

LANCASTER COUNTY ACADEMY

C/O Central Penn College
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January 23, 2023

Attn: Parents/Guardians

Dear Caregiver:

The Pennsylvania (PA) Department of Education issued new guidelines for students to graduate from high school. See the *Pennsylvania Pathways to Graduation* document. Students who have not passed/taken their Keystone Exams will meet graduation requirements via an alternative pathway. One such artifact is to complete/pass CareerLink's Ready-to-Work program (ACT WorkKeys). See section one under the evidence-based pathway in the *Pennsylvania Pathways to Graduation* document.

Ready-to-Work is a national program promoted through the State. Students take a three-hour pre-test at school on basic academic skills that employers value. Then they watch several videos on soft skills for the workplace with associated quizzes. Soft skills include things like communication or leadership at work, being on time, being respectful, having a good work ethic, etc. Finally, students take a three-hour post-test on academic skills like basic math and English skills and interpreting data. This final test must be taken at the CareerLink building located at 1046 Manheim Pike, Lancaster, PA. Students must provide their own transportation to the final exam. If transportation is an issue, please contact us to work something out.

Note that if the student passes the pre-test, they still need to take the post-test. If a student does not pass the pre-test with 80% or better, they will be given remedial practice problems to enable them to pass. The entire process usually takes six to eight weeks. Students may work on this online program at school or at home. Students must complete the program in three months.

This Thursday, January 26, we are asking all East students to arrive at school by 9:30 a.m. for a Ready-to-Work informational session. Interested students will then sign up. To register for the program, students will need to complete an application and verify their identity. CareerLink is asking that students bring either an original or a copy of the following documents: birth certificate, social security card, and driver's license *or* old school ID. Interested students should bring as many documents as possible for Thursday's session; however, a CareerLink representative will work with students who cannot bring the materials with them on Thursday.

In addition to serving as a possible graduation artifact, other benefits include looking good on the student's resume and getting hiring preference from employers, as well as the possibility of being eligible for up to \$10,000 of FREE money for career training programs in high-demand careers, like skilled trades, healthcare, and technology. Students who complete Ready-to-Work do not have to do job shadowing for school.

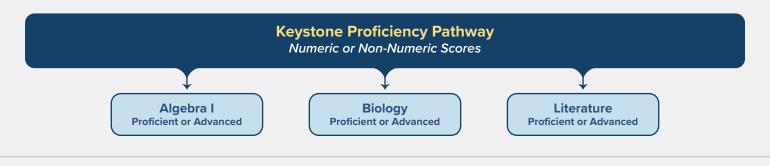
Questions regarding graduation pathways can be directed to our Executive Director, Dr. Ryan McFadden, at mcfadden@lca.k12.pa.us or 717-740-3660. If you have any questions about Ready-to-Work, please direct them to Debi Schmidt, at <a href="description:description-needed-ne

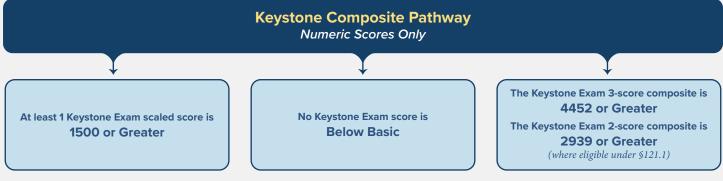
Sincerely,

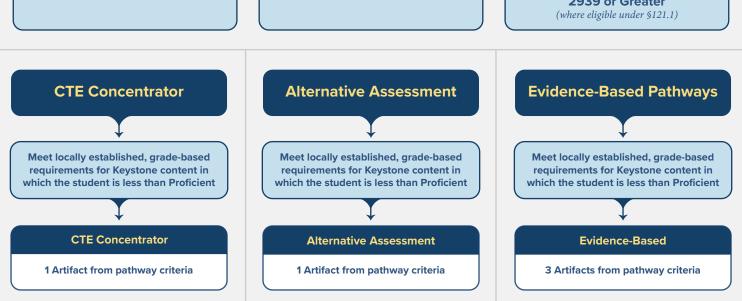
Debi Schmidt, M.Ed. School-to-Work/Service Learning Coordinator

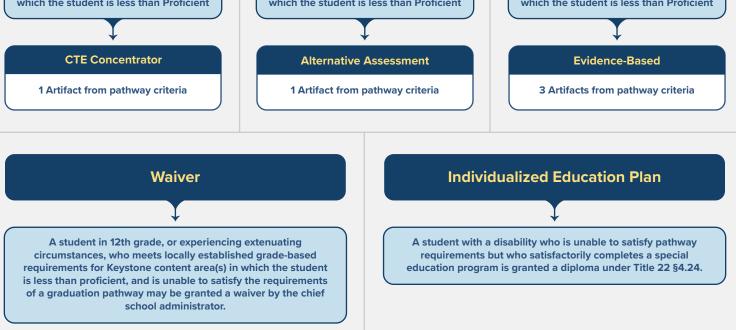


Pennsylvania Pathways to Graduation











Pathway Criteria

CTE Concentrator

1 Artifact

Industry-based competency certification

Likelihood of industry-based competency assessment success

Readiness for continued engagement in CTE Concentrator program of study

Alternative Assessment

1 Artifact

Attainment of one alternative assessment score or better: ACT (21), ASVAB AFQT (31), PSAT/NMSQT (970), or SAT (1010)

Attainment of Gold Level or better on ACT WorkKeys

Attainment of 3 or better on AP Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient

Attainment of 4 or better on IB Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient

Successful completion of concurrent enrollment course(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient

Successful completion of a pre-apprenticeship program

Acceptance into accredited, non-profit Institution of Higher Education (IHE) 4yr program for college-level coursework

Evidence-Based

3 Artifacts consistent w/student goals

ONE or more from Section One
No more than TWO from Section Two

Section 1

Attainment of 630 or better on any SAT Subject Test

Attainment of Silver Level or better on ACT WorkKeys

Attainment of 3 or better on any AP Exam

Attainment of 3 or better on any IB Exam

Successful completion of any concurrent enrollment or postsecondary course

Industry-recognized credentialization

Acceptance into accredited, non-profit Institution of Higher Education (IHE) for college-level coursework in an other-than-4yr program

Section 2

Attainment of Proficient or Advanced on any Keystone Exam

Successful completion of a service-learning project

Letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment

Completion of an internship, externship, or cooperative education program

Compliance with NCAA Division II academic requirements