

## Why make changes to CCR measures?

- Data continues to show that positive post-school outcomes in Kentucky remain elusive and vary by disability types.
- According to Kentucky Post-School Outcome reports, almost two-thirds (65%) of student with functional mental disabilities were *not working or in an educational program a year after graduating or exiting from high school*.
- With the approval of the Alternative Diploma in 2012, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) recommended discussions continue around the experiences of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, and making their readiness to transition to postsecondary life even more meaningful.
- Given the information above, in 2013 KDE decided to further address college and career readiness (CCR) for students with significant cognitive disabilities within the State Personnel Development Grant.

### Project Goals

1. To help Kentucky define and measure college and career readiness for students with low incidence disabilities.
2. To formalize a transition to postsecondary model for students with IEPs remaining in high school until the age of 21.

## How will this impact my student?

- The revised CCR measures developed for students participating in the alternate assessment now align more closely with those for students in the general assessment.
- Students' knowledge in the area of career awareness and development will be assessed using the **Employability Skills Attainment Record (ESAR)**. Data collected on student mastery of skills will be used for transition and instructional planning.
- **The Kentucky Career Work Experience Certification (CWEC)** will be awarded to students who successfully complete an individualized course of study which includes work-based learning experiences. Work-based learning experiences are conducted for a minimum of three years. The CWEC provides students with an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills to real life work settings.

College Ready: Must meet TAR benchmarks



Career Ready Academic: Must meet Employability Skills Attainment Record (ESAR) benchmarks



Career Ready Technical: Must earn Career Work Experience Certification (CWEC)

## When will proposed CCR measures go into effect?

- **2015-2016:** 4 Usability Sites across the state involved in testing and refining the revised CCR measures.
- **2016-2017:** Statewide pilot
- **2017-2018:** The revised measures go into effect statewide and accountability to the Kentucky Department of Education begins
- Support will be provided to teachers and other district and state personnel who work with students on the alternate assessment throughout the implementation process.



### Contact Us

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## How can I help my student?

- Have conversations with your student and your student's teachers about transition and life after high school beginning at an early age.
- Planning for the Career Work Experience Certification attainment begins in grade 6. Remain active at IEP meetings during middle school and high school to learn about student options.
- Have conversations with your student about the expected year of exit with a graduation code. The expected year of exit will impact the onset of student coursework and work-based learning opportunities leading to the Career Work Experience Certification process.
- Become familiar with all the postsecondary options available to students on the alternate assessment. For example, under the Higher Education Opportunity Act 2008 amendments students with an intellectual disability are eligible for federal financial aid to attend Comprehensive Transitions Programs at colleges and universities across the county.
- Kentucky has CTPs across the state, where students with intellectual disabilities enroll in college and work towards earning a meaningful credential. Visit [www.shepsy.org](http://www.shepsy.org) or [www.thinkcollege.net](http://www.thinkcollege.net) for more information.

## What does *college and career ready* mean?

### College Ready for Students Participating on the Alternate Assessment

- The level of preparation a first-time student needs in order to succeed in a Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP)
- Kentucky's standards of readiness include an inclusive and individualized post-secondary experience that encompasses academics, as well as social activities, employment experiences, independent living and leads to a meaningful credential.

### Career Ready for Students Participating on the Alternate Assessment

- The level of preparation a high school graduate needs in order to proceed to the next step in a chosen career, whether that is postsecondary coursework, industry certification, or entry into the workforce.
- According to the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE), career readiness includes core academic skills and the ability to apply those skills to concrete situations in order to function in the workplace and in routine daily activities; employability skills that are essential in any career area such as critical thinking and responsibility; and technical, job-specific skills.

# CCR

## College and Career Readiness for Students Participating on the Alternate Assessment: A Parent Guide

