

FEBRUARY 16, 2006, KASC BRIEFING ON SENATE BILL 130'S PROPOSED TESTING CHANGES

This edition reflects the version of the bill that passed the Senate. The House can change these provisions.

TESTING: AMEND THE STATE ASSESSMENT STATUTE (KRS 158.6453)

Keep: Current CATS elements except for 6th grade and 9th grade CTBS.

Add: The "Kentucky Work and College Readiness Examination" or "Readiness Examination," to include:

- 8th grade test of readiness for high school, assessing English, reading, mathematics, and science
- 10th grade test of college readiness, assessing English, reading, mathematics.
- 11th grade ACT, assessing English, reading, mathematics, and science.
- The WorkKeys test for students who do not want their ACT reported to a college or university. (To learn more about WorkKeys, see www.act.org/workkeys)

Timing: If the bill passes, the testing changes will happen in 2008-09.

ACT Costs: The student will pay if the student wants ACT reported to college or university. If not, KDE will pay.

ACT Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If scores will go to college or university, accommodations will follow ACT rules. If not, accommodations will follow the student's individual education plan (IEP).

More Test Changes: KDE will study how new exam addresses Core Content for Assessment. For Core Content the exam measures, the number of questions on the Kentucky Core Content Tests will be reduced.

Reporting to Parents, Teachers and Students:

- 5th graders: Parents will receive individual reports on students' reading and math readiness based on existing 4th grade testing.
- The high school readiness test will yield individual student reports to identify and remedy academic deficiencies before high school graduation.
- The college readiness test will yield a similar report.

Transcripts: ACT or Work Keys scores will go on each student's high school transcript.

REMEDICATION • ADD A NEW STATUTE ON HELPING STUDENTS WITH WEAK RESULTS

Fifth grade: School's fifth grade staff must plan accelerated learning for students with identified deficiencies.

High school readiness: If student has deficiencies, schools must add interventions to student's learning plan.

ACT: If scores shows deficiencies, schools must offer the student accelerated learning program to remedy weaknesses, which could include:

- Changes in a student's class schedule.
- Increased or concentrated instructional time.
- A summer school component.
- Alternative instructional practices to address specific identified academic deficiencies.
- Tutorial sessions.
- Modifications to instructional materials.
- Other methods to meet the students needs

Deficiencies on ACT will be defined as whether students score below the ACT level that the Council on Post Secondary Education (CPE) says is needed statewide to take credit-bearing courses at public universities.

KDE, CPE, and public post-secondary schools must help schools and districts develop accelerated learning programs

Student who participates in accelerated learning program may take ACT a second time at KDE expense.

ACCOUNTABILITY • CHANGE THE STATUTE ON SCHOOL GOALS (KRS 158.6455)

KDE will look at whether schools' accountability goals need to be adjusted based on substantive testing changes, with advice from the National Technical Advisory Panel.

To see the entire bill, go to www.lrc.ky.gov/record/06RS/SB130.htm. Then scroll down to where it says "SB 130 - AMENDMENTS", and click on the highlighted "SB 130" to download a Word copy of the bill.