

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: 704 KAR 8:080, Kentucky Academic Standards for Career Studies and Financial Literacy

Date: June 2025

Action Requested: ☐ Review ☒ Action/Consent ☐ Action/Discussion

Held In: ☒ Full Board ☐ State Schools ☐ United We Learn

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To take action on the amendment to the administrative regulation, 704 KAR 8:080, Required academic standards in career studies and financial literacy. This regulation conforms to KRS 158.6453(18)(a) which requires the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to “implement a comprehensive process for reviewing and revising the academic standards in visual and performing arts and practical living skills and career studies for all levels and in foreign language for middle and high schools.”

COMMISSIONER’S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends the adoption of the required academic standards in career studies and financial literacy, as incorporated by reference into 704 KAR 8:080.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 156.070(1), 156.160(1)(a), 158.645, 158.6451, 158.6453(18), 704 KAR 8:080, 704 KAR 3:305

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 156.160 requires the Kentucky Board of Education (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 assessments developed under KRS 158.645, 158.6451 and 158.6453. Statute does not require state assessments for career studies and financial literacy. Therefore, the required academic standards in career studies and financial literacy do not necessitate aligned assessments. KRS 156.070(1) requires the KBE to manage and control common schools and all programs operated in the schools.

In consultation with certified public school teachers of career studies and financial literacy, KRS 158.6453(18) requires the KDE to “implement a comprehensive process for reviewing and revising the academic standards in visual and performing arts and practical living skills and career studies for all levels and in foreign language for middle and high schools. The department shall develop review committees for the standards for each of the content areas that include representation from certified specialist public school teachers and postsecondary teachers in those subject areas.”

This administrative regulation incorporates by reference the required academic standards in career studies and financial literacy, which contain the general courses of study and academic content standards for use in Kentucky's common schools.

Summary of Issue:

KRS 158.6453(18)(a) requires the KDE to implement a comprehensive process every six years for reviewing and revising the academic standards in career studies and financial literacy for all levels. 704 KAR 8:080 was last approved by the KBE in October 2019. Promulgated under regulation, 704 KAR 8:080 adopts into law the standards for career studies and financial literacy as authorized under KRS 158.6453(18). Curriculum and content decisions require local schools and districts to implement the career studies and financial literacy standards provided in the document incorporated by reference.

Budget Impact:

A total of \$5,601 was spent to complete the review and revision of the required academic standards in career studies and financial literacy as required under KRS 158.6453(18). In addition to the costs accrued thus far, additional staff time will be needed to support schools and districts in the implementation of the career studies and financial literacy standards. Approximately \$12,000 is anticipated in the first year and approximately \$10,000 in each subsequent year on staff costs to support schools, districts, and Area Technology Centers (ATCs) in the implementation of the Kentucky Academic Standards for Career Studies and Financial Literacy.

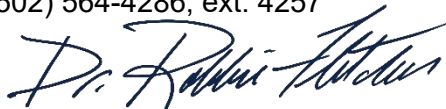
GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

In addition to the administration of two state-wide public comment surveys, feedback was also sought from the following focus groups: High school and postsecondary faculty and students, educational cooperatives, instructional leaders, and the Kentucky Financial Empowerment Commission.

LSAC: The regulation is scheduled before the Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC) at its May 27, 2025 meeting. A summary of the feedback received by the council will be provided to the KBE prior to its June 2025 meeting.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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Commissioner of Education

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