

Pathways to Graduation

STRATH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

Act 158 of 2018 prescribed multiple pathways for students to meet Pennsylvania's assessment requirement for graduation. The state released criteria for alternate assessments in spring 2020. These requirements impact the **class of 2023** and beyond.

Contacts

Questions about students' progress toward graduation requirements: contact your student's counselor or case manager directly:

Dunning: kdunning@wssd.org / x2113
Smith: rsmith2@wssd.org / x2112
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Questions about **Keystone Testing** dates, scores, and reporting and Act 158 pathways:

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THE PROCESS

- ✓ Student takes the appropriate **Keystone exam** while enrolled in each Keystone course (Algebra I, English 10, and Biology).
- ✓ Once Keystone scores are received, the testing coordinator communicates with counselors and case managers (if applicable).
- ✓ Students are offered the opportunity to retake Keystones in which they did not earn proficiency. **Note:** Retakes are only possible until the end of the 11th grade year.
- ✓ Students who elect to pursue an alternative pathway must submit this request by the end of the 1st semester of their junior year.
- ✓ If applicable, a team meeting will be held to discuss student's options, progress, and action items to complete.
- ✓ During the fall of students' senior year, they will be informed if they are not on track to satisfy state graduation requirements.

1 KEYSTONE PROFICIENCY PATHWAY

- ✓ **Proficient or Advanced** in Algebra I
- ✓ **Proficient or Advanced** in Biology
- ✓ **Proficient or Advanced** in Literature

All eligible students are scheduled to take the requisite Keystone exams while enrolled in each Keystone course: Advanced Algebra I, Biology, and English 10. Students who have missed taking a Keystone will be scheduled during the next available administration.



Can we decide to pursue an alternative pathway instead of having our child sit for the Keystone exams?
The only permissible reason for opting out of Keystone exams according to PDE is for **religious reasons**. If you have a religious objection to the Keystone exams, you may complete the opt-out process for your student. Directions and forms are available on the WSSD assessment page.

2 KEYSTONE COMPOSITE PATHWAY

- ✓ **Proficient or Advanced** on at least one test
- ✓ **Basic** or higher on the other two tests
- ✓ **Combined score** of at least 4452

KEYSTONE EXAM CUT SCORES

EXAM	BELOW BASIC	BASIC	PROFICIENT	ADVANCED
ALGEBRA I	1200-1438	1439-1499	1500-1545	1546-1800
BIOLOGY	1200-1459	1460-1499	1500-1548	1549-1800
LITERATURE	1200-1443	1444-1499	1500-1583	1584-1800

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CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PATHWAY



Student must meet local requirements for academic content covered by the Keystone exam for all subjects where they did not meet exam proficiency. In other words, they must **pass** Keystone courses.



OR

Attain an industry-based competency certification related to the career and technical education (CTE) concentrator's program of study.

Demonstrate a high likelihood of success on an approved industry-based competency assessment or readiness for continued engagement in the CTE program of study.

 Visit wssd.org/assessment for more information.

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ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT PATHWAY



Student must meet local requirements for academic content covered by the Keystone exam for all subjects where they did not meet exam proficiency. In other words, they must **pass** Keystone courses.

Attain an established score on an approved alternate assessment for each subject where the student did not earn proficiency. Approved alternate assessments are:

- Advanced Placement Exam: **3 or higher**
- Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT): **970**
- Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT): **1010**
- American College Testing (ACT): **21**
- ACT WorkKeys: Gold Level
- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) minimum score required to gain admittance to a branch of the armed services in the year student graduates



DUAL ENROLLMENT

Successfully complete a dual enrollment course in an academic content area associated with each Keystone exam in which the student did not achieve proficiency:

- Must be a credit-bearing, non-remedial approved concurrent course.
- Content must be aligned to respective Keystone exams.
- High school or college transcript may be used as evidence.

PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Successfully complete a pre-apprenticeship program: specific career training designed to prepare a student for an occupation in an approved schedule of related instruction. The program must be registered with the Director of Apprenticeship and Training Office at the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. Student and program must meet all pre-apprenticeship program and industry requirements.

OR

4-YEAR HIGHER ED ACCEPTANCE

Be accepted in an accredited 4-year, nonprofit institution of higher education and have evidence of the ability to enroll in college level coursework.

- Acceptance letter from accredited, 4-year nonprofit institution
- Placement test results showing student's ability to enroll in college-level courses
- Local profile of acceptable high school GPA, attendance record, SAT/ACT score

ALGEBRA EQUIVALENT

Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, Statistics, Physics C, Chemistry

AP EXAMS

LIT EQUIVALENT

Language & Composition Literature & Composition

BIO EQUIVALENT

Biology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Physics C

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EVIDENCE-BASED PATHWAY: THREE PIECES OF EVIDENCE NEEDED

SECTION 1: AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

- Meet or exceed the established score of Silver Level or higher on the ACT WorkKeys NCRC.
- 3 or higher on **any** Advanced Placement (AP) course exam consistent with the student's goals and career plans.
- 3 or higher on any International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme Exam
- Passing grade in any approved concurrent enrollment course
- Passing grade on any college-level course
- Earn an industry credential aligned to the student's goals and career plans
- Acceptance into an accredited nonprofit institution of higher education other than a 4-year IHE

SECTION 2: TWO PIECES OF EVIDENCE MAY COME FROM THIS CATEGORY

- Earn a scaled score of proficient or better on any Keystone exam
- Successfully complete a service-learning project of sufficient duration and intensity to address identified community needs and meet specified project learning goal(s).
- Complete an internship, externship, or cooperative education program, as evidenced by locally established documentation. Career & Technical Education Programs must comply with related federal and state laws and regulations.
- Comply with NCAA's Division II core courses for college-bound student athletes, with a minimum GPA of 2.0 or the equivalent on an alternate grading scale.
- The student must provide documentation guaranteeing sustained full-time employment: averaging at least 30 hours per week, or 130 hours per month, or multiple jobs that, in aggregate, are reasonably commensurate with full-time work.



Who is responsible for helping my child determine and execute an appropriate pathway?

Counselors as well as a student's special education team (which includes student, guardian, case manager, and may include a school administrator) can collaborate to ensure that each student satisfies state graduation requirements in a timely manner and through a pathway that best meets each student's career and educational goals. If you have specific questions about your student's pathway options, please contact their counselor.



Who is responsible for ensuring that my child completes their graduation requirements?

While other individuals will provide support, it is ultimately the responsibility of each student to ensure that they fulfill their graduation requirements.



Visit wssd.org/assessment for more information.