

KENTUCKY SCHOOL REPORT CARD

At A Glance: Kentucky's 5-Star System Districts and the State

Kentucky's new accountability system has students at its center – ensuring that they are well-rounded, transition ready and prepared with the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful after high school graduation.

Beginning with data from the 2018-2019 school year, Kentucky's accountability system will provide an overall rating for each school, district and the state ranging from 1 (the lowest) to 5 (the highest) stars. The star rating, along with other important education data, is available on Kentucky's new [School Report Card](http://kyschoolreportcard.com) (kyschoolreportcard.com).

What's included in the 5-star system?

School performance is based on a variety of measures called indicators. These indicators include:

Proficiency

Student performance on reading and mathematics tests. *(elementary, middle, and high schools)*

Separate Academic Indicator

Student performance on science, social studies and writing tests. *(elementary and middle schools)*

Student performance on science and writing tests. *(high schools)*

Growth

Growth is based on a comparison of student scores from one year to the next in reading and mathematics. This indicator also includes the progress of English learners on an English language proficiency exam that includes speaking, listening, reading and writing in English. *(elementary and middle schools)*

Graduation Rate

The percentage of students who graduate from high school in 4 or 5 years. *(high schools)*

Transition Readiness

At the high school level, the Transition Readiness indicator gives students flexibility on how they demonstrate either academic or career readiness, although a student may choose to pursue both readiness areas. This indicator also includes the attainment of English language proficiency for English learners on an exam that includes speaking, listening, reading and writing in English. The indicators include earning a high school diploma AND meeting expectations for either academic or career readiness by:

Academic Readiness

Meeting the benchmark* scores on a college admissions exam or a college placement exam; earning a grade of C or higher on 6 hours of KDE-approved dual credit classes; scoring 3+ on two Advanced Placement classes; scoring 5+ on two International Baccalaureate classes; meeting benchmark scores on two or more Cambridge Advanced International exams; or completing a combination of the indicators listed above.

Career Readiness

Receive an industry certification approved by the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board; scoring at or above the benchmark on the career and technical education end-of-program assessments for articulated credit**; earning a grade of C or higher on 6 hours of career and technical education dual credit; completing a KDE/Labor Cabinet approved apprenticeship; or complete a KDE-approved method of demonstrating exceptional work experience.

** A benchmark is the minimum score a student must make on an exam to be considered Transition Ready. Meeting a benchmark score, which are set by the Council on Postsecondary Education and accepted at all of Kentucky's public universities and colleges, allows the student to enter credit-bearing college or university classes in that particular content area.*

*** Students take an exam associated with their chosen CTE pathway, which assesses their knowledge of the content covered in those particular classes. The student will be awarded college credit for receiving a passing score on the exam once they enroll in a public college or university in Kentucky that has signed an agreement with the Kentucky Department of Education. The college or university may establish other requirements (such as coursework and GPA requirements) before awarding a student college credit.*

What else can affect a school or district's star rating?

Star ratings may be changed if a school has a significant achievement gap.

Achievement gap means the difference between how well one student group compares to another student group. These comparisons can include economically disadvantaged as compared to non-economically disadvantaged, African American as compared to white, students with disabilities as compared to students without disabilities, and English learners as compared to non-English learners.

If there is a significant gap, a 4- or 5- star school/district/state will be decreased by one star.

How are cards for the state or districts different than a school's report card?

While school report cards will have just one five-star rating, the report card for districts and Kentucky overall will have three sets of stars, one each for all elementary, middle and high schools.

How often does the star rating change?

Schools, districts and the state will receive a new star rating every fall when the accountability data is released.



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