

# Kansans Can- Redesign



## September 2022

### Accreditation & Design- Introduction

*“Within a system of accreditation and design, provide accountability along with support to move systems toward ensuring the success of each student.”*

This past summer, the Accreditation and Design Team had the opportunity to meet with approximately 25 systems who are entering their fifth year of the KESA cycle. During these conversations, we talked with systems about their initial, comprehensive needs assessment, their process for conducting on-going needs analyses, their system goals, and their accountability report. The purpose of these conversations was to help systems define their current state and next steps toward successfully completing their fifth year of the KESA cycle. System leaders were invited to participate in these ‘Summer Check-Ins’ as an addition to their budget meeting with KSDE’s fiscal team. Attendees commented that the check in was helpful and a welcome addition to their already scheduled budget review. We will continue to gather feedback on the ‘KESA Summer Check-In’ so that we might scale the best protocol for these visits beginning next summer. You can learn more about the check-in [here](#).

In addition to our very successful ‘KESA Summer Check-Ins’, we also hosted two ‘KESA Beginning of the Year Kick Off’ events. Between the two meeting offerings, we had just over 200 attendees! Thank you to all of you who attended this event. The purpose of this meeting was to celebrate the amazing work happening in schools and systems across Kansas. Additionally, we wanted to outline our supports for this year and the accountability measures that are in place for all systems as it relates to accreditation. If you were not able to attend, you can review the recording and meeting materials on our [training webpage](#).

Thank you for all you are doing to improve education for students across Kansas.

To the moon,

Jay, Myron, Catherine, Sarah, Jake, and Andrea

# What's New for 2022-2023?

## Reporting Adjustments

During the spring 2022 semester, ADT Leadership held focus groups to gather input and insight from practitioners in the field regarding KESA. Through these conversations, three 'buckets' emerged: **Purpose, Process, and Product**. To respond to the feedback around 'Product', we are adjusting the System and OVT reporting requirements for systems in years 1-4. **Systems in year 5 for the 2022-2023 school year, and OVTs supporting systems in year 5, will have no changes made to the report. Year 5 Systems and OVTs will operate under the current reporting expectations.**

**Systems in Years 1-4 during the 2022/2023 school year will not need to complete all sections of the existing KESA Forms/Authenticated Application. For the 2022/2023 school year, systems will only be required to complete three sections: Compliance, Needs Assessment Process and Goals, and Assurances. All other sections of the KESA report will be considered optional for the 2022/2023 school year.** You can learn more about the reporting adjustments [here](#).

**OVT Chairs for Systems in years 1-4 in 2022/2023 will only need to provide feedback on the sections completed by the systems.** If the system chooses to complete an optional section, then the OVT would be asked to provide feedback on those sections. However, OVT Chairs and Systems will have completed the requirements for Systems in years 1-4 in 2022/2023 if they have completed the three required sections: Compliance, Needs Assessment Process and Goals, and Assurances.

## Cognia Systems

We know that many systems both public and private across the state utilize Cognia for accreditation. Each year, systems work with Cognia to engage in the work of continuous improvement. To ensure that systems in Kansas are also operating in alignment with the Kansas State Board of Education, systems also complete an 'Every Member Every Year' (EMEY) form as a supplement to their Cognia work. To equitably reduce the reporting burden for all systems **during the 2022-2023 school year, we are allowing all Cognia systems in years 1-4 to complete only the sections of the EMEY report for Compliance and Measurable Goals. Systems in year 5 must complete the full EMEY and complete all requirements set forth by Cognia.** Please email Myron Melton if you have any questions ([mmelton@ksde.org](mailto:mmelton@ksde.org)).

## Minimum Number of OVT Members

The Accreditation and Design Team maintains that every system needs to have at least three Outside Visitation Team Members (which includes the Chair). We understand that OVT spots can be difficult to fill, but we believe that the reduced expectation for reporting for this school year will increase individuals' willingness to serve in this role. We will be hosting OVT member and chair training in early September. You can review a [list](#) of trained members and chairs on our OVT webpage. We will update the list after our upcoming training. We believe that having at least three members of your OVT is best practice for receiving quality, objective feedback. If you need any support, please contact us at [accreditation@ksde.org](mailto:accreditation@ksde.org).

## Year in KESA

With approximately 350 public and private systems working through the KESA process, it can be challenging to keep track of where in the accreditation cycle each system currently resides. This tracking was additionally complicated by the 'pause year' that was offered as part of COVID relief. We believe that our current list of systems by year in the accreditation cycle is accurate, but we need your feedback. You can find a list of all systems who seek accreditation through the Kansas Department of Education by going to the [KESA homepage](#) and looking under the heading on the right hand side of page called '[List of Systems by Accreditation Year](#)'. Please review the list and let us know if your system is incorrectly identified. While the work of KESA is about continuous improvement and not 'years', we recognize that each system must be accredited once within a five-year cycle, and so knowing where your system is in the cycle is important. Please email [accreditation@ksde.org](mailto:accreditation@ksde.org) if you have questions about your system.

## Year 5 – 'Going Early'

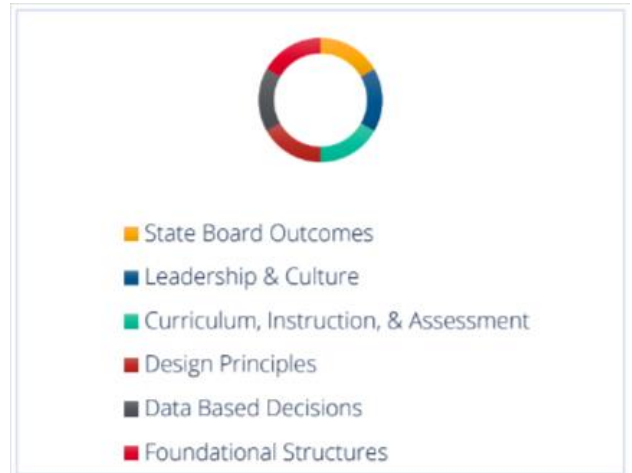
This year we will have 179 systems going through the Accreditation Review Council for an accreditation determination. To keep the case manageable for our ARC members, we are asking systems to hold their on-site visit as early in the school year as they deem acceptable. In the past, the deadline for an on-site visit for year 5 systems was March 31<sup>st</sup>. While this still holds true, we ask that all systems consider moving their visit up. If you would like more information, please email [accreditation@ksde.org](mailto:accreditation@ksde.org) as we would be happy to speak with you regarding your individual circumstances.

Further, the date of your on-site visit is how the Accreditation and Design Team will outline the order of reviews. If you are a year 5 system, please let the Accreditation and Design Team know when you will be holding your on-site visit by emailing [accreditation@ksde.org](mailto:accreditation@ksde.org).

## Component Baseline Analysis

The Component Baseline Analysis is a *perception* survey that was created by the KSDE Accreditation and Design Team in partnership with Kansas MTSS and our Educational Service Centers. The purpose of the CBA is to identify district and building-level perception data in six key component areas of continuous school improvement. District level staff will respond to each item for the district only; whereas building level staff will provide their perception for their building and the district for each item.

All systems should conduct a needs assessment at the start of each improvement cycle with opportunities for ongoing data collection and analysis built into the cycle. A robust needs assessment means that you are examining both your quantitative and qualitative data in addition to taking stock of your current work and gathering stakeholder feedback. The Component Baseline Analysis is one tool that you can use to obtain perception feedback from internal, building and district-level certified staff. You can preview the survey items [here](#).



If you are interested in learning more about the survey and how to administer it, you can review our slides/guidance on the ['Perception Survey' page](#).

## Updates:

### Regional Training Pilot

Last school year (2021-2022), KSDE, TASN, and our Education Service Centers came together to provide regional support for the KESA continuous improvement process. Throughout the year, 11 systems who were beginning year 1 of their second KESA cycle attended five regional workshops where they engaged in activities to help them do the work called for in the KESA continuous improvement process. The content these systems worked through is now available for all to access on the KESA System (District) Process Information page. You can learn more about this below under 'Continuous Improvement Process Content'.

For the 2022-2023 school year, our 11 pilot systems will come back together in September to dive into the phases of Strategy Implementation and Strategy Analysis. They will then come back to their regional site in April to present on their learning/work from the year and receive peer feedback. This presentation and feedback session will qualify as their OVT visit for the 2022-2023 school year. We hope to share an update on the work of the pilot systems again in October 2022 and May 2023.

### Continuous Improvement Process Content

As was alluded to in the 'Regional Training Pilot' update, the content presented for Data Analysis, Goal Setting, and Strategy Selection throughout the 2021-2022 school year, is now available for all systems to utilize. The training materials can be found on the '[KESA System \(District\) Process Information](#)' page. On this page, you will find a summary of each phase, in addition to phase objectives and activities for successful completion of that phase. If you have questions about the content, or suggestions for improvement, please email Sarah Perryman ([sperryman@ksde.org](mailto:sperryman@ksde.org)).

### System Beginning of the Year Kick-Off Summary

Thank you to all the system leaders who joined us on August 23 or 25 for our first ever KESA Beginning of the Year Kick Off! If you were not able to join, then you are welcome to watch the recording which is linked to our [KESA Training Information page](#). You can also review the slides that we used during this presentation by accessing the KESA Training Information page. During our presentation, we highlighted a few resources that all system leaders should be aware of:

- [Accreditation Review Council Criteria](#)
- [Compliance Areas & Contacts](#)
- [KESA Process Information & Support](#)
- [KSDE Accountability Report](#)

*We continue to update our website with resources and information so please continue to check the KESA site throughout the year.*

## Training Reminders:

### KESA SYSTEM MONTHLY UPDATES

To support systems regularly throughout the year, we will be bringing back the KESA Monthly Update beginning on October 11, 2022 and running through April 11, 2023. Meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month from 9:00-9:45 am. You can join these monthly updates by utilizing the [Zoom Registration](#). Meeting dates and resources will be posted to our [KESA Training page](#).

### KESA OVT TRAINING

Members can attend training on either September 6 from 9:00-11:00 am OR September 8 from 1:00-3:00 pm. The same content will be covered both days, so your attendance is only required at one of the training dates.

Chairs will also need to attend training on either September 14 from 1:00-3:00 pm or September 15 from 9:00-11:00. The same content will be covered both days, so your attendance is only required at one of the training dates. All information and zoom links can be found on our [flyer](#).

\*Note, **every OVT member and chair must be trained**. However, annual attendance at OVT Training is not required for OVTs who have already been trained, but it is recommended. If you have attended training to be an OVT member or chair in the past, you can choose if this training is right for you or not at this point in time!

### KESA ARC TRAINING & MONTHLY MEETINGS

In order to review 177 systems for accreditation during the 2022/2023 school year, the ARC needed to add 8 members. We are in the process of filling the Accreditation Review Council for this upcoming year. We look forward to meeting with them and onboarding new members. The meeting schedule is as follows:

**ARC New Member Training** - September 27, 2022 (invite only)

**ARC ALL Member Training** - October 4, 2022 (invite only)

**ARC Meeting Dates**- November 16, 2022; December 15, 2022; January 12, 2023; February 16, 2023; March 16, 2023; April 13, 2023; May 11, 2023; June 15, 2023

### KESA AAC QUARTERLY MEETINGS

The Accreditation Advisory Council is a group of approximately 35 education professionals who represent all areas of education (teachers, building/district administrators, education service centers, technical assistance providers, private schools, Cognia, etc.). **This next year, the AAC will meet:** September 19, 2022; November 7, 2022; February 6, 2023; April 3, 2023; and June 5, 2023. **To learn more about the AAC, and to apply for future open positions, go to the [AAC page](#) on the KESA webpage.**

# Educator Preparation:

## What is 'Educator Preparation'?

Educator Preparation includes **provider accreditation, program reviews, and program standards.**

\*Educator Preparation, formerly on the Teacher Licensure and Accreditation team, has been added to the Accreditation and Design Team to support continuity from preparation to K-12 systems. \*

## Call for Preparation Program Reviewers

KSDE is always looking for volunteers from P12 and higher ed to be preparation program reviewers. We will be holding program reviewer training in the Fall 2022.

Why become a program reviewer?

- Give back to the profession
- Make sure standards are maintained in Kansas educator preparation programs
- Build a network outside your district
- Earn Professional Development points (confirm this with your district)
- Pick which programs you review based on your content area and schedule
- The flexibility to travel to Topeka OR conduct reviews over ZOOM
- KSDE pays your district for your substitute on the day you work on program reviews

To be a program reviewer, you need to hold an endorsement in any of the content areas Kansas offers, or be part of an education preparation program and instruct in that content field, understand the current preparation standards, and take part in KSDE's training for program reviewers.

Program reviews help maintain strong educator preparation in Kansas. Each educator preparation program in Kansas must be approved by KSDE. Program reviews are a vital part of each college education unit's accreditation process.

Program reviewers review current programs and newly proposed programs for alignment to program standards. Reviews are held in the Fall and Spring semester for current programs and as needed for newly proposed programs.

If you would like to volunteer to be a program reviewer, training will be held October 6<sup>th</sup>, 9am-12pm. Please sign up for this or notice of future trainings at

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSetJeaquQjQ60KPxnIZ4Pow3Jjf4wJS\\_mSvSXrmrxyBqCWLA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSetJeaquQjQ60KPxnIZ4Pow3Jjf4wJS_mSvSXrmrxyBqCWLA/viewform?usp=sf_link) . If you have questions about becoming a program reviewer, please reach out to Catherine Chmidling ([CChmidling@ksde.org](mailto:CChmidling@ksde.org)) or Joe Midgley ([JMidgley@ksde.org](mailto:JMidgley@ksde.org)).

## Eye on the Future:

Here are the goals we as an Accreditation and Design Team have set for 2022-2023:

- ARC Goal for 22-23
  - By July 15, 2023, the ARC will review 179 systems to determine an accreditation status, and they will review an indeterminate number of systems for a redetermination who were initially conditionally accredited.
- Growth Goals
  - By February 1, 2023, a growth in student performance framework will exist for how growth and/or reaching state goal level should be measured and then the resulting impact on accreditation status.
  - By February 1, 2023, we will have a definition of what constitutes a 'trend' in data.
- Process Goals
  - By January 1, 2023, develop and create the structure for how our agency will support districts in accreditation and design through a tiered framework of support.

We hope to provide updates on our team goals throughout the school year.

### Resource List

Here are some KESA documents/resources that you might want to have handy as you do your work of continuous improvement and reporting to the Kansas Department of Education:

- [KESA Guidance Document](#)
- [ARC Criteria](#)
- [Foundational Structures Rubrics](#)
- [Star Recognition Rubrics](#)
- [Compliance Areas and Contacts](#)

You can find all of these documents and more on the KESA webpage:  
<https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Teacher-Licensure-and-Accreditation/KESA>



## KSDE Events – Save the Date

### Great Ideas in Education Conference

October 19-21, 2022 Wichita

Learn about, and register for, all KSDE events on our events page: <https://events.ksde.org/>



## Accreditation & Design Team

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