

SUPPORTING TRANSIENT STUDENTS CREDIT ACCUMULATION

Our Challenge:

Various options for accumulating credits and multiple digital learning platforms can be found within and throughout Kentucky school districts.

Our most transient students face significant life challenges and often relocate to another school, alternative program or district numerous times. They do not always receive partial credit for the work they completed in previous settings, often virtual/performance-based courses.

For students who are already dealing with stressful situations, this dynamic contributes to feelings of failure, frustration or even dropping out of school.

We can make a difference by ensuring that these students receive credit for their work that can accumulate toward graduation. To this end, best practices and resources can be found on page 2.



Who is impacted?

Over 10,000 students in KY are enrolled into three or more schools/placements each year.

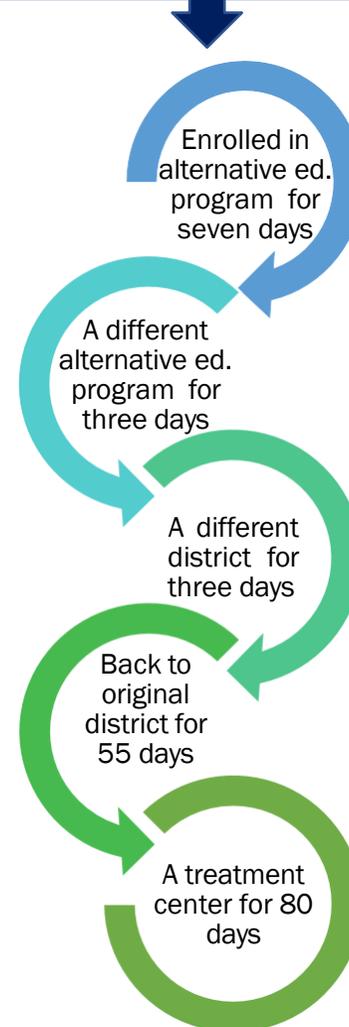
- Alternative ed. program students
- Transient students
- Homeless
- Neglected and Delinquent
- Migrant
- Foster Youth



What is the impact of giving credit?

- Higher sense of self-worth and self-esteem when prior work is valued.
- Increased possibility of continuing their education through university, community colleges, or vocational schools.
- Decreased sense of hopelessness, especially concerning work they have partially completed.
- Removed the fear or loss of not graduating with the peer group.
- Increased feelings of joy and relief around school.

One KY Student's Journey in One School Year



Importance of Credit Accrual

Almost all students who drop out leave school far behind in course credits, according to the National Center for Education Statistics (2007). The pattern of dropouts earning fewer credits than on-time graduates remained true across all student and school characteristics (IES brief, 2009).



Offering Flexibility

Beyond the 10 foundational credits students must have to graduate in Kentucky, districts should engage the flexibility Kentucky allows for how the other 12 credits are administered towards graduation. This flexibility is already a requirement for students who are [homeless](#) or in [foster care](#).



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Credit Accrual Best Practices

	<p>Add Up Credits, including in-progress grades Add up all credits earned (including one quarter, one third, one half, etc.) into one full or half credits. You should contact previous school/district to get in-progress grades and give students credit for work completed. See Credit Accrual Tip Sheet and Resources.</p>
	<p>Priority Registration Ensure priority enrollment in classes the student has partially completed to allow for completion is built into master scheduling protocol.</p>
	<p>Early Identification Identify prospective students early using tools such as the Transient Student Report and the Early Warning Tool. This allows schools more time to work with specific vulnerable students support credit/course completion.</p>
	<p>Credit Recovery Options Generate a list of credit recovery options and ensure that students, and your faculty are aware of the students' right to finish partial coursework rather than start over. Please review the KY Digital Learning Guidelines for best practices with digital learning.</p>
	<p>Communication Counselors should consult with the prior school(s)/programs/facilities about partial coursework completed and any in progress grades to determine credits and best placement in courses in new setting.</p>
	<p>Personalized Assignments Consider alternative assignments, hands-on projects, online classes and other creative options for the partial credit needs of students. There are many free resources for optional digital course work available such as EdX.</p>
	<p>Measuring Mastery Evaluate students' mastery of partially completed courses that can help ensure they are prepared for the next level, but also to help avoid students having to repeat content they already completed/mastered.</p>

Transferring Student Records:

Kentucky student records should always be in Infinite Campus ([702 KAR 7:125](#)).

For every enrollment, including treatment facilities, districts must process record transfers to prevent breaking the records transfer chain ([KRS 159.170](#)).

Sometimes a national student records transfer is needed for out-of-state students. Please review the [Kentucky Student Records Transfer Quick Reference Card](#).

Additional Relevant Laws:

- [An ACT relating to transient students \(KRS 158, SB247\)](#)
- [Youth in foster care \(KRS 158.448\) & \(KRS 199.802\)](#)
- [Homeless youth \(704 KAR 7:090\)](#)
- [Gifted and Talented \(704 KAR 3:285\)](#)

Additional Resources:

- [National Center for Homeless Education \(NCHE\) Maximizing Credit Accrual and Recovery for Homeless Students](#)
- [SchoolHouse Connection Partial Credit Webinars: Awarding Partial Credits and Calculating Partial Credits](#)
- [Personalize Pathways to High School Completion and Post-Secondary Opportunities for your district](#)