

**KENTUCKY**  
**Profile of State College and Career Readiness Assessments (CCR) Policy**

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| <p><i>CCR assessment policy</i></p> | <p>Career Policy: For the upcoming 2011-12 school year, the state’s accountability system will incorporate a college and career component. For the college component, Kentucky administers ACT’s EXPLORE and PLAN assessments to all students as mandated by Senate Bill 130 in the 2006 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. The proposed career component will look at two main areas: (1) Career academic readiness (using the ACT Work Keys and the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and (2) Career technical skills (using the Kentucky Occupational Skill Standards Assessment (KOSSA) and industry certificates).</p> <p>College Policy: Kentucky requires all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students to take the ACT. Every public college, university, and the state’s community and technical colleges will place a student into a credit bearing course if the student obtains the Council on Postsecondary Education’s ACT Benchmark.</p>   |
| <p>Purpose</p>                      | <p>Career: The EXPLORE program is a high school readiness examination designed to help eighth graders explore a broad range of options for their future. The exam assesses four subjects (English, mathematics, reading, and science) and provides needs assessments and other components to help students plan for high school and beyond.</p> <p>The PLAN program helps tenth graders build a solid foundation for future academic and career success and provides information needed to address school districts’ high-priority issues. The exam assesses four subjects (English, mathematics, reading, and science) and is a predictor of success on the ACT.</p> <p>The career component of the state’s accountability system was developed to offer students a way to think about both college and careers. Kentucky recognizes that some students may be more inspired to follow a non-college career path, but we also recognize that the skills needed for current and future careers will call for a high level of academic and technical preparation. The goal is to create a rigorous but alternate method for students to demonstrate they are prepared for careers.</p> <p>College: The ACT provides a strong, research based assessment that predicts a student’s</p> |

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|  | <p>probability of success in their first college courses. By defining an agreed upon standard all Kentucky public colleges, universities and K-12 school are placed on the same goal, thus making the work between K-12 and higher learning coordinated.</p>  |
| <p>Major changes in CCR assessment policy since the 2009-10 school year for financial reasons</p>        | <p>Career: No<br/>College: No</p>   |
| <p>Major changes in CCR assessment policy since the 2009-10 school year for any <i>other</i> reasons</p> | <p>Career: No changes in administering the ACT Explore or Plan. However, for the upcoming 2011-12 school year, the state’s accountability system will incorporate a college and career component. The college component will be driven by the use of college readiness examinations (ACT, Plan, Explore, COMPASS, and KYOTE tests). The proposed career component will look at two main areas: (1) Career academic readiness (using the ACT Work Keys and ASVAB assessments) and (2) Career technical skills (Kentucky Occupational Skill Standards Assessment (KOSSA) and industry certificates).</p> <p>College: No changes in administering the ACT. However, for the upcoming school year, the ACT COMPASS or Kentucky Online Test (KYOTE) may be administered to students who do not make the required ACT benchmark. If a student makes the benchmark on the ACT COMPASS or KYOTE, all Kentucky public colleges and universities will allow the student to enter into credit bearing courses.</p> |
| <p>Grade CCR assessment first administered</p>   | <p>Career:<br/>EXPLORE- 8<sup>th</sup> grade<br/>PLAN- 10<sup>th</sup> grade<br/>ACT Work Keys aimed toward juniors and seniors<br/>ASVAB – aimed toward juniors and seniors<br/>KOSSA – aimed toward juniors and seniors<br/>Industry certificates aimed at high school students who finish the preparatory work – generally in 10-12<sup>th</sup> grades.<br/>College:<br/>ACT – 11<sup>th</sup> Grade<br/>ACT Compass – if needed – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade<br/>Kentucky Online Test (KYOTE) – if required, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade</p>  |

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| <p>State financial support for students to take the CCR assessment</p>  | <p>Career: Yes for EXPLORE and PLAN.</p> <p>ACT Work Keys is paid by local districts<br/>                 ASVAB is paid by the federal government<br/>                 KOSSA is paid by the state<br/>                 Industry certificates are paid by the local district or individual student.</p> <p>College: Yes, ACT Paid by state</p> <p>ACT Compass – Paid by state<br/>                 KYOTE – no cost provided by the University of Kentucky</p> |
| <p>Is the CCR assessment administered during the regular school day?</p>  | <p>Career: Yes. As a general rule, the ACT Work Keys, ASVAB, and KOSSA would be administered during the school day, but there is local flexibility for scheduling.</p> <p>College: Yes, the ACT is administered during the day in March.</p>   |
| <p>Is the CCR assessment used by postsecondary institutions for undergraduate admission purposes?</p>               | <p>Career: No</p> <p>College: Yes (ACT)</p>  |
| <p>Is the CCR assessment used by postsecondary institutions for placement purposes?</p>                             | <p>Career: No</p> <p>College: Yes</p>  |
| <p>Granted exemptions on college placement exams for students who meet a certain standard on the CCR assessment</p> | <p>Career: No</p> <p>College: Yes</p>  |
| <p>Is postsecondary institution course credit awarded for performance on the CCR assessment in any way?</p>         | <p>Career: No</p> <p>College: No</p>   |

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| <p>Is the CCR assessment used in any way by potential employers?</p>               | <p>Career: No<br/>College: No</p>   |
| <p>Impact of adoption of the common standards on state CCR assessment policies</p> | <p>In high school, Kentucky is adopting an end of course testing model. State regulation requires alignment of the end-of-course tests to the common core standards and college readiness standards. ACT Quality Core End-of-Course assessments will be used in Kentucky.</p> |