

Dear Students and Parents:

Senate Bill 61, passed during the 2013 Kentucky General Assembly, provides a pathway to early graduation for students who intend to complete high school in three academic years or less. Beginning with the 2014-2015 academic year, students who complete the Early Graduation requirements (see below) may receive a diploma from their district.

Clarifying Points:

- The statutory changes and regulation went into effect in the 2014-2015 academic year.
- Early Graduation is defined as a student meeting the performance criteria outlined in 704 KAR 3:305 Section 9 (2) and doing so in three years or less from the date of first enrolling in grade nine.
- To meet the criteria, students that intend to graduate early must meet minimum proficiency benchmarks as required by the Kentucky Department of Education.
- Students must have been in high school three years or less- according to COHORT YEAR, not grade level.
- A student who wishes to graduate early must complete a *Letter of Intent to Apply for Early Graduation* within the first 30 days of the academic year in which they want to graduate, and the information must be entered into Infinite Campus and the ILP no later than October 1st of the academic year he or she intends to graduate.
- **Students should complete the online Survey for Student Success as part of application process**
- Students may take their one state supported college readiness exam (ACT) earlier than their junior or senior year, as provided by the regulation in section 9 (3).
- The *Letter of Intent* is not binding; students may revert to regular student enrollment with the knowledge they have to meet the District's minimum requirements and that they will not be eligible for the Early Graduation Certificate.

Incentives:

A student who meets the Early Graduation requirements in 704 KAR 3:305 shall earn an Early Graduation Certificate (provided by KHEAA) to be eligible for a one time scholarship award to be used at a Kentucky two- or four-year public or independent non-profit SAC's accredited college or university the year immediately following high school graduation. The award shall be equal to one-half (1/2) of the SEEK statewide per pupil guarantee for one year. For more information regarding KHEAA: <https://www.kheaa.com/website/kheaa/kees?main=1>.

Also, students who graduate from high school in three years may also receive a Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) award equivalent to completing high school in four years.

High school students interested in applying for early graduation may call Angie McGee (L.C.H.S guidance counselor) at (270) 928-2065 or email her at angie.mcgee@livingston.kyschools.us.

Thank you,
Livingston Central High School