



URGENT ACTION NEEDED

World Languages are NOT in the proposed High School Graduation Requirements.

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) has tentatively approved new course requirements for graduation from high school. The proposal includes core subjects, science, social studies, the arts, technology, health & PE, but it does *not include world languages*. Based on input from the public, members will consider making changes.

The void of world languages in the high school graduation requirements is of grave concern for Kentuckians who want students to be ready for college, competitive in the global job market, interculturally competent, and contributors to Kentucky's growing international economics.

THE FACTS:

- There is **NO** mention of World Languages in the high school graduation requirement proposal:

Earn 22 Credits

Foundational – 10 Credits

2 English (English I and II)
2 Math: (Algebra I and Geometry)
2 Social Studies (courses not specified)
2 Science (courses not specified)
½ Health
½ PE
1 Visual and Performing Arts

&

Personalized – 12 Credits

2 English
2 Math
1 Science
1 Social Studies
6 Academic/Career Interest

NO MENTION OF WORLD LANGUAGES

- **All Kentucky 4-year colleges require world a language for admission.**
13 KAR 2:020) states that two years study or demonstration of proficiency is required. (7) "Pre-college curriculum" means completion of: (a)1. The Kentucky minimum high school graduation requirements; or 2. Other approved course of study established in 704 KAR 3:305; and (b)1. **Two (2) units of a single world language; or 2. Demonstration of a world language proficiency**
- **The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) college readiness checklist includes world language credits among the criteria for admission.**
- **All of the precollege curriculum requirements, *except that of world languages*, are included in the proposed high school graduation requirements.**
- Forbes (6.12.2019) says being monolingual is a disadvantage in business. Being bilingual increases employability (Monster.com, 2018). In the past 5 years U.S. demand for employees who know another language has more than doubled. (U.S. World Reports, 3.13.2017).

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

1. Send your comments to Deanna Durrett at regcomments@education.ky.gov
2. Email the Kentucky Board of Education members and tell them why it is crucial to include world languages as a graduation requirement to the proposed amendment to 704 KAR3:305. <https://education.ky.gov/KBE/memb/Pages/default.aspx>
3. Share this information with family, friends, and colleagues.



Kentucky World Language Association