

Paul Laurence Dunbar High School Career Pathways Policy

Background:

The Kentucky Board of Education approved revised Kentucky high school graduation requirements at their December, 2018 meeting. Under the new requirements, students must complete at least one of the graduation qualifier options in order to be eligible for a high school diploma. Additionally, KDE High School Accountability includes CTE pathway status in the Transition Readiness category.

Graduation Qualifiers:

Completion of one or more of the following graduation qualifiers:

1. Precollege curriculum as established by the Council on Postsecondary Education in 13 KAR 2:020; or (currently 65-75% of PLD students attempt this)
2. Benchmark score in one section of a college admissions or placement examination as established by the Council on Postsecondary Education in 13KAR 2:020; or (currently 66% of PLD seniors meet this; 50% are college ready, 16% meet at least 1 BM)
3. Three postsecondary credit hours or more of a Kentucky Department of Education approved dual credit course with a grade of C or higher; or (currently 160 attempt English and 100 attempt math; all of these students also meet qualifier #2)
4. One course and corresponding assessment meeting the following criteria: (a) Advanced placement (AP) with a score of three or higher; or (b) Cambridge Advanced International (CAI) with a score at or above benchmark; or (c) International baccalaureate (IB) with a score of ve or higher; or (almost all students who score a 3+ on AP Exams meet qualifier #2)
5. Industry certification as approved by the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board on an annual basis; or (DOES NOT include CTE EOP exams; almost all of the students who meet this also meet qualifier #2, currently 12 students are career ready only)
6. Four credits from valid courses within a single Kentucky Department of Education approved career pathway; or (currently approximately 50 students are eligible)
7. A Kentucky Department of Education approved process to verify 500 hours of exceptional work experience, or alternative requirements as prescribed in a student's IEP.

Previously, the only requirements for high school graduation were the successful completion of the basic high school curriculum and passing a citizenship test.

Policy:

All students completing a schedule for PLD who have not yet attained academic transition ready status as defined by KDE or passed all required industry certifications for a KDE-approved CTE pathway shall select at least one CTE elective course each year with the goal of successfully completing 4 approved courses within the same KDE-approved CTE pathway by graduation.

- The principal may approve individual 1-year exceptions if any of the following consume all available elective slots in a student's schedule:
 - Maintaining 4-year participation in a fine arts and/or world language program
 - Meeting the requirements of a student's IEP or PSP
 - Meeting criteria for MTSS Tier 2 or Tier 3 support in Reading and/or math
 - Meeting core graduation requirements for the student's selected graduation plan

The typical progression of CTE elective courses for each student will be as follows:

1st read 12/10/18; 2nd read 1/14/19

Revised, 1st read 11/11/19, 2nd read 12/9/19

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9th grade	Foundational course approved for multiple pathways
10th grade	Exploratory course in an area of interest within the pathways
11th grade	Enrollment in specific pathway and KDE approved course
12th grade	Completion of pathway selected in 11th grade with KDE approved course

All students enrolled in CTE pathway courses shall take the associated industry certifications and/or CTE EOP exams associated with the pathway that are offered at that level.