

2021-2022 Qualifying Credentials

Summary

Excel in CTE (SB 155), now K.S.A. 72-3819 (recently updated from K.S.A. 72-4489), which passed in 2012, established the CTE Incentive Program which provides incentive awards, as sufficient monies are appropriated, to school districts for high school graduates who have obtained qualifying industry-recognized credentials in high-demand occupations either prior to graduation or by December immediately following graduation. Based on established criteria; the proposed list of qualifying credentials for 2021-2022 has been developed.

5/27/2021

Industry Recognized Certification / Credential List Development

The list of credentials qualifying for the incentive program is developed by the Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) in consultation with KBOR and the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) based on the following criteria:

- Occupations must appear on the high demand/high wage occupations list and have an overall demand score between 10 and 30 using the metric developed by KDOL based on job vacancy, short-term job projections, long-term job projections, and wage data.
- Wages for the occupation must be at least 70 percent (\$32,564) of the average annual wage in Kansas (\$46,520 – 2020 Wage Survey) or, if the occupation does not meet the wage criteria, the credential for the occupation must be a stackable credential and required for the next occupation level.
- The education level for the occupation requires at least a high school diploma as designated by KDOL.
- Occupations must have an associated, occupationally specific industry-recognized credential (certification or license).
- Courses leading to that certification/license are available to high school students.
- The certification/licensure is attainable by a high school student within six months of high school graduation or before.

AY2021-2022 Updates

Phlebotomists, under SOC code 31-9097, and Medical Records Specialists, under SOC code 29-2098, have been added for the 2021-2022 incentive listing. Sheet Metal Workers is on the 2022 Phase-Out Occupation list under SOC code 47-2211. Certifications for this program must be earned by December 2022 to be eligible for incentive/reimbursement funding. The qualifying credentials list does not limit any programs eligible for the SB 155 tuition reimbursement. According to statute, institutions are to receive notification of the credentials that qualify for the incentive program on an annual basis.