

Career Exploration, Awareness, and Advising Course Standards

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-1-302(a)(8) authorizes the State Board of Education to “approve all academic standards and adopt rules and policies governing courses of study in the public schools.” Additionally, Academic and Instructional Requirements Rule 0520-01-03 calls for the State Board of Education to adopt standards for each subject area in grades K-12. The approved standards are to be the basis for planning instructional programs in each LEA.

This item includes a revised Career Exploration Course as well as two additional new courses: Career Awareness and Career Advising and Planning. All courses have been created in collaboration with postsecondary faculty, industry representatives, and middle school counselors. These courses are a progression of courses for sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. They are experiences providing students the opportunity to deepen their awareness of their individual strengths, values, and educational goals as it relates to college and career readiness. Additional feedback will be solicited between first and final reading. If approved, these changes will go into effect for the 2022-23 school year.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.