College and Career Readiness for Students Participating in the Alternate Assessment

The Kentucky Department of Education and the Human Development Institute University of Kentucky

Abstract

The College and Career Ready Initiative of the Kentucky State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) will revise the College and Career Readiness measures for students with low incidence (LI) disabilities through collaboration the State Education Agency, Local Education Agencies, and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) and, subsequently, develop, pilot, and implement a CCR experiential curriculum for students with LI, based upon the revised measures.

How College and Career Ready are Kentucky Students Participating in the Alternate Assessment?

Products and Processes Developed:

1. Employability and Foundational Academic Standards—Alternate Assessment, and corresponding progressions, linked to the Kentucky Occupational Skill Standards Assessment (KOSSA).
   - Reviewed and selected skill standards salient for the population of youth participating in Alternate Assessment (inter-rater reliability).
   - Cross-walked identified, salient KOSSA with US Department of Labor’s Office of Disability Employment Policy’s Skills to Pay the Bills research and curriculum (2012).
   - The standards and progressions provide teachers the skills that must be taught in a variety of settings (school, community and worksites) for a student to achieve Career Readiness status.

2. Employability Skills Attainment Record to determine Career Ready: Academic status.
   - Used to measure individual student attainment of the Employability and Foundational Academic Standards—Alternate Assessment
   - Students are assessed at Grade 12. Assessment may continue through Grade 14, if benchmarks have not been met.

   - Provides a framework for experiential curriculum and assessment.
   - Facilitates student employment prior to high school exit and/or facilitates student identifying post-secondary coursework needed based upon career interests.
   - Achieved by completing a minimum of three years of coursework.

4. Course of Study Descriptions – Alternate Assessment
   - Documents the IDEA required multi-year course of study
   - Documents the course of study leading to the Alternative HS Diploma
   - Documents the completion of the CWEC
   - Provides fidelity for completion of coursework statewide

Evidence based practices framework:

- Person Centered Transition Planning
- Career Exploration
- Work-Based Learning Experiences Related to Post-Secondary Outcome

Tools/practices currently in use:

- Special Education
  - Transition Attainment Record (TAR) - Alignment to College/Career Readiness- Grade 11
  - Community Work Transition Program and District Developed Work-based Learning Program(s)

- Career & Technical Education
  - Kentucky Occupational Skill Standards Assessment (KOSSA)
  - Kentucky Work-Based Learning Manual

- Evidence based practices framework:
  - Person Centered Transition Planning
  - Career Exploration
  - Work-Based Learning Experiences Related to Post-Secondary Outcome

Implementation Timelines

2015-2016
- Four CCR Usability Sites begin implementation
- All LEAs engage in CCR readiness activities

2016-2017
- Statewide pilot
- Usability Sites continue

2017-2018
- Accountability begins – first year points can be earned under the revised measures
- Usability Sites complete activities

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