
High School Policy 2.103

The Background:

In July 2016, the State Board of Education adopted the High School Policy 2.103 to clarify requirements for graduation, early graduation, and student plans of study.

Below is a brief summary of the changes since first reading (page numbers reflect the tracked changes document):

- Page 1: Clarifies ACT or SAT requirement is for students enrolled in a TN public school during their 11th grade year.
- Page 2: Clarifies wording for special education and occupational diplomas.
- Page 5: Requires LEAs to award credit for dual enrollment courses aligned with graduation requirements as substitutions for those requirements, both general academics and in an elective focus.
- Page 6: Specifies Move on When Ready requirements.
- Page 7-8: Adds requirement for a career interest inventory in the 7th and 10th grade. Given that middle school and high school are times for exploration and growth, it is important that a student takes a career interest inventory at each stage in order to have the opportunity to establish and redirect his/her high school plan to reflect current interests. This builds upon language existing in T.C.A (§49-6-412 and §49-7-153), which makes career interest inventories available to all students in middle school or 9th graders and in postsecondary during the freshman year.
- Page 11: Reduces the percentage that End of Course exams comprise a student's final grade to 5% for the 2016-17 school year, 10% for the 2017-18 school year and between 15% and 25% based on local board policy in the 2018-19 school year and subsequent school years.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department of Education 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.