GENERAL ASSEMBLY
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

2015 REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 232

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2015

The following bill was reported to the Senate from the House and ordered to be printed.

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ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BY K. Adler

1 AN ACT relating to the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics.
2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***
3 ➔Section 1. KRS 158.140 is amended to read as follows:
4 (1) When a pupil in any public elementary school or any approved private or parochial
5 school completes the prescribed elementary program of studies, he is entitled to a
6 certificate of completion signed by the teacher or teachers under whom the program
7 was completed. The certificate shall entitle the pupil to admission into any public
8 high school. Any promotions or credits earned in attendance in any approved public
9 school are valid in any other public school to which a pupil may go, but the
10 superintendent or principal of a school, as the case may be, may assign the pupil to
11 the class or grade to which the pupil is best suited. In case a pupil transfers from the
12 school of one (1) district to the school of another district, an assignment to a lower
13 grade or course shall not be made until the pupil has demonstrated that he is not
14 suited for the work in the grade or course to which he has been promoted.
15 (2) Upon successful completion of all state and local board requirements, the student
16 shall receive:
17 (a) A diploma indicating graduation from high school; or
18 (b) An alternative high school diploma if the student has a disability and has
19 completed a modified curriculum and an individualized course of study
20 pursuant to requirements established by the Kentucky Board of Education in
21 accordance with KRS 156.160.
22 (3) (a) The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky, located at
23 Western Kentucky University, ***and the Craft Academy for Excellence in***
24 ***Science and Mathematics, located at Morehead State University,*** may award
25 a diploma to any student who completes his or her high school program at the
26 ***respective*** academy. If the academy issues a diploma, the board of regents of
27 the ***host*** university shall provide to the commissioner of education a letter of

1 assurance that the program of study completed by its students, in combination
2 with previously earned secondary credits, meets the minimum high school
3 graduation requirements established by the Kentucky Board of Education
4 under KRS 156.160(1)(d).
5 (b) A local school district may award a joint diploma with the Gatton Academy of
6 Mathematics and Science in Kentucky ***or the Craft Academy for Excellence***
7 ***in Science and Mathematics*** to any student who was enrolled in a district
8 high school and completed his or her high school program at the ***respective***
9 academy.
10 (c) The ***respective*** academy and the home school district shall ensure that student
11 transcripts from each institution accurately reflect the dual credit coursework.
12 (4) A local school board may award a diploma indicating graduation from high school
13 to any student posthumously with the high school class the student was expected to
14 graduate.
15 (5) (a) A local board of education shall award an authentic high school diploma to an
16 honorably discharged veteran who did not complete high school prior to being
17 inducted into the United States Armed Forces during:
18 1. World War II, as defined in KRS 40.010;
19 2. The Korean conflict, as defined in KRS 40.010; or
20 3. The Vietnam War. As used in this paragraph, "Vietnam War" means the
21 period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending May 7, 1975. However,
22 for a member of the United States Armed Forces serving in Vietnam
23 prior to August 5, 1964, the period shall begin February 28, 1961.
24 (b) Upon recommendation of the commissioner, the Kentucky Board of
25 Education in consultation with the Kentucky Department of Veterans' Affairs
26 shall promulgate administrative regulations to establish the guidelines for
27 awarding the authentic diplomas referred to in paragraph (a) of this

1 subsection.

2 (6) The Department of Education shall establish the requirements for a vocational
3 certificate of completion. A student who has returned to school after dropping out
4 shall receive counseling concerning the vocational program. A student who has
5 completed the requirements established for a vocational program shall receive a
6 vocational certificate of completion specifying the areas of competence.

7 ➔Section 2. KRS 164.002 is amended to read as follows:

8 As used in KRS Chapter 164, unless the context requires otherwise:

9 (1) "Advanced placement" or "AP" means a college-level course that incorporates all
10 topics and instructional strategies specified by the College Board on its standard
11 syllabus for a given subject area and is licensed by the College Board.

12 (2) "College Board Advanced Placement examination" means the advanced placement
13 test administered by the College Entrance Examination Board.

14 (3) "College Board" means the College Entrance Examination Board, a national
15 nonprofit association that provides college admission guidance and advanced
16 placement examinations.

17 (4) "Dual credit" means a college-level course of study developed in accordance with
18 KRS 164.098 in which a high school student receives credit from both the high
19 school and postsecondary institution in which the student is enrolled upon
20 completion of a single class or designated program of study, including participating
21 in the Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky ***or the Craft***
22 ***Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics***.

23 (5) "Dual enrollment" means a college-level course of study developed in accordance
24 with KRS 164.098 in which a student is enrolled in a high school and postsecondary
25 institution simultaneously, including participating in the Gatton Academy of
26 Mathematics and Science in Kentucky ***or the Craft Academy for Excellence in***
27 ***Science and Mathematics***.

1 (6) "International Baccalaureate" or "IB" means the International Baccalaureate
2 Organization's Diploma Programme, a comprehensive two (2) year program
3 designed for highly motivated students.
4 ➔Section 3. KRS 164.7874 is amended to read as follows:
5 As used in KRS 164.7871 to 164.7885:
6 (1) "Academic term" means a semester or other time period specified in an
7 administrative regulation promulgated by the authority;
8 (2) "Academic year" means a period consisting of at least the minimum school term, as
9 defined in KRS 158.070;
10 (3) "ACT score" means the composite score achieved on the American College Test at
11 a national test site on a national test date or the ACT exam administered statewide
12 under KRS 158.6453(11)(a)3., or an equivalent score, as determined by the
13 authority, on the SAT administered by the College Board, Inc.;
14 (4) "Authority" means the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority;
15 (5) "Award period" means the fall and spring consecutive academic terms within one
16 (1) academic year;
17 (6) "Council" means the Council on Postsecondary Education created under KRS
18 164.011;
19 (7) "Eligible high school student" means any person who:
20 (a) Is a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States and Kentucky
21 resident;
22 (b) Was enrolled after July 1, 1998:
23 1. In a Kentucky high school for at least one hundred forty (140) days of
24 the minimum school term unless exempted by the authority's executive
25 director upon documentation of extreme hardship, while meeting the
26 KEES curriculum requirements, and was enrolled in a Kentucky high
27 school at the end of the academic year;

1 2. In a Kentucky high school for the fall academic term of the senior year
2 and who:
3 a. Was enrolled during the entire academic term;
4 b. Completed the high school's graduation requirements during the
5 fall academic term; and
6 c. Was not enrolled in a secondary school during any other academic
7 term of that academic year; or
8 3. In the Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky ***or the***
9 ***Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics*** while
10 meeting the Kentucky educational excellence scholarship curriculum
11 requirements;
12 (c) Has a grade point average of 2.5 or above at the end of any academic year
13 beginning after July 1, 1998, or at the end of the fall academic term for a
14 student eligible under paragraph (b) 2. of this subsection; and
15 (d) Is not a convicted felon;
16 (8) "Eligible postsecondary student" means a citizen, national, or permanent resident of
17 the United States and Kentucky resident, as determined by the participating
18 institution in accordance with criteria established by the council for the purposes of
19 admission and tuition assessment, who:
20 (a) Earned a KEES award;
21 (b) Has the required postsecondary GPA and credit hours required under KRS
22 164.7881;
23 (c) Has remaining semesters of eligibility under KRS 164.7881;
24 (d) Is enrolled in a participating institution as a part-time or full-time student; and
25 (e) Is not a convicted felon;
26 (9) "Full-time student" means a student enrolled in a postsecondary program of study
27 that meets the full-time student requirements of the participating institution in

1 which the student is enrolled;
2 (10) "Grade point average" or "GPA" means the grade point average earned by an
3 eligible student and reported by the high school or participating institution in which
4 the student was enrolled based on a scale of 4.0 or its equivalent if the high school
5 or participating institution that the student attends does not use the 4.0 grade scale;
6 (11) "High school" means any Kentucky public high school, the Gatton Academy of
7 Mathematics and Science in Kentucky, ***the Craft Academy for Excellence in***
8 ***Science and Mathematics,*** and any private, parochial, or church school located in
9 Kentucky that has been certified by the Kentucky Board of Education as voluntarily
10 complying with curriculum, certification, and textbook standards established by the
11 Kentucky Board of Education under KRS 156.160;
12 (12) "KEES" or "Kentucky educational excellence scholarship" means a scholarship
13 provided under KRS 164.7871 to 164.7885;
14 (13) "KEES award" means:
15 (a) For an eligible high school student, the sum of the KEES base amount for
16 each academic year of high school plus any KEES supplemental amount, as
17 adjusted pursuant to KRS 164.7881; and
18 (b) For a student eligible under KRS 164.7879(3)(d), the KEES supplemental
19 amount as adjusted pursuant to KRS 164.7881;
20 (14) "KEES award maximum" means the sum of the KEES base amount earned in each
21 academic year of high school plus any KEES supplemental amount earned;
22 (15) "KEES base amount" or "base amount" means the amount earned by an eligible
23 high school student based on the student's GPA pursuant to KRS 164.7879;
24 (16) "KEES curriculum" means five (5) courses of study, except for students who meet
25 the criteria of subsection (7)(b)2. of this section, in an academic year as determined
26 in accordance with an administrative regulation promulgated by the authority;
27 (17) "KEES supplemental amount" means the amount earned by an eligible student

1 based on the student's ACT score pursuant to KRS 164.7879;
2 (18) "KEES trust fund" means the Wallace G. Wilkinson Kentucky educational
3 excellence scholarship trust fund;
4 (19) "On track to graduate" means the number of cumulative credit hours earned as
5 compared to the number of hours determined by the postsecondary education
6 institution as necessary to complete a bachelor's degree by the end of eight (8)
7 academic terms or ten (10) academic terms if a student is enrolled in an
8 undergraduate program that requires five (5) years of study;
9 (20) "Participating institution" means an "institution" as defined in KRS 164.001 that
10 actively participates in the federal Pell Grant program, executes a contract with the
11 authority on terms the authority deems necessary or appropriate for the
12 administration of its programs, and:
13 (a) 1. Is publicly operated;
14 2. Is licensed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky and has operated for at
15 least ten (10) years, offers an associate or baccalaureate degree program
16 of study not comprised solely of sectarian instruction, and admits as
17 regular students only high school graduates or recipients of a General
18 Educational Development (GED) diploma or students transferring from
19 another accredited degree granting institution; or
20 3. Is designated by the authority as an approved out-of-state institution that
21 offers a degree program in a field of study that is not offered at any
22 institution in the Commonwealth; and
23 (b) Continues to commit financial resources to student financial assistance
24 programs; and
25 (21) "Part-time student" means a student enrolled in a postsecondary program of study
26 who does not meet the full-time student requirements of the participating institution
27 in which the student is enrolled and who is enrolled for at least six (6) credit hours,

1 or the equivalent for an institution that does not use credit hours.
2 ➔Section 4. KRS 164.7885 is amended to read as follows:
3 (1) Not later than August 1, 1999, and each June 30 thereafter, each Kentucky high
4 school shall submit to the authority, a compiled list of all high school students
5 during the academic year. A high school shall report the grade point average of an
6 eligible high school student pursuant to KRS 164.7874 by January 15 following the
7 end of the fall academic term in which the student completed the high school
8 graduation requirements. The list shall identify the high school and shall contain
9 each high school student's name, Social Security number, address, grade point
10 average for the academic year, expected or actual graduation date, highest ACT
11 score, family eligibility status for free or reduced-price lunch, and each AP or IB
12 examination score. The Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky
13 ***and the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics*** shall report
14 the data on its students to the authority. The list need not contain the ACT, AP, or
15 IB if the authority receives the scores directly from the testing services. The
16 authority shall notify each eligible high school student of his or her Kentucky
17 educational excellence scholarship award earned each academic year. The authority
18 shall determine the final Kentucky educational excellence scholarship and
19 supplemental award based upon the actual final grade point average, highest ACT
20 score, and qualifying AP or IB scores and shall notify each eligible twelfth-grade
21 high school student of the final determination. The authority shall make available a
22 list of eligible high school and postsecondary students to participating institutions.
23 (2) The authority shall provide data access only to the Kentucky Longitudinal Data
24 System and to those participating institutions that have either received an admission
25 application from an eligible high school or postsecondary student or have been
26 listed by the eligible high school or postsecondary student on the Free Application
27 For Federal Student Aid.

1 (3) For each eligible postsecondary student enrolling in a participating institution after
2 July 1, 1999, the participating institution shall verify to the authority:
3 (a) The student's initial eligibility for a Kentucky educational excellence
4 scholarship, Kentucky educational excellence scholarship and supplemental
5 award, or supplemental award only pursuant to KRS 164.7879(3)(d) through
6 the comprehensive list compiled by the authority or an alternative source
7 satisfactory to the authority;
8 (b) The student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from high
9 school, provided that the participating institution need not report the ACT
10 score if the authority receives the ACT score directly from the testing services;
11 (c) The eligible postsecondary student's full-time or part-time enrollment status at
12 the beginning of each academic term; and
13 (d) The eligible postsecondary student's cumulative grade point average after the
14 completion of each award period.
15 (4) Each participating institution shall submit to the authority a report, in a form
16 satisfactory to the authority, of all eligible postsecondary students enrolled for that
17 academic term. Kentucky educational excellence scholarships and supplemental
18 awards shall be disbursed by the authority to each eligible postsecondary student
19 attending a participating institution during the academic term within thirty (30) days
20 after receiving a satisfactory report.
21 (5) The Kentucky educational excellence scholarship and the supplemental award shall
22 not be reduced, except as provided in KRS 164.7881(4).
23 (6) Kentucky educational excellence scholarships and supplemental awards shall not be
24 awarded or disbursed to any eligible postsecondary students who are:
25 (a) In default on any loan under Title IV of the federal act; or
26 (b) Liable for any amounts that exceed annual or aggregate limits on any loan
27 under Title IV of the federal act; or

1 (c) Liable for overpayment of any grant or loan under Title IV of the federal act;
2 or
3 (d) In default on any obligation to the authority under any programs administered
4 by the authority until financial obligations to the authority are satisfied, except
5 that ineligibility may be waived by the authority for cause.
6 (7) Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 164.753, the authority may promulgate
7 administrative regulations for the administration of Kentucky educational
8 excellence scholarships and supplemental awards under the provisions of KRS
9 164.7871 to 164.7885 and KRS 164.7889.

Speaker-House of Representatives

President of Senate

Attest: Chief Clerk of House of Representatives

Approved Governor

Date 3/19/15