



Graduation REQUIREMENTS

ACT 158: What is it?
What does it mean for
my high schooler?

EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA)

- Replaced No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Federal legislation that is the main education law for public schools in the United States
- Maintains accountability for how students achieve
- Leaves an education and testing plan up to states based on a federal framework
- ✓ Elementary PSSA's (Grades 3 – 8)
- ✓ Secondary Keystone Exams (7-12)*



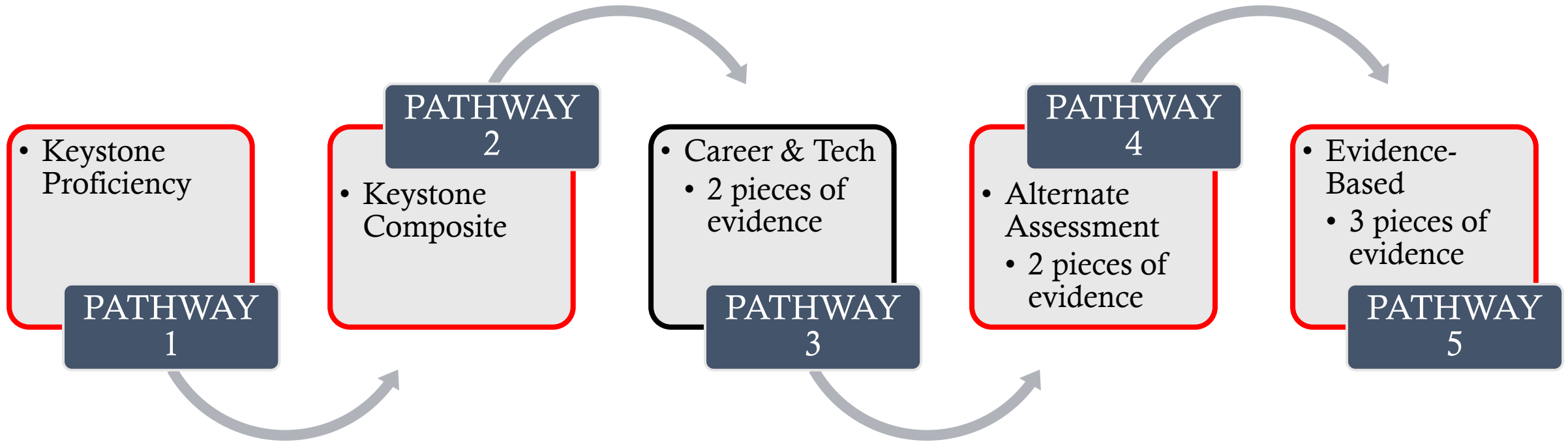
Act 158 of 2018 (updated in 2020)

- The Pennsylvania specific response to Every Student Succeeds Act
- Proficiency on three Keystone Exams is a requirement for all public high school students in Pennsylvania
 - Algebra I, Biology, and English Literature
- Act 158 provides alternative pathways to graduation
- Families who decide to opt-out of the Keystone Exams *[for religious purposes only]* must still meet one of the pathways to graduate



PATHWAYS TO GRADUATION

Students MUST meet at least one of the Pathways in order to graduate



WHAT DOES THAT

EVEN MEAN?



PATHWAY 1: KEYSTONE PROFICIENCY

☒ **Algebra 1**

☒ **Literature**

☒ **Biology**

Reach “Proficient” or “Advanced” on the following Keystone Exams: If a student does not score “proficient” or “advanced” on all three Keystone Exams, they can still meet the state requirements for graduation by meeting the descriptors established in Pathways two through five.



PATHWAY 2: KEYSTONE COMPOSITE

Students must earn “proficient” or “advanced” on at least one Keystone Exam, and earn at least a basic score on the other two Keystone exams, and have a composite score of at least 4452.

KEYSTONE EXAM CUMULATIVE SCORES

Content Area	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

WHO WILL BE TESTING IN SPRING 2022?

Students who are currently enrolled in one of the following courses: Intro to Probability & Statistics, Biology, English II-American Lit.

Students who have not previously taken the Algebra, Biology, and/or Literature Keystone Exam.

Students who would benefit from re-testing to meet Pathway 1 or 2.

Students who would benefit from taking the Algebra Exam to meet Pathway 2.

REVIEW SESSIONS:

Face-to-face support from a math, science, and/or English teacher.

Sessions will be held twice a week during HATS for 6 weeks beginning in late March.

Sessions will be a combination of teacher-led mini-lessons and independent practice.

Supplemental resources:

- PDE released practice items
- access to on-line program
- teacher created practice

Be sure to complete the sign-up form to
participate in Review Sessions!



PATHWAY 3: CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Students will meet local requirements for academic content covered by the Keystone Exams for all subjects where they did not earn proficiency on the Keystone Exam.

*Passing ELA, Biology, Algebra 1

AND

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

OR

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

PATHWAY 4: ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

Students will meet local requirements for academic content covered by the Keystone Exams for all subjects where they did not earn proficiency on the Keystone Exam.

AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

1 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 (AP) Exam - 3 (see chart)
- Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) - at least 970
- Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) - at least 1010
- American College Testing (ACT) - at least 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 the student graduates

Algebra Equivalent

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • AP Calculus AB | • AP Physics 1: Algebra Based |
| • AP Calculus BC | • AP Physics 2: Algebra Based |
| • AP Computer Science A | • AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism |
| • AP Computer Science Principles | • AP Physics C: Mechanics |
| • AP Statistics | • AP Chemistry |

Literature Equivalent

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • AP English Language & Composition | • AP English Literature & Composition |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

Biology Equivalent

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| • AP Biology | • AP Physics 2: Algebra Based |
| • AP Environmental Science | • AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism |
| • AP Chemistry | • AP Physics C: Mechanics |
| • AP Physics 1: Algebra Based | |

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

- Credit-bearing, non-remedial approved concurrent course
- Aligned to respective Keystone Exams
- Passing grade on the approved concurrent course
- High school or college transcript as evidence

OR

3 Successfully complete a pre-apprenticeship program.

- Specific career training designed to prepare a student for an occupation in an approved schedule of related instruction
- Program must be registered with the Director Apprenticeship and Training Office at the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
- Meets all pre-apprenticeship program requirements, per specific industry requirements

OR

4 Acceptance letter from an accredited 4-year, nonprofit institution

- Placement test results showing the student may enroll in college-level coursework
- College registration form confirming enrollment
- Local profile of an acceptable high school GPA, attendance record, and SAT/ACT score

PATHWAY 5: EVIDENCE-BASED (THREE PIECES OF EVIDENCE)

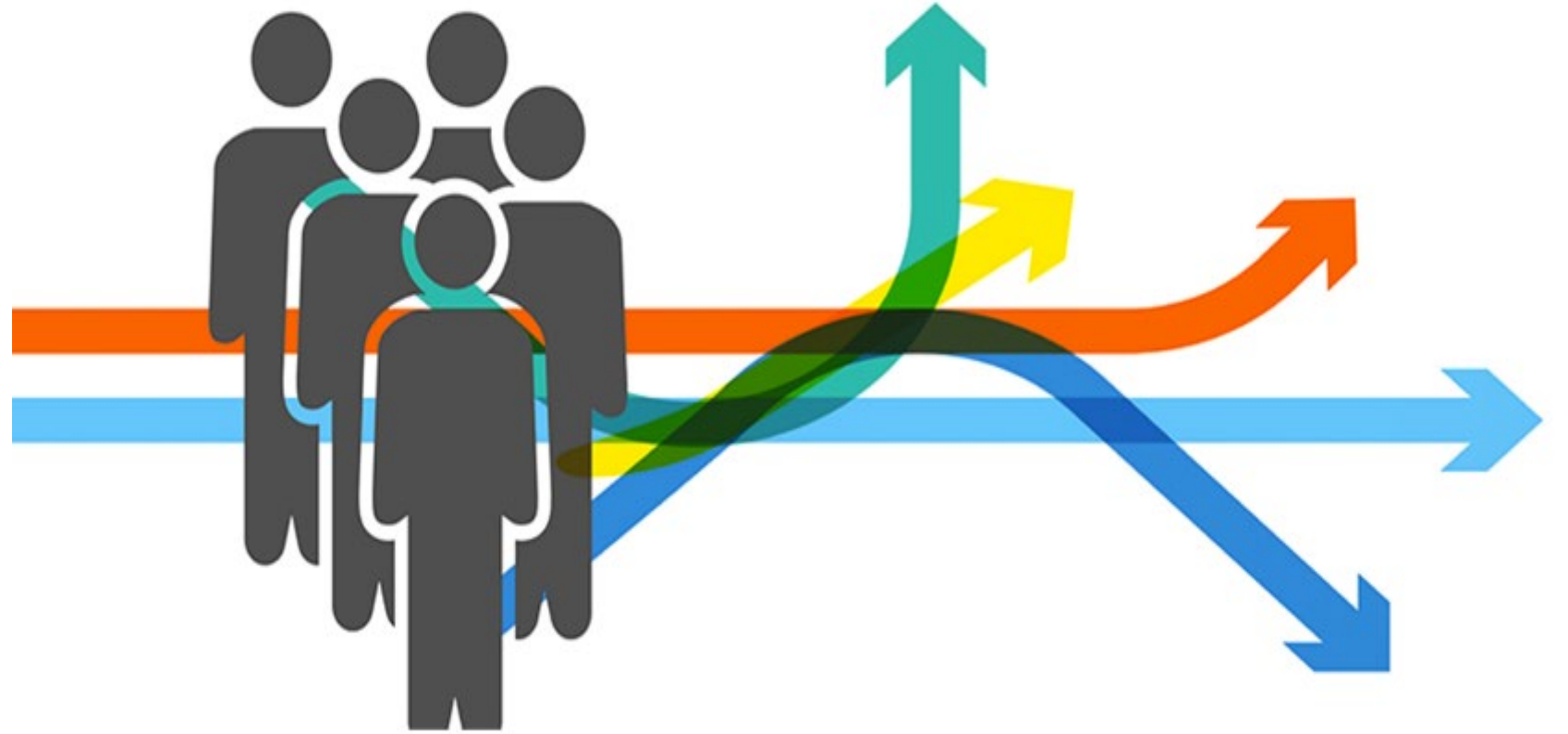
Students will meet local requirements for academic content covered by the Keystone Exams for all subjects where they did not earn proficiency on the Keystone Exam.

AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING

- | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|--|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| 1 Attainment of an established score on an alternate assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SAT Subject Test - 630• ACT WorkKeys: Silver Level• AP (3) or IB (3) related to student goals or career plan | OR | 2 Acceptance to other than a 4-year accredited nonprofit institution of higher education <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acceptance letter• Placement test results• College registration form• Local profile of acceptable HS GPA, attendance record, CAT/ACT score• 2.6 minimum GPA• 80% attendance rate in grades 11 and 12 | OR | 3 Attainment of an industry-recognized credential <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Documentation that verifies attainment as defined by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education | OR | 4 Successful completion of a dual enrollment or postsecondary course <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Credit-bearing, non-remedial course• Approved concurrent course aligned to the respective Keystone exams• Passing grade on an approved concurrent course• High school or college transcript as evidence |
|---|-----------|--|-----------|--|-----------|--|

AND UP TO TWO OF THE FOLLOWING

- | | | |
|---|----------------|---|
| 1 Service-Learning project completion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must include project learning goal(s), project activities, and the project's contribution to the community• Supervised and assessed by an adult; successful completion is verified in writing by the adult supervisor• Sufficient duration and intensity to address identified community needs and meet specified project learning goal(s) | AND /OR | 2 "Proficient" or "Advanced" on a Keystone Exam <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scaled score of 1500 or higher on <u>one</u> Keystone Exam. |
| 4 Internship or cooperative education program <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Industry-based Learning Indicator Guidance: Work-based learning experiences | AND /OR | 3 Letter guaranteeing full-time employment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30 hours per week or 130 hours per month |
| | AND /OR | 5 Compliance with the National College Athletic Association's (NCAA) core courses for college-bound student athletes. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum GPA requirements (2.0) in approved NCAA core courses |



NEXT STEPS

- Families need to have conversations with their high school children
- Counselors will be working with students on the most appropriate paths based on their current status
- Administrators will be looking at data to determine Keystone retest options
 - *Six-week remediation opportunities will be available for students looking to retest (those will open up in March)*

BEGINNING THE 2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

- Counselors will be reviewing Keystone data for 11th grade students
 - Inform families of the likely pathway for your child(ren)
 - The high school will send a letter outlining the pathway for your child(ren)
- Opportunities will exist for Keystone retesting and optional review sessions

