

# Act 158: Graduation & Beyond

Millersburg Area School District



# Act 158

**Act 158 of 2018 which was signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf on October 24, 2018, shifts Pennsylvania's reliance on high stakes testing as a graduation requirement to provide alternatives for high school students to demonstrate readiness for postsecondary success. This statewide graduation requirement takes effect for the graduating class of 2023.**



# Keystone Proficiency Pathway

- **Scoring Proficient or Advanced on each Keystone Exam (Algebra 1, Literature, Biology)**
- **\*This is still the most direct way to Keystone Proficiency**





# Keystone Composite Pathway

- Earning a composite score of 4452 on the Algebra 1, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams (while achieving at least a proficient score on at least one of the three exams and no less than a basic score on the remaining two)

Act 55 amends the PA School Code to further assist students in meeting statewide graduation requirements. Student may graduate via the Keystone Composite Pathway provided the student:

- Earned a numerical Proficient in a Keystone Exam pursuant to Act 136 of 2020
- Achieves a Keystone Composite score of 2939 or greater for two of the three Keystone Exams (calculated by the highest numerical scores attained by the student, neither of which may be Below Basic and a least one of which must be Proficient or better.



# Alternative Assessment Pathway

- Successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exams on which the student did not achieve Proficiency and one of the following:
- Attainment of an established score on an approved alternative assessment (SAT 1010, PSAT 970, ACT 21, ASVAB 31);
- Gold Level on the ACT Work Keys Assessment
- Attainment of an established score on an Advanced Placement Program(3) or an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program(3) exam in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve at least a proficient score
- Successful completion of a dual enrollment course in an academic content area associated with each Keystone Exam in which the student did not achieve at least a proficient score
- Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program
- Acceptance into an accredited 4-year nonprofit institution of higher education and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level classwork.



# Evidence Based Pathway

- Successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve Proficiency and demonstration of three pieces of evidence consistent with the student's goals and career plans including one of the following:
- One or more from below list:
  - Attainment of an established score on the ACT Work Keys assessment(Silver Level), an SAT subject test(630), an Advanced Placement Program Exam(3), or an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program(3)
  - Acceptance to an accredited nonprofit institution of higher education other than a 4-year institution and evidence of the ability to enroll in college-level coursework
  - Attainment of an industry-recognized credential
  - Successful completion of a concurrent enrollment or postsecondary course





# Evidence Based Pathway (continued)

- No more than two from below list:
- Satisfactory completion of a service-learning project
- Attainment of a score of proficient or advanced on a Keystone Exam
- A letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment
- Certificate of successful completion of an internship, externship, or cooperative education program
- Compliance with NCAA Division II academic requirements



# CTE Pathway

- For Career and Technical Education (CTE) Concentrators, successful completion of locally established grade-based requirements for academic content areas associated with each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve Proficiency and attainment of an industry-based competency certification related to the CTE Concentrator's program of study

Or:

- Demonstration of a high likelihood of success on an approved industry-based competency assessment
- Readiness for continued meaningful engagement in the CTE Concentrator's program of study





# Keystone Exams

- Federal and state regulations require all students take each exam at least one time
- If a student passes all three Keystone Exams, they will earn an honorary seal on their diploma



# Individualized Education Plan

- A Student with a disability who is unable to satisfy pathway requirements but who satisfactorily completes a special education program is granted a diploma under Title 22 4.24.



# Pennsylvania Pathways to Graduation

## Keystone Proficiency Pathway *Numeric or Non-Numeric Scores*

**Algebra I**  
Proficient or Advanced

**Biology**  
Proficient or Advanced

**Literature**  
Proficient or Advanced

## Keystone Composite Pathway *Numeric Scores Only*

At least 1 Keystone Exam scaled score is  
**1500 or Greater**

No Keystone Exam score is  
**Below Basic**

The Keystone Exam 3-score composite is  
**4452 or Greater**  
The Keystone Exam 2-score composite is  
**2939 or Greater**  
*(where eligible under §121.1)*

### CTE Concentrator

Meet locally established, grade-based requirements for Keystone content in which the student is less than Proficient

**CTE Concentrator**  
1 Artifact from pathway criteria

### Alternative Assessment

Meet locally established, grade-based requirements for Keystone content in which the student is less than Proficient

**Alternative Assessment**  
1 Artifact from pathway criteria

### Evidence-Based Pathways

Meet locally established, grade-based requirements for Keystone content in which the student is less than Proficient

**Evidence-Based**  
3 Artifacts from pathway criteria

### Waiver

A student in 12th grade, or experiencing extenuating circumstances, who meets locally established grade-based requirements for Keystone content area(s) in which the student is less than proficient, and is unable to satisfy the requirements of a graduation pathway may be granted a waiver by the chief school administrator.

### Individualized Education Plan

A student with a disability who is unable to satisfy pathway requirements but who satisfactorily completes a special education program is granted a diploma under Title 22 §4.24.

**NOTE:** Although this infographic displays a sequential progression, students may fulfill criteria under the CTE Concentrator, Alternative Assessment, or Evidence-Based Pathways prior to demonstrating proficiency in Keystone academic content through Keystone Exam scores or locally established grade-based requirements.



# Pathway Criteria

CTE Concentrator	Alternative Assessment	Evidence-Based
<p align="center"><b>1 Artifact</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>1 Artifact</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>3 Artifacts consistent w/student goals</b></p> <p align="center">ONE or more from Section One No more than TWO from Section Two</p>
<p>Industry-based competency certification</p> <hr/> <p>Likelihood of industry-based competency assessment success</p> <hr/> <p>Readiness for continued engagement in CTE Concentrator program of study</p>	<p>Attainment of one alternative assessment score or better: ACT (21), ASVAB AFQT (31), PSAT/NMSQT (970), or SAT (1010)</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of Gold Level or better on ACT WorkKeys</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 3 or better on AP Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 4 or better on IB Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of concurrent enrollment course(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program</p> <hr/> <p>Acceptance into accredited, non-profit Institution of Higher Education (IHE) 4yr program for college-level coursework</p>	<p align="center"><b>Section 1</b></p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 630 or better on any SAT Subject Test</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of Silver Level or better on ACT WorkKeys</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 3 or better on any AP Exam</p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of 3 or better on any IB Exam</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of any concurrent enrollment or postsecondary course</p> <hr/> <p>Industry-recognized credentialization</p> <hr/> <p>Acceptance into accredited, non-profit Institution of Higher Education (IHE) for college-level coursework in an other-than-4yr program</p> <hr/> <p align="center"><b>Section 2</b></p> <hr/> <p>Attainment of Proficient or Advanced on any Keystone Exam</p> <hr/> <p>Successful completion of a service-learning project</p> <hr/> <p>Letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment</p> <hr/> <p>Completion of an internship, externship, or cooperative education program</p> <hr/> <p>Compliance with NCAA Division II academic requirements</p>