

No Pass/No Drive Explanation

Overview

The *No Pass/No Drive* statute, [KRS 159.051](#) involves every public and private school (including home schools) in Kentucky. Any fifteen (15), sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) year old student applying for the first time for a Learners Instruction Permit will be required to have a School Compliance Verification: KRS 159.051 Form, issued and completed by the school. This form verifies that the student is compliant with the components of the statute. If the student is not compliant, the form should not be issued. *The form requires the stamp from an embossed seal (with raised characters) to be accepted by local court clerks.*

Special Circumstances

- Home school parents may request the verification form from a district/school, but the public school/district should not fill it out – it is the home school’s responsibility to verify their students, not the public school.
- Adult GED - students who have dropped out and enrolled in an Adult GED program are considered “non-compliant” until they complete the GED program and can show proof of receiving their GED.
- Non-public school students must also show proof of “completion/graduation” of the school program to be eligible for the verification form.
- High School Graduates or students who are 18 (eighteen) years old are exempt.

What is No Pass/No Drive?

The "No Pass/No Drive" statute results in the denial of the School Compliance Verification form or the revocation of a student's driver's license for (1) academic deficiency (2) dropping out of school (3) missing 9 or more unexcused absences in one semester. Academic deficiency is defined as a student who does not have passing grades in at least four (4) courses, or the equivalent, in the preceding semester. A fifteen (15), sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) year old student is deemed to have dropped out of school when he/she has voluntarily withdrawn or (3) has nine or more unexcused absences in the preceding semester. Any absences due to suspension shall be unexcused absences. Because districts utilize varying scheduling models, KDE provides the following recommended equivalency guidance to support local implementation. Local boards should ensure policy clearly defines how equivalency is applied within their adopted scheduling structure.

Recommended KDE Academic Deficiency Equivalency Guidance	
Courses Per Semester or Trimester	Number of Courses Student Would Need to Pass to be Compliant
4	3
5	4
6	4
7	5
8	6

Districts may report students immediately upon reaching the academic or attendance threshold or at the end of the semester, based on local policy. Because the reporting requirement references the “preceding semester,” students are not required to report students before the semester concludes. Unexcused absences do not carry over into the next semester; however, students must remain compliant for an entire semester before they may be reported as compliant for reinstatement. Districts operating on trimester schedules should apply KDE's recommended academic deficiency equivalency guidance and attendance threshold when determining compliance.

Within ten (10) days of determining that a student is non-compliant due to academic deficiency or attendance at the end of a semester, the district shall report the student's information to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet through the No Pass/No Drive Student Reporting Portal. For implementation purposes, KDE interprets this requirement to mean ten (10) days after grades and attendance have been finalized and posted, rather than ten (10) days after the final instructional day of the semester. If a fifteen (15), sixteen (16), or seventeen (17) year old student voluntarily withdraws from school, the district shall report the student's non-compliance through the No Pass/No Drive Student Reporting Portal within ten (10) days of the withdrawal date.

KDE, in partnership with the Kentucky Department of Transportation (DOT), maintains the No Pass/No Drive Student Reporting Portal to facilitate secure electronic communication between schools and the Division of Driver Licensing. Each district designates one District Contact, who has access to information for all schools within the district. Additionally, each school serving grades 7-12 may designate up to three (3) Authorized Users to access and manage the school's information through the portal.

To become an Authorized User, complete the [Kentucky.gov New User Registration Portal](#). Once registered, Authorized Users may access the No Pass/No Drive Student Reporting Portal to report students as compliant or non-compliant.

Reference [KDE's No Pass/No Drive Law website](#) for additional information. Questions concerning No Pass/No Drive may be directed to the Division of Student Success