Kansas Excel in CTE Initiative (SB155)

Secondary ⟷ Postsecondary

Frequently Asked Questions

Tuition: Eligible courses

1. Will the payment for secondary student credit hours apply only to courses in programs on the high-demand list?

Response: No, the secondary tuition for technical education funding will be applied to postsecondary credit hours generated by secondary students enrolled in a postsecondary tiered technical course which is part of <u>any approved technical program</u> at the college or institute of technology. The funding rate for secondary credit hours in tiered technical courses will be 100% of the KBOR composite rate for tiered courses (not the state share rate applied to postsecondary credit hours)

2. What about non-tiered courses?

Response: No, secondary student college credit hours in a <u>non-tiered course</u> (regardless of the program) will not be included in the secondary tuition for technical education funding distribution. Institutions should continue current practice with regard to tuition for non-tiered courses for both secondary and postsecondary students.

3. Will courses included in short-term (SAPP) programs qualify for higher education reimbursement if taken by high school students? I would also like to know if CTE courses taken during the summer semester by high school students would qualify for both our institution as well as high schools (if the programs meet the high school funding criteria).

Response: Yes, as a general rule if the SAPP is comprised of a course or courses tied or linked to an approved technical program, the credit hours generated are eligible for funding regardless of whether the student is secondary or postsecondary or semester in which the credit hours are generated. The only difference is the funding source—tiered technical, secondary tuition for technical education, or non-tiered course credit hour grants.
Funding for high school student credit hours for non-tiered courses will continue to be funded through the non-tiered course credit hour grants.

As for the high school, the district determines whether the course counts for graduation purposes; and KSDE determines high school funding criteria.

4. If we have a high school student taking a CNA course, this would be considered a SAPP program at our institution. An example of a course that they would take would be NAID1229. I looked at this course and it is currently a tiered course (Tier 1, composite rate of $227). So, based on the fact that the course is tied or linked to a technical program, and is tiered, we would receive funding for these high school students from the HS funding source. Is that correct?

Response: Yes, the plan is to fund eligible high school student credit hours in tiered technical courses tied or linked to technical programs at the KBOR composite rate (100%) from the secondary tuition for technical education fund.

5. If a high school student enrolls in a course designated as tiered (T) but the course is currently being funded at the NT (non-tiered) rate for our college, will we receive the composite tier rate for those credit hours?

Response: No, for a tiered course to be eligible for the tiered funding rate, the course must be tied or linked to an approved technical program. Likewise, to receive the composite rate for high school student credit hours the course must be tiered AND tied or linked to an approved technical program. Tiered courses funded at the non-tier rate are usually the result of the course not being tied or linked to an approved technical certificate or AAS degree (other than AAS in Technical Studies).

6. For purposes of high school courses must we have a technical program that has that course in it for it to fall under this program or could it be a technical course the high school requests that is not part of a program?

Response: To be eligible for the secondary tuition for technical education funding, the high school student must be earning postsecondary credit in a tiered technical course that is part of an approved technical program conducted by the postsecondary institution. Secondary student credit hours in courses not part of an approved technical program are not eligible for secondary tuition for technical education funding.

7. What constitutes a college-level CTE class?

Response: For the purposes of this legislation, a college-level course is a postsecondary tiered technical course that is part of a technical program approved by Kansas Board of Regents and delivered by a college or the Washburn Institute of Technology.

8. Are high school students taking a college-level CTE class that is also part of an approved secondary pathway eligible for the tuition reimbursement?

Response: Colleges and the institute of technology are eligible to receive tuition funding for the postsecondary credit hours generated by a high school student enrolling in a postsecondary tiered technical course that is part of any approved technical program at the college or the Washburn Institute of Technology.

9. Can a college level CTE class that is part of an approved pathway qualify for the 0.5 weighted funding? Do we earn 0.5 funding AND the student gets free tuition, or is it one or the other?

Response: CTE courses taken by high school students will NOT qualify for both the 0.5 vocational funding AND the college tuition payment. If the student takes a course delivered by the high school as part of the state approved high school pathway, the course will generate only the 0.5 vocational funding, if applicable, for the district. If the CTE course is delivered by a college or the Washburn

Institute of Technology and the high school student earns college credit the course will be eligible for the tuition payment at the college but will not be eligible for the 0.5 weighted vocational funding.

10. Do the CTE college courses have to be part of a pathway to earn the free tuition?

Response: To qualify for the tuition payment, the CTE course must be a tiered technical course in a Kansas Board of Regents approved technical program at a college or the Washburn Institute of Technology.

11. If we have secondary students taking college credit CTE classes outside the normal school day schedule, are they eligible for the "no tuition" program?

Response: The legislation does not say that the courses have to be taken during normal school hours. For a course to be eligible for the secondary tuition funding, the high school student must be earning postsecondary credit in a tiered technical course that is part of an approved technical program conducted by the postsecondary institution.

Tuition: Eligible high school students

12. If we have a high school student that is not a resident of KS, would we still receive reimbursement for the student if they were enrolled in a Tiered course?

Response: No, the high school student must reside within the state of Kansas.

13. Are HS students required to meet the same residency eligibility requirements as college students under K.S.A. 71-406 and 71-407 as applied to SB155? Or, since they are in HS, are they immediately eligible?

Response: No. High School students only need to be residents of Kansas by the time they enroll/attend (i.e. no six month or other prior duration requirement.) Both the FAQ and Kansas Higher Education Data System (KHEDS) Reference Manual (developed by the Board office to provide the policies and procedures for the administration of the program) state that <u>only Kansas residents</u> who also meet the K.S.A. 72-4417(c) definition of a "secondary student" will be counted for funding purposes. KBOR General Counsel has affirmed this interpretation.

14. Are these residency requirements the same for the Tech colleges (as related to SB155, are the residency requirements for the Technical schools the same as they are for CC)?

Response: Yes. The requirements are the same.

15. Are undocumented HS students attending a KS HS allowed to be submitted to KBOR for reimbursement under SB155? This HS student may have been attending KS schools for years, but they are undocumented.

Response: Yes.

16. A HS student attends a HS in a bordering state, but they actually live in KS. Their legal address is in KS (although they attend a HS not in KS). Can these HS students be submitted to KBOR for reimbursement under SB155?

Response: No. The student has to be a resident of Kansas, and attending a Kansas high school.

17. What about a student that dropped out of high school and is currently enrolled in a GED program? Are they considered high school students?

Response: No, the legislation defines a secondary student as "*a pupil who: (1) Has not attained a high school diploma or a general educational development (GED) credential; and (ii) is regularly enrolled in and attending a public or private secondary school.*"

18. What about high school students that are enrolled in the Kansas Online High School? I am being told it is an accredited high school within KS. I assume that these students would be included as high school students?

Response: Yes, but only if the on-line programs are being offered through a public school district.

19. What if the student is enrolled in an adult diploma completion program that is NOT a GED program?

Response: if the school district considers the program an alternative high school within the district, and the student(s) attending are considered enrolled in and attending a district school, then yes, the student would be eligible for the SB155 tuition.

20. If a student graduated from high school this last spring, are they still considered a high school student during the summer session and convert to non-high school student starting fall? Will we receive reimbursement from KBOR for a student who graduated from high school in the spring if they are taking summer classes starting after July 1? Does a high school student lose their high school status as soon as they graduate?

Response: Question 1—No. Once a student graduates from high school they would be no longer be considered a high school student. Question 2—Yes, at that point the student would be a postsecondary student and their credit hours would be supported through the regular tiered technical or non-tiered course funding streams. Question 3—Yes, a student loses their high school status at the time of graduation.

21. Will colleges receive the tuition payment for high school students enrolled in private high schools or home schooled students?

Response: Colleges and the Washburn Institute of Technology are eligible to receive the tuition funding for secondary students regularly enrolled and attending a private high school or are home schooled that enroll in a KBOR approved career technical education course or program conducted by a community college, technical college, or institute of technology.

22. We have a high school student currently being home-schooled who wants to enroll in one of our programs. Would their tuition reimbursement from KBOR be calculated any differently than a high school student enrolled in a USD?

Response: No, the tuition funding for a home schooled student would be calculated the same. The full KBOR composite rate calculation is applied to all high school student college credit hours in tiered technical courses.

23. Is there an age limit on students taking advantage of the tuition waiver? Must the student have achieved "sophomore" or higher status? Does the student have to be at least 16 years old? What about the rare occasion where a 14 year-old home schooled students wants to enroll in a technical course?

Response: SB 155 does not stipulate a specific grade or age requirement. However, the intent of the legislation is for payment of tuition for 11th and 12th grade high school students enrolling in tiered technical courses at a postsecondary institution. Grade level requirements for concurrent enrollment, including concurrent enrollment partnerships, are defined in K.S.A. 72-11a03, K.A.R. 88-26-3, and KBOR policy Chapter 4.

In any instance, colleges need to be mindful that under this initiative high school students earn transcripted college credit at the time the course is taken. This may impact (positively or negatively) additional college options for the student in the future based on the student's ability to perform well in college-level courses.

24. Can a student at the high school sophomore level or below take college-level CTE classes and be eligible for the "no tuition" program?

Response: The intent of the legislation is for payment of tuition for 11th and 12th grade high school students enrolling in tiered technical courses at a postsecondary institution.

25. Must high school students be enrolled in an accredited high school for their credit hours to be eligible for the tuition reimbursement?

Response: The legislation does not address high school accreditation but defines a secondary student as one who: 1) has not attained a high school diploma or GED, and 2) is regularly enrolled in and attending a public or private secondary school. Alternative schools could be considered private secondary schools and, as such, college credit hours earned by these high school students would be eligible for tuition reimbursement.

26. If a high school fails a college technical course that was funded through SB 155 and the student signs up to take the course again, will it still be covered under SB 155 or would the student be responsible for payment the second time?

Response: The intent of this initiative is to pay the tuition for high school students taking college-level technical courses for credit. It is hoped that only high school student with the ability to be successful in college-level courses would be enrolled in these courses. As stated earlier, high school students earn transcripted college credit at the time the course is taken which may impact (positively or negatively) additional college options for the student in the future based on the student's ability to perform well in college-level courses. However, should a high school student be unsuccessful in a college-level technical course the college's policy regarding course retakes be applied.

Incentive Award/Qualifying Credentials

27. When do we anticipate the list of critical career and technical ed programs being available? (The $1,000 incentive for high schools)

Response: The list of high-demand occupations and associated industry credentials that qualify for the incentive awards is updated annually on the KBOR website.

28. Is the incentive funding applicable to students from private high schools or are home schooled?

Response: Colleges and the institute of technology may request incentive funding from KBOR to cover ½ of the cost of a credentialing exam for secondary students regularly enrolled and attending a private high school or are home schooled, and are currently or were previously admitted to an approved career technical education course or program conducted by the institution. No college or institute of technology is required to pay ½ the cost for three or more industry-recognized certification assessments that are substantially the same for any student failing to earn the certification on two previous attempts.

a. How is the test fee entered on the reimbursement form?

Response: if the college paid for the assessment test, then ½ of the cost should be entered on the form. For instance, if the fee is $20, then $10 should be entered.

b. If a student is home schooled, how should that be entered on the form?

Response: enter that high school as "Home School"

c. If the student was charged for the test fees (and therefore the college did not pay for the test), is the college eligble for the test fee reimbursement?

Response: if the college did not pay for the test assessment, then do not include on the reimbursement form; unless the institution is reimbursing the student for those test fees.

d. There are additional technology fees associated with the specific test assessment given: are these fees eligible for reimbursement?

Response: no, only ½ of the cost of the assessment test itself is eligible for reimbursement if the institution paid for the test.

e. Are the administration fees for electronic examination eligible for reimbursement?

Response: no, only ½ the cost of the certification fee itself is eligible for the reimbursement if the institution paid for the test.

29. There are industry-recognized certifications that exist in my CTE area but are not listed on the incentivized certification list. Why aren't those certifications listed?

Response: Only certifications associated with high demand occupations (as identified by the Kansas Department of Labor) were identified for the incentive award. Not all occupations are high demand occupations for Kansas. This list is revisited annually and approved by the Technical Education Authority (TEA) and Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR).

30. Why were the listed certifications the only ones listed for those occupations?

Response: For some high demand occupations multiple certifications were identified; for others only one certification was selected. The identified credentials were based on professional requirements for the occupation, age limitations, and whether or not high school CTE pathways and/or postsecondary CTE programs offer courses that prepare students for the specific

certifications. Many of the identified credentials are approved certifications established through the postsecondary program alignment project.

31. How and when do schools report certifications earned to the state?

Response: School districts are required to maintain records of qualified certifications earned by their students. Once the student graduates from high school, the district will submit the list of certifications earned to KSDE and the incentive dollars will then be paid to the district. The state auditors will check the records kept on file at the district level to verify that the list submitted is accurate.

IMPORTANT NOTICE – Senate Bill 155 was amended in 2013-2014 to allow high school graduates up to **December 1 following graduation** to earn a qualifying credential and the institution would still be eligible for the reimbursement. If a student graduating in May earns a qualifying credential between graduation and December 1 of that calendar year, that student should be reported on the reporting form the following year.

Transportation **(school districts work with KSDE regarding requirements)**

32. If a college offers a qualifying CTE course at a high school, can a neighboring school transport students to that high school and get reimbursed for transportation?

Response: Yes, as long as the course(s) meet the requirements of the law for the paid tuition.

33. If the school does not provide transportation for students to travel off-campus for college-level CTE classes, can students/parents be reimbursed for transportation costs?

Response: Parents/students will have to work with their local school district and KSDE concerning transportation requirements.

34. Is there a student minimum for transportation reimbursement?

Response: No, there is no student minimum required for transportation reimbursement.

35. Is there a maximum mileage reimbursement?

Response: No, there is no maximum mileage reimbursement. Form 196 – CTE State Aid for Transportation to Community College/Technical Colleges, is available on the KSDE website for schools to submit payment requests.

36. Does the CTE Course(s) taken have to be part of a pathway to earn the transportation reimbursement?

Response: If the course(s) taken qualifies for the tuition payment, it will also qualify for the transportation reimbursement

Other Questions

37. What will happen if a large number of high school students enter postsecondary technical courses and this $8.75 million budget runs out?

Response: Institutions would receive a pro rata share of the funding that is available.

38. What will happen if this funding is not renewed and the local USD's budget funds earmarked for postsecondary technical education courses for their high school students elsewhere?

Response: As with all state funding, funds for the secondary tuition for technical education are subject to appropriation. For FY 2013, House Substitute for SB 294 appropriates up to $8.75 million from revenue collected from the excise tax on the severance and production of oil and gas exceeding the consensus revenue estimates to support secondary tuition for technical education. In addition, up to $1.5 million was appropriated from this revenue source to support the incentive for technical education fund ($1,000 industry credential awards).

39. Colleges currently charge USDs for providing technical education courses to high school students. What if this new formula reimbursement is dramatically lower? Tuition and fees will not support the program. A frozen, underfunded tiered funding model will not make up the difference.

Response: Institutions will be paid 100% of the composite cost tiered rate for these secondary student tiered credit hours. This calculation includes costs for instructors, instructional support, extraordinary costs (where applicable), and institutional support costs. We encourage institutions to work with staff to ensure these rates are as accurate as possible by participation in the Kansas Study, ensuring accurate cost reporting in IPEDS, and documenting extraordinary (equipment, materials, supplies, etc.) program costs.

40. Do colleges have the legal right to charge USD's or high school students an additional fee to make up for the loss in funds from the secondary funding stream?

Response: As stated in Section 8 of SB 155, <u>secondary students</u> admitted to a career technical education course or program conducted by a community college, technical college or institute of technology <u>may be charged fees, but shall not be charged tuition</u>. The section also defines <u>Fees</u> as "*those charges assessed against a student . . . for student services, such as health clinics, athletic activities and technology services, or for books, supplies or other materials necessary for a particular course or program, the expense of which is not covered by tuition.*" <u>Tuition</u> is then defined as *"those charges assessed against a student . . . on a per credit hour, per course or per term basis, and that are charged to cover the general expense of providing instructional services."* The statute does not address local school districts.

41. I can download the 2011 spreadsheet showing which courses are tiered for my college. The problem is I know that some courses have been tiered for 2012 and some have dropped off the list. If I put out a list based on the 2011 data, I might be providing tuition and fees to a student that is taking a course that is no longer tiered and/or may be charging a student for a course that is now tiered. Is there any way to get a list of those courses that are tiered for 2012 before July 1?

Response: Yes, however you need to remember the 2012 data does not lock until mid-September and is not certified until the end of September—up until that time institutions have the opportunity to make request changes to courses and programs. You will need to log-in to the data system, select academic year 2012, and click on the Program Inventory tab. From that point, click on course maintenance link. From the course maintenance page there is a link to download an excel spreadsheet. This download will provide a spreadsheet listing all courses in a college. From there you can sort by course ID, by T/N status, etc. . . .

42. How do service areas enter into this? Does a high school first have to ask the community college in its service area to offer the course? Is an approval needed to offer a course at a location in another service area by the community college, technical college or university in that service area?

Response: In the short term, current policy/statutes related to service areas will apply to this initiative. The Kansas Board of Regents is currently discussing potential policy revisions related geographical jurisdictions.

43. If a college A requires a high school diploma as a pre-requisite to a technical course and neighboring college B does not have this requirement for the same technical course, can college B deliver the technical course to students residing in college A's district? Can college B deliver the course in college A's service area?

Response: It is anticipated that such issues would be resolved during discussions between the school district and college A for this particular technical course. If however, the school district and college B applied for permission to deliver the technical course in the specified service area, the Board would consider the ability, willingness, and intention of college A to deliver the requested technical course in any potential decisions regarding approval for delivery of the course by college B within college A's service area.

44. I found the 2011 high school technical report on the website which shows the number of high school students enrolled in technical courses at each college and what the funding amount would have been. The grand total is $7.3 million which is why $8 million was requested. Did the data for this report come from a request to each college or is the information already flagged somehow in the database so it can be pulled?

Response: The data from that report is from the FY 2011 data submitted and certified by each institution last fall. There is a field in the "Enrolled Flags" file where institutions designate students with high school status.

45. What about High School students that are currently receiving some sort of third party assistance for their classes such as WIA support. How do we handle these students? Should they refuse the additional support and we would collect from the state for their enrollment?

Response: Federal workforce investment act funding can provide students broader support than only tuition expenses. The state funding should be utilized for tuition support. If you have any questions, please contact your local one-stop provider.

Kansas Workforce ONE **Elmore Center** **631 E. Crawford, Suite 206** **Salina, KS 67401** **Phone: 785-493-8018** **Toll Free: 866-828-8887**	**Heartland Works, Inc.** **5020 SW 28th St # 100** **Topeka, KS 66614** **(785) 234-0500** 1-800-444-8551	**KansasWorks Local Area V** **Workforce Investment Board (WIB)** **Area Administrative Office (AAO)** **200 Arco Place, Box 120, Suite 103** **Independence, KS. 67301** **(620) 332-5900**
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46. Under this program, do faculty members teaching a college course at a high school site have to have a K-12 license if some of the students in the class are taking the course for high school credit only? Does the state require a faculty also be licensed by the state under the K-12 licensure requirements to meet the "highly qualified" standard?

Response: Each college establishes the credentialing requirements for faculty members hired by the college. Likewise, school districts establish credentialing requirements for teachers within their respective districts utilizing the spectrum of licensures established by the Kansas Board of Education which include Technical Education Certification and Visiting Scholar Licensure.

47. How do the postsecondary institutions access the funds for tuition reimbursement? How should high school students be reported in KSPSD?

Response: Postsecondary institutions will submit student files for the fall enrollment submission (mid December) which includes a flag to designate high school students. Individual student records for both secondary and postsecondary students enrolled in postsecondary institutions are uploaded to the KHEDS system.

48. What is the impact on the credit hour limitation for concurrent enrollment hours? Will CTE be exempt from this limit?

Response: As KBOR policy is currently written, the credit hour limit for concurrent enrollment credits (24 semester credit hours) applies only to those credits earned through concurrent enrollment partnership (CEP) courses. These are college courses taught by a high school teacher at the high school during the high school day for which students earn college credit. As the policy now stands, this would include CTE courses that meet the CEP course definition. This policy will be reviewed during the year to determine the potential need for revisions regarding this issue as well as faculty qualification for CEP courses.