Individual Plans of Study

With a workforce increasingly requiring higher educational levels for jobs coupled with a relatively low percentage of students completing a postsecondary credential (certificate through advanced degree), the learning and labor landscape has come to a crossroads.

To assist more students to complete a post-secondary credential and be competitive in the labor market, it’s crucial to begin career exploration and planning earlier in students’ educational experience. The Kansas State Board of Education has set an Individual Plan of Study (IPS) for every student beginning in the middle grades as one of their State Student Success Outcomes to help students plan for success after high school.

In September, KSDE surveyed all school districts regarding IPS implementation levels with both an IPS tool and a process in all middle/high schools. Here are the results of the survey—2016 IPS Implementation Survey Results

For more information—Individual Plans of Study webpage

New CTE Student Categories beginning in 2016-2017

To more clearly delineate the level of involvement Kansas secondary students have in CTE, the four statewide categories below have been created:

Participant—0.5 CTE credits
Concentrator—2.0 CTE credits + Technical Skill Proficiency
Completer—3.0 CTE credits + Technical Skill Proficiency
CTE Scholar—Coming in December 2016

For specifics—New CTE Student Categories
Upcoming CTE Conferences

You won’t want to miss these quality CTE conferences on the horizon!

**ACTE’s CareerTech Vision 2016** in Las Vegas, November 30—December 3, 2016

Kansas’ own **CTE Annual February Conference**, hosted by our excellent educational service agencies association (KAESA), will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan, February 7—8, 2017. (Pre-Conference, February 6th). Registration is now open and we hope to see you there!

Career Pathways Assessment System (cPass)

The 2016 – 2017 school year is off to a great start, and with it the Career Pathways® Collaborative has opened operational testing for all available Career Pathways® assessments (cPass®):

- General CTE
- Comprehensive Agriculture
- Power, Structural & Technical Systems Module
- Animal Systems
- Plant Systems
- Horticulture Module
- Manufacturing Production

All of the available pathway assessments and the dates for the operational testing window can be found on the main page of the [Career Pathways® website](#). Additionally, accommodations are available for students who require them on all available cPass® examinations. Supported accommodations can be found on the [Career Pathways® website](#) under the “For Educators” in “Operational Testing” here.

Once the operational testing window closes in May 2017, Career Pathways® staff will remove the assessments from available use and begin the scoring process. This process ensures that examinations are accurately and fairly measuring student performance in each pathway, and creates the Individual Student Reports to deliver final results of each assessment for each student. Results for the each pathway examination will be delivered to authorized users via the [KITE Educator Portal](#) under the “Reports” tab by the end of July 2017. Individual Student Reports for cPass® assessments taken in the 2015 - 2016 school year are currently available to those users with appropriate permissions to access them, usually a Building Test Coordinator or District Test Coordinator.

If you need assistance creating accommodations for your students, locating your students’ Individual Student Reports, or have other questions about cPass® testing you may contact the KITE Service Desk at 855-277-9755 Monday through Friday (7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Central Time), or by sending an email to [cpass@ku.edu](mailto:cpass@ku.edu).

Don’t forget to like us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) for additional news on cPass® and the wider world of career and technical education.

Thank You,
The Career Pathways Team
For several decades, Career and Technical Education (CTE) has been evolving. No longer offering only traditional vocational education, CTE now offers a diverse range of subjects and career fields, including a number of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) subjects. In addition, the distinction between CTE and academic programs is slowly disintegrating as integrating academic content into CTE has become a national education priority.

CTE has become an indispensable lever for improving students’ college and career readiness. CTE plays a powerful role in student success and engages all students in rigorous academic and technical study. CTE bridges the gap from school to career while embracing all types of post-secondary experiences. CTE also helps all students achieve the objectives of the Kansas College and Career Ready Standards (KCCRS) through authentic, applied learning experiences. In short, CTE is leading the charge in better preparing our students for meaningful careers.

**CTE Calendar**

- **November 15th**—Opening Day for Pathway Applications
- **ACTE’s CareerTech Vision 2016** in Las Vegas, November 30—December 3, 2016
- **Pine Bush (NY) Summer Career Academies Presentation**—Ramada Inn Downtown, Topeka, December 5th
- **Kansas Workforce Summit**—Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka, January 18-19, 2017
- **Learning Forward Kansas Annual Leadership Conference**—Wichita, February 1-2, 2017
- **KAESA CTE Annual February Conference**—Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan, February 7—8, 2017. (Pre-Conference, February 6th).

**Learning Corner**

- Kansas Career Navigator
- Career Interest Inventories
- Helping Students Set Goals
- **BRIGHT SPOT**—Emporia High’s IPS Program Documents
- **BRIGHT SPOT**—Kansas City Public Schools’ Diploma + Program
- There is Life After College—GREAT READ
- Teachers Tell Students How Special They Are
- Credentials of Value: State Strategies for Identifying and Endorsing Industry-Recognized Credentials