

Amendment to 704 KAR 3:305, Minimum Requirements for High School Graduation

Kentucky Board of Education

August 2020

Proposed Amendments

- Section 1, page 2, lines 1-6: The definitions for “Essential workplace ethics,” “Graduation prerequisite,” “Graduation qualifier” and “Individual Education Program” are eliminated as they either are not addressed in the regulation or are being removed as a result of Senate Bill (SB) 158 (2020) implications.
- Section 2, page 2, line 12: Eliminates the reference to 704 KAR 3:303 for the *Kentucky Academic Standards for Career Studies* as they now reside in 704 KAR Chapter 8.
- Section 4, beginning on page 5, line 15: Amends language to remove all graduation qualifier and graduation prerequisite requirements as defined in Section 1 due to SB 158 (2020) implications.
 - SB 158, Section 3(1)(d): Prohibits statewide minimum high school graduation requirements from including a postsecondary readiness indicator used in the state accountability system or a minimum score on a statewide assessment.

Current 3:305 Language

Current Section 4 language: (1)(a) Complete one or more of the following graduation qualifiers:

1. **Satisfy precollege curriculum as established by the Council on Postsecondary Education in 13 KAR 2:020;**
2. Achieve benchmark score as established by the Council on Postsecondary Education in 13 KAR 2:020 in one (1) section of a college admissions or placement examination; **(postsecondary readiness indicator)**
3. Complete three (3) postsecondary credit hours or more of a Kentucky Department of Education approved dual credit course with a grade of C or higher; **(postsecondary readiness indicator)**
4. Complete one (1) course and corresponding assessment meeting the following criteria:
 - a. Advanced placement (AP) with a score of three (3) or higher; **(postsecondary readiness indicator)**
 - b. Cambridge Advanced International (CAI) with a score at E or higher; **(postsecondary readiness indicator)** or
 - c. International baccalaureate (IB) with a score of five (5) or higher; **(postsecondary readiness indicator)**
5. Obtain an industry certification as approved by the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board; **(postsecondary readiness indicator)**
6. **Complete four (4) credits from valid courses within a single Kentucky Department of Education approved career pathway;**
7. **Complete a Kentucky Department of Education approved process to verify 500 hours of exceptional work experience, or alternative requirements as determined by a student's Admissions and Release Committee and specified in the student's IEP;**
8. Complete two (2) years in an approved Kentucky Department of Education or Kentucky Labor Cabinet pre-apprenticeship or apprenticeship program; **(postsecondary readiness indicator)**

Current 3:305 Language

Current Section 4 language:(2)(b) Meet one (1) of the following graduation prerequisites for reading and one (1) of the following graduation prerequisites for mathematics:

1. Score at or above the minimum criteria on the tenth grade state-required assessments in reading or mathematics;
 - a) The minimum criteria shall include earning a scale score in the apprentice student performance level or higher as approved by the Kentucky Board of Education.
 - b) Students who do not meet the minimum criteria on one or both of the reading or mathematics assessments may retake the assessments twice annually in the eleventh and twelfth grades of high school enrollment.
 - c) The student's first completion of the assessments in grade ten (10) shall contribute to the school's accountability rating; or
2. Score proficient or higher for reading or mathematics on the eighth grade state required assessment; or
3. **A student collection of evidence submitted by the principal to the superintendent or designee for review and approval, or in the case of a public charter school submitted by the principal to the Commissioner of Education or designee.**
(Allowable by SB 158, but now unnecessary as the minimum assessment scores are prohibited)

Proposed Amendments

- Section 4(1): “Beginning with students who enter grade nine (9) on or after the first day of the 2019-2020 academic year, in order to receive a high school diploma, each student in a public school shall earn a total of at least twenty-two (22) credits for high school graduation.”
 - Page 8 begins the more detailed description of the minimum required 22 credits. There are no proposed amendments to the required 22 credits.
 - Four English credits: English I, II and two personalized credits covering the remaining required KAS for Reading and Writing
 - Four mathematics credits: Algebra I, Geometry and two personalized credits covering the remaining required KAS for Mathematics
 - Three social studies credits
 - Three science credits
 - ½ credit: Health Education
 - ½ credit Physical Education
 - One credit: Visual and Performing Arts
 - Six elective credits

Proposed Amendments

- Section 4, pages 8-10: Include technical changes, such as aligning subsection numbers, citing 704 KAR Chapter 8 for financial literacy standards (page 10, lines 12-13) and removing a reporting requirement for the graduation qualifier and prerequisite (page 10, lines 14-16).
- Section 8, page 14: Amends section to include a new (2) “A local board may not adopt any high school graduation requirements that include achieving a minimum score on a statewide assessment as established in Senate Bill 158.”