

## INTRODUCTION

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# WORK-BASED LEARNING MANUAL

Work-Based Learning (WBL) is an approach used to provide students with real-life experiences. Often quoted, the 3R's in education are rigor, relevance, and relationships. Work-Based Learning provides opportunities to incorporate all three "R's" with special emphasis on relevance to students' career pathways. Work-Based Learning connects students to real-life experiences as identified in Kentucky School Board/Kentucky Department of Education "Goal 3—Strong and supportive environment for each school and every child" with emphasis on sub-goal 3.5 which stipulates that "every community involved in children's learning." These experiences are judged on performance criteria and personal achievements.

Work-based learnings are structured activities incorporated in the curriculum which apply knowledge and skills learned in class and connect these learnings to experiences at work.

The purpose of the *Manual* is to provide guidance and direction for schools to use in developing and implementing the components of work-based learnings outlined in 704 KAR 3:305, minimum requirements for high school graduation.

The *Manual* is designed to be a resource for planning and managing work-based learnings for cooperative education, entrepreneurial programs, mentoring, internships, job shadowing, school-based enterprises and service learning.

Specific administrative regulations are available for Career and Technical Education programs and cooperative education standards. Other areas do not have administrative regulations, so the guidelines in the Work-Based Learning Manual are designed to provide standards for all work-based learnings.

This *Manual* will serve as a valuable resource in planning and implementing work-based learning for all students and is available on the Kentucky Department of Education web page. Click on "Instructional Resources" on the horizontal bar and then on "Career and Technical Education" in the left margin. (<http://www.kde.state.ky.us/KDE/>)

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