

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE) STAFF NOTE

Topic: Work-Based Learning Placements for State Accountability

Date: June 2026

Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

Held In: Full Board State Schools United We Learn

SYNOPSIS OF WHAT YOU WILL BE SHARING:

To take action on the applications for work-based learning placements to receive career-ready status in the accountability system for the 2025-2026 school year.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends approval of the noted recommendations based upon the statutory requirements of KRS 158.6455.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 158.6455, 703 KAR 5:270

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

Kentucky Senate Bill 25 (2023) added language to the work-based learning (WBL) indicator for postsecondary readiness to indicate that apprenticeships, cooperative education and internships are not limited to being offered as a high school course or during the regular school day, week or year. WBL experiences for students must still be aligned with a credential or associate degree, offer a minimum of three hundred (300) hours of on-the job training and be approved by the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) to qualify for postsecondary readiness per KRS 158.6455.

Summary of Issue:

Data for qualifying WBL courses that were associated with a valid course code are submitted through Infinite Campus. WBL placements that did not take place as a course during the school day in which the school had direct involvement, were aligned with a credential or associate degree, and provided a minimum of 300 hours of on-the-job experience must be submitted through an application to the KBE.

The WBL application committee reviewed submissions and made recommendations for approval by the KBE. A rationale for denial is included with any submission that has not been recommended for approval. Upon approval of the committee's recommendations, the application submitter will be notified of approval or denial, and approved placements will be included in accountability reporting for the 2025-2026 school year.

A spreadsheet with the committee's recommendations is provided separately.

Budget Impact:

There is no impact on KDE's budget.

Groups Consulted and a Brief Summary of Responses:

A committee of WBL and program consultants reviewed application submissions for 2025-2026. The committee's recommendations will go before the LSAC at its May 26, 2026, meeting.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

Dr. Beth Hargis, Associate Commissioner
Office of Career and Technical Education
Email: Beth.Hargis2@education.ky.gov
(502) 564-426, ext. 4257



Commissioner of Education

GOALS/PRIORITIES: Indicate all applicable options.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Foster Educational Innovation Through Vibrant Learning Experiences
<input type="checkbox"/> Advance Educational Excellence Through Continuous Professional Improvement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultivate Collaborative Partnerships
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner's Management