploma, which support a student’s pursuit of career-based programs of study. Section 2(1) of this regulation requires districts to implement an advising and guidance process throughout middle and high school to provide support for the development and implementation of an ILP for each student.

Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, KRS 158.1413 requires each school district to implement essential workplace ethics programs that promote characteristics critical to success in the workplace. Additionally, KRS 158.1411 requires that the 9th grade class of the 2020-2021 school year, and each year thereafter, successfully complete one or more courses or programs that meet the financial literacy standards as a Kentucky public high school graduation requirement.

*Summary of Issue:*

The career studies standards writing team was driven by the goal that all students graduate from high school with the knowledge and skills needed to become successful lifelong learners and productively engaged citizens. To achieve this, the team envisioned standards that:

- allowed for integration of career exploration across content areas;
- enhanced the learning of academic subjects;
- fostered development of skills essential to the workplace;
- consider the role of personal values, interests and aptitudes in career choices; and
- supported students’ ability to manage personal and workplace resources including time, materials and finances.

The standards framework consists of three domains:

- **Essential Skills** replaces the previous Employability Skills domain. Pursuant to KRS 158.1413, an essential workplace ethics instruction program requires that all students in elementary, middle and high school receive essential workplace ethics instruction.
- **Careers** replaces the previous Career Awareness, Exploration, Planning domain.
- **Financial Literacy** combines the previous Consumer Decisions and Financial Literacy domains. The grades 9-12 financial literacy standards were developed in response to KRS 158.1411 to meet the Kentucky public high school financial literacy graduation requirement.

Each domain within the standards outline what a student should know and be able to do independently by the end of each grade band (K-3, 4-5, 6-8 and 9-12), which provides a K-12 continuum and sequential framework for instruction.

This new administrative regulation establishes the new content standards and incorporates by reference the *KAS for Career Studies* (see attachment). Based on feedback received during the first reading of the standards, some additional clarity and detail has been provided in the overview section of the standards document that is incorporated by reference.

*Budget Impact:*

State funds allocated for standards development were used to create these standards, with a total cost of \$15,869.98 thus far. Staff time will continue to be impacted after final approval, as a result of the development of resources to support implementation of these standards.

**GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:**

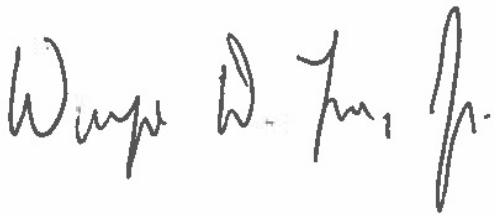
The development of the standards relied heavily on business and industry (representing 50% of the advisory panels), which allowed these partners an active role in guiding the work.

The standards also were informed by feedback from the public by a pre- and post-survey conducted by the Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center (ARCC). In the post-survey, 418 individuals participated, with 63% of the draft standards receiving 90% or higher approval rating and 35% receiving 80-89% approval rating.

The regulation was reviewed by the School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) and the Local Superintendents Advisory Committee (LSAC) prior to its first reading in August. The regulation will be reviewed a second time by both groups on September 17 and 24, prior to the second reading by the KBE. Comments from these groups should be received prior to the October KBE meeting.

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

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**Commissioner of Education**

Category:	<input type="checkbox"/> District Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Strengthening Educators	<input type="checkbox"/> Family/Community Involvement	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student/Family Supports	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Interventions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coursework Completion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accountability Reporting