

1 AN ACT relating to locally operated area technology centers and making an  
2 appropriation therefor.

3 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

4 ➔Section 1. KRS 157.069 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) As used in this section:

6 (a) "Secondary area technology center" or "secondary area center" means a school  
7 facility dedicated to the primary purpose of offering five (5) or more technical  
8 preparation programs that lead to skill development focused on specific  
9 occupational areas. An area center may be called a "magnet technology  
10 center" or "career center" or may be assigned another working title by the  
11 parent agency. An area center may be either state or locally operated; and

12 (b) "Vocational department" means a portion of a school facility that has five (5)  
13 or more technical preparation programs that lead to skill development focused  
14 on specific occupational areas.

15 (2) The Kentucky Department of Education shall distribute all general funds designated  
16 for locally operated secondary area centers and vocational departments, which have  
17 been receiving state supplemental funds prior to June 21, 2001, by a weighted  
18 formula, specified in an administrative regulation promulgated by the Kentucky  
19 Board of Education. The formula shall take into account the differences in cost of  
20 operating specific programs. The commissioner of education shall determine  
21 programs to be assigned to categories based on the descriptions found in paragraphs  
22 (a) to (c) of this subsection. Programs in Categories III and II shall be eligible for  
23 funding.

24 (a) Category III--High-cost technical programs: Programs in which students  
25 develop highly technical skills in specific occupational areas and that require  
26 high-cost equipment, materials, and facilities. This category may include  
27 selected industrial technology Level III programs as defined by the

1 Department of Education and programs in other occupational areas as deemed  
2 appropriate;

3 (b) Category II--Technical skill programs: Programs in which students develop  
4 technical skills focused in occupational areas and that require technical  
5 equipment but high-cost equipment, facilities, or materials are not necessary  
6 to operate the programs. This category may include selected industrial  
7 technology Level III programs as defined by the Department of Education and  
8 programs in other occupational areas as deemed appropriate; and

9 (c) Category I--Orientation and career exploration programs: Programs that  
10 provide orientation and exploration of broad-based industries by giving  
11 students knowledge and experience regarding careers within these industries  
12 and develop some exploratory or hands-on skills used in the industry.

13 Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) of this section, the  
14 Department of Education shall approve the combining of eligible secondary  
15 vocational programs into a single vocational department for purposes of funding for  
16 a school district that has been receiving state supplemental funds and has distributed  
17 its vocational programs, previously located in area centers, among magnet career  
18 academies.

19 (3) For calculation purposes and after categorizing the programs as described in  
20 subsection (2) of this section, a weight shall be applied as a percentage of the base  
21 guarantee per pupil in average daily attendance as defined by KRS 157.320 under  
22 the Support Education Excellence in Kentucky Program, which shall be applied to  
23 full-time equivalent students in Categories II and III. Category I programs shall  
24 receive no weight. The full-time equivalent students shall be calculated on the basis  
25 of the total program enrollment divided by the length of the class period divided by  
26 six (6).

27 **(4) (a) If a school district has a locally operated secondary area center that has**

1 been receiving state supplemental funds, and the district moves the center as  
2 part of a collaborative project agreement between two (2) or more school  
3 districts, then the Kentucky Department of Education may, subject to  
4 approval by the commissioner of education, distribute the general funds  
5 designated for the district's locally operated secondary area center to the  
6 district for the purpose of supporting the collaborative project for the  
7 district's full-time equivalent students in Category II and III programs.

8 (b) If the commissioner of education approves the distribution of funds under  
9 paragraph (a) of this subsection:

10 1. For the first year of the collaborative project agreement, the  
11 department shall distribute an amount equal to the final allotted  
12 amount of general funds from the prior fiscal year designated for the  
13 district's locally operated secondary area center; and

14 2. For any successive year of the collaborative project agreement, the  
15 department shall calculate the amount of general funds to distribute  
16 pursuant to subsections (2) and (3) of this section. The amount  
17 distributed shall not exceed the amount distributed under  
18 subparagraph 1. of this paragraph.