

EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

Board of Education

Department of Education

(Amended at ARRS Committee)

704 KAR 3:406. Superintendent training program and assessment process.

RELATES TO: KRS 156.111, 160.350

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 156.111

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 156.111 requires the Kentucky Department of Education to establish a superintendent training program and assessment center and that the Kentucky Board of Education adopt administrative regulations to govern the training content, number of hours, assessments, and work products for successful completion of the training and assessment center process. This administrative regulation establishes the requirements of the superintendent training program and assessment center process.

Section 1. Definitions.

- (1) "Candidate" means an individual enrolled in the superintendent training and assessment program.
- (2) "Comprehensive superintendent assessment" means assessment of a candidate's performance through performance-based projects, portfolios, or capstones which includes a collection of work products demonstrating a candidate's knowledge of each of the topics required in superintendent training modules, and ability to apply that knowledge to efficiently and effectively solve problems as a superintendent.
- (3) "Executive coaching and mentoring" means a program whereby:
 - (a) An individual with experience as a Kentucky public school superintendent is assigned to each candidate for the purpose of coaching candidates throughout the superintendent training and assessment program on the knowledge and skills necessary to be a successful superintendent; and
 - (b) A candidate is assigned an individual with experience as a Kentucky public school superintendent for the purpose of mentorship throughout the superintendent training and assessment program.
- (4) "Facilitator" means a trained instructor and observer who leads superintendent training modules and specialized professional learning, and records and analyzes candidate performance throughout the comprehensive superintendent assessment.
- (5) "Performance-based projects, portfolios, or capstones" means a multifaceted and intellectual experience culminating in a candidate-led demonstration of critical knowledge, skills, and capacities required for success as a superintendent.
- (6) "Proficiency on the comprehensive superintendent assessment" means a level of performance on each of the topics required in superintendent training modules that demonstrates a high degree of skill in that particular topic, as determined by an advisory committee.
- (7) "Superintendent training and assessment program" means a professional growth and development program which includes:
 - (a) Superintendent training modules;
 - (b) Executive coaching and mentoring; and
 - (c) Comprehensive superintendent assessment.
- (8) "Superintendent training modules" means a training program that is no less than forty-two (42) and no more than seventy-two (72) hours in length, providing high-quality

instruction delivered by a facilitator and approved by the Kentucky Department of Education on each of the following topics:

- (a) The topics set forth in KRS 156.111(1)(a)-(i); and
- (b) Educator ethics.

Section 2. Required Completion of Superintendent Training and Assessment Program.

(1) Each person hired for the first time to serve as a superintendent in a Kentucky public school district shall successfully complete the superintendent training and assessment program within two (2) years from the date the person began his or her role as superintendent.

(2) To successfully complete the superintendent training and assessment program, the candidate shall:

- (a) Complete all required superintendent training modules unless an exception is granted pursuant to subsection (3) of this section; and
- (b) For each of the topics required in the superintendent training modules, demonstrate proficiency on the comprehensive superintendent assessment.

(3) If a candidate possesses past experience that situates the candidate to likely demonstrate proficiency on the comprehensive superintendent assessment for a particular topic prior to completing training on that topic in the superintendent training modules, the candidate may request an exception from participating in that particular training topic within the superintendent training modules. If an exception is granted, the total superintendent training modules hours required for the candidate shall not be reduced. The candidate shall obtain additional training in alternative topics within the superintendent training modules equal to the hours of the training topic for which an exception is granted, which may include specialized additional training provided by a facilitator.

(4) If the candidate fails to demonstrate proficiency on the comprehensive superintendent assessment, the candidate may request to repeat the superintendent training modules and comprehensive superintendent assessment for the topics in which he or she failed to demonstrate proficiency. A candidate who repeats the superintendent training modules and comprehensive superintendent assessment for the topics in which he or she failed to demonstrate proficiency shall do so within two (2) years from the date the candidate began his or her role as superintendent.

Section 3. Enrollment and Recordkeeping.

(1) Candidates shall be enrolled in the superintendent training and assessment program with the following enrollment preference:

- (a) Individuals hired for the first time to serve as a superintendent in a Kentucky public school district shall be guaranteed enrollment;
- (b) If enrollment capacity remains after enrolling the candidates described in paragraph (a) of this subsection, then those individuals who are a candidate for superintendency, but not yet employed as a superintendent may be enrolled on a first come, first served basis; and
- (c) If enrollment capacity remains after enrolling the candidates described in paragraph (b), then those individuals who are neither employed as a superintendent, nor a candidate for superintendency, may request enrollment at the candidate's expense.

(2) Upon enrollment, a candidate shall be required to sign an oath which pledges nondisclosure of the comprehensive superintendent assessment.

(3) A roster of enrolled candidates shall be maintained by the program administrator. The roster shall include:

- (a) Each candidate's name;
- (b) The school district where the candidate is employed as superintendent, if applicable;

- (c) The date the candidate was first employed as a superintendent in a Kentucky public school district;
 - (d) The date by which the candidate shall complete the superintendent training and assessment program pursuant to subsection (1) of Section 2 of this administrative regulation;
 - (e) The candidate's assigned mentor; and
 - (f) The candidate's progress in completing the superintendent training modules.
- (4) Upon enrollment of a candidate, the program administrator shall:
- (a) Send written notification of the candidate's enrollment in the program to the candidate, the Kentucky Department of Education, and the board chair for the public school district where the candidate is employed as superintendent, if applicable;
 - (b) Assign the candidate a mentor for executive coaching and mentoring, and provide written notification of this assignment to the candidate and the mentor; and
 - (c) Send written notification to the candidate that includes:
 - 1. Program requirements and expectations;
 - 2. The schedule of superintendent training modules the candidate shall complete; and
 - 3. A general description of the required comprehensive superintendent assessment, including how the candidate's proficiency on the comprehensive superintendent assessment will be judged.
- (5) A candidate enrolled pursuant to paragraphs (b) or (c) of subsection (1) of this section shall provide immediate notice to the program administrator if the candidate is hired as a superintendent in a Kentucky public school district while enrolled in the superintendent training and assessment program. Upon receipt of notice, the program administrator shall update the roster set forth in subsection (3) of this section accordingly, and provide written notice to the board chair consistent with paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of this section.
- (6) Upon completion of the superintendent training and assessment program, the program administrator shall send a final written report for each candidate to the candidate, the Kentucky Department of Education, and the board chair for the public school district where the candidate is employed as superintendent, if applicable, containing the following information:
- (a) Each topic completed within the superintendent training modules, including the hours completed for each topic and total hours completed within the superintendent training modules;
 - (b) Any topics not completed by the candidate within the superintendent training modules;
 - (c) For each of the topics required in the superintendent training modules, whether or not the candidate demonstrated proficiency on the comprehensive superintendent assessment; and
 - (d) A statement as to whether or not the candidate successfully completed the superintendent training and assessment program as set forth in subsection (2) of Section 2 of this administrative regulation.
- (7) Upon completion of the superintendent training and assessment program, the program administrator shall:
- (a) Administer a comprehensive survey to candidates who completed the program which gathers feedback from candidates on:
 - 1. The quality, rigor, and value of the superintendent training and assessment program;
 - 2. The time commitments of the superintendent training and assessment program;
 - 3. The knowledge, skills, and expertise of facilitators;

4. The helpfulness of the candidate's assigned mentor throughout the superintendent training and assessment program; and
 5. Candidate recommendations for topics that should be covered in greater detail throughout the superintendent training and assessment program; and
- (b) Provide the aggregate results of each survey question to the Kentucky Department of Education.

Section 4. Facilitator Selection and Training.

- (1) A facilitator shall possess at least five (5) years of practice experience in the topic the facilitator is assigned to lead or provide specialized professional learning within the superintendent training modules.
- (2) Prior to evaluating whether or not a candidate demonstrates proficiency on the comprehensive superintendent assessment, a facilitator shall undergo training on:
 - (a) The requirements of this administrative regulation;
 - (b) Proficiency, as determined by an advisory committee, on each of the topics required in superintendent training modules;
 - (c) How to observe and record behaviors and performance of candidates; and
 - (d) How to write objective and comprehensive reports regarding candidate performance on the comprehensive superintendent assessment.

Section 5. Complaints. Complaints regarding failure to comply with statutory and regulatory provisions of the Superintendent Training and Assessment Program shall be directed to and evaluated by the Kentucky Department of Education.

Section 6. Continuing Education for Superintendents.

- (1) Following successful completion of the superintendent assessment and training program, annual continuing education for superintendents shall include: Completion of an annual individual personal growth training plan of at least twenty-one (21) hours of instruction which shall include:
 - (a) Three (3) hours of annual training in school finance; and
 - (b) Three (3) hours of annual training in ethics.
 - (2) Completion of continuing education of the superintendent shall be reported to the Kentucky Department of Education. The Kentucky Department of Education shall annually notify the local board of education chairperson of the status of the school district's superintendent's continuing education.
 - (3) Failure to comply with the requirements of this administrative regulation shall result in referral of the matter to the Education Professional Standards Board for consideration of revocation of the superintendent certificate. This is to certify that the chief state school officer has reviewed and recommended this administrative regulation prior to its adoption by the Kentucky Board of Education, as required by KRS 156.070(5).
- (704 KAR 003:406. 20 Ky.R. 3384; 21 Ky.R. 346; eff. 8-4-1994; Crt eff. 11-16-2018; 52 Ky.R. 889, 1340; eff. 5-5-2026.)

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