

Frequently Asked Questions



New Graduation Requirements Frequently Asked Questions.

Check back frequently as new questions are added and additional information is provided. Below are the best responses as of December 9, 2022 from the KSDE graduation work group.

Under science, do the three areas (physical, biological and earth/space) need to all be transcribed classes?

The current guidance is to consult the KSDE science standards (KS Science Standards (ksde.org) and ensure that standards are mapped to courses that every student is required to take.

Will Health and PE need to be tracked as separate classes?

Current guidance suggests that yes, these will need to be tracked separate but that is subject to change based on evolving information.

When does this take effect?

These new requirements are tentatively set to begin with the class of 2028.

What course code will be used for Financial Literacy?

While guidance is still being developed, the course code used should be in line with the placement of the class. The class could be placed in business, for example, the corresponding course code could be used. To maximize flexibility, districts may choose to offer financial literacy across several curricular areas.

What licensure will be used for Financial Literacy?

More guidance will be forthcoming, but depending on what curricular area(s) the course is placed in. If Financial Literacy is placed in the business curriculum, the appropriately licensed business teacher should teach the class.

When does this take effect?

These new requirements are tentatively set to begin with the class of 2028.

Can the local board of education increase the number of graduation requirements?

Any local board of education may increase the number of units of credit required for graduation. Any additional requirements of the local board of education that increase the number of units of credit required for graduation apply to those students who enter the ninth grade in the school year following the effective date of the additional requirement.

What/how will competency and mastery be measured?

Guidance related to competency and mastery are being developed and will be shared once they are finalized.



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Can the local board of education adopt different graduation requirements for certain students?

Districts are required to award diplomas to requesting students who have met the state minimum graduation requirements and were in the custody of the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) or Kansas Department for Children and Families (KDCF) is on or after their 14th birthday.

For more information about these requirements, please see the Diploma for Students in Custody of KDOC and KDCF (SB 23) Fact Sheet on the Graduation Webpage.

Local boards of education may adopt a different number of graduation requirements (not lower than the state minimum) for adult learners whose four- and five-year cohorts have graduated or for students attending an alternative school or program. Most typically, diplomas are awarded to these students for successful completion of the state minimum graduation requirements.

Local boards of education can also adopt a policy giving the superintendent and/or principal the discretion to waive local graduation requirements that are in excess of the state minimum for students on a case-by-case basis. Situations that would be appropriate to receive this discretion include, but are not limited to, students who experienced high mobility, teen pregnancy, and long-term illness. The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) does not support policies that automatically waive local graduation requirements for students with disabilities that are more than the state minimum.

Is a district allowed to waive the Physical Education (PE)/Health requirement?

The PE/Health requirement shall be waived if the school district is provided with either of the following: A statement by a licensed physician that a pupil is mentally or physically incapable of participating in a regular or modified physical education program; or a statement, signed by a lawful custodian of the pupil, indicating that the requirement is contrary to the religious teachings of the pupil.

Can a student earn high school credit for a course taken in eighth grade?

It is up to each local district whether an eighth-grade course will count as a high school credit. If high school credit is given, the eighth-grade course must be equivalent to, or the same as, a high school course.

Courses must be taken at the high school level to count toward Regents' Qualified Admissions requirements. No eighth-grade courses will count toward Qualified Admissions.

Where can I find more information about Regents' Qualified Admissions requirements?

The Kansas Board of Regents has information available on their website:

http://www.kansasregents.org/qualified_admissions

How will post-secondary assets be tracked, and will they be transcribed?

By 2028 the Longitudinal Data System will have been rolled out and will allow for post-secondary assets to be tracked. Currently, KSDE is not planning on transcribing post-secondary assets, but that is subject to change based on evolving information.



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What qualifies as an industry level certification?

Please consult the following list for a starting point, with more guidance to be coming soon.
Postsecondary Success (Board Outcome) (ksde.org)

What are some examples of computer science course that would be accepted?

In accordance with HB 2466 each secondary school must offer at least one computer science class. For addition information, please check out the standards by following this link:
<https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Career-Standards-and-Assessment-Services/Content-Area-A-E/Computer-Science>

What are some examples of advanced CTE courses that would be accepted?

Advanced CTE courses would fall under the application level for any pathway.

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