

**13 KAR 3:060. High school equivalency diploma awarded for credit hour completion at Kentucky Community and Technical College System institutions.**

RELATES TO: KRS 164.0064, 164.0234

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 164.0064(1)

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 164.0064(1) requires that the Kentucky Adult Education Program within the Council on Postsecondary Education promulgate administrative regulations to establish programs aligned with the College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education, or any other similar standards adopted by the federal Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, which upon successful completion, shall result in the issuance of a High School Equivalency Diploma. This administrative regulation establishes the criteria and conditions for the issuance of a high school equivalency diploma upon successful completion of credit hours at Kentucky Community and Technical College institutions in certain content areas.

**Section 1. Definitions.**

(1) "Credit for prior learning" means college credit for the college-level knowledge and skills gained from non-college instructional programs or life experiences, including but not limited to credit awarded pursuant to 13 KAR 2:025 and KRS 164.2951(2)(e), employment, military experience, civic activities, and volunteer service. Credit is evaluated through nationally standardized exams in specific disciplines, challenge exams for specific courses at individual institutions, evaluations of non-college training programs, and individualized assessments.

(2) "Eligible candidate" means an individual that:

- (a) Has reached his or her 19th birthday;
- (b) Has not obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent;
- (c) Meets the admission and placement requirements of 13 KAR 2:020; and
- (d) Maintains a Kentucky address.

(3) "KCTCS" means the Kentucky Community and Technical College System as defined in KRS 164.001(13).

(4) "KYAE" means the Kentucky Adult Education program within the Council on Postsecondary Education.

(5) "OVAE" means the U.S. Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

(6) "Successful completion" means:

- (a) Passing with a course grade greater than or equal to "C" constituting a 2.0 on a 4.0 scale; or
- (b) Being awarded credit for prior learning as indicated on an official KCTCS transcript.

**Section 2. Course Requirements.**

(1) An eligible candidate shall qualify for a Commonwealth of Kentucky High School Equivalency Diploma upon successful completion of a minimum of three (3) credit hours in each of the following content areas as certified with an official KCTCS transcript:

- (a) Written communication;
- (b) Quantitative reasoning;
- (c) Natural sciences; and
- (d) Social and behavioral sciences.

(2) KCTCS and KYAE shall review the competencies gained in entry-level courses in these content areas. Those entry-level courses with competencies that meet or exceed the skills demonstrated through passing the GED® exam at college ready level shall be eligible for the program and published in a list on KYAE's Web site.

Section 3. Issuance of Commonwealth of Kentucky High School Equivalency Diploma. An eligible candidate shall provide the following to Kentucky Adult Education for the High School Equivalency Diploma to be issued:

(1) Legal name, date of birth, social security number, phone number, email address, home address, list of eligible courses, and signature;

(2) A twenty-five (25) dollar non-refundable application and processing fee; and

(3) An official KCTCS transcript documenting successful completion of the qualifying credit hours.

(44 Ky.R. 2702; eff. 8-31-2018; Certified to be amended; filing deadline 8-4-2021.)