

## Kentucky Work Ready Communities

### GRADUATION RATE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

The high school graduation rate criteria for Kentucky's Work Ready Communities program is based on the state's goal for graduation rates in public schools as specified by administrative regulation.

Recently, the commonwealth began a transition to a new method of calculating these rates, called the Cohort method, which will soon be consistent among all states. The transition uses an interim methodology called the Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate (AFGR), which will be used for three years beginning with data reported for 2010 graduation rates. The chart below identifies the methodology required by the new regulations for reporting and the corresponding goals for each year's results.

Reporting of Kentucky's Graduation Rate				
Data from School Year "Class of..."	Graduation Rate - Data Release		Determination for Accountability	
	Timeline	Graduation Rate Calculation Reported	Timeline	Graduation Rate Calculation Used
2010-11	Summer 2012	AFGR	Fall 2012	AFGR
2011-12	Summer 2013*	AFGR	Late Summer 2013*	AFGR
2012-13	Summer 2013	Cohort (4 yr.)	Late Summer 2013	(Goals set for 2014)
2013-14	Summer 2014	Cohort (4 yr./5yr.)	Late Summer 2014	Cohort (4 yr.)
2014-15	Summer 2015	Cohort (4 yr./5yr.)	Late Summer 2014	Cohort (5 yr.)

These are the goals that will be used to determine compliance with the Work Ready Communities certification standards.

Click here to retrieve the most recent AFGR as reported by the Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Assessment and Accountability:

[2008-2011 AFGR](#)

#### Requirements

A graduation rate for the applicant county must include a combined rate for all public school systems within the county, including all independent districts.

In order to calculate this rate, the raw data for each variable in the Department of Education-specified equation should be a combined total of that variable for all included districts. This data is available from the Kentucky Department of Education.

The goal under the new AFGR method is defined in the document at this link (see section 2 Data Collection.2.f.1):

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/703/005/060.htm>

## Kentucky Work Ready Communities

### **GRADUATION RATE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

#### **Achieving the Goal**

For the most recent reporting period, a county shall be considered to have met the criteria threshold when the total rate for the county meets one of the following two criteria specified in KAR 5:060, section 2 (f):

1. A graduation rate that is equal to or greater than the annual 2010-2011 reporting goal of 82.32 percent; or
2. A graduation rate that closes the gap between the previous year's graduation rate of a school or district and the graduation rate goal of ninety (90) percent by at least ten (10) percent per year.

NOTE: The criteria for Work Ready Communities is tied to the state goal for graduation, therefore future changes to this regulation will be reflected in the evaluation of this criteria.

#### **Supplementing the Rate**

Counties with private, parochial or other non-public high schools issuing recognized diplomas may add these graduation rates to their public school rates at their discretion.

If included, the non-public school raw data corresponding to the variables on the Department of Education-specified equation must be used to generate the total county rate. Counties supplementing their rate using this method should submit a spreadsheet demonstrating their calculations.