



# LEHIGH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Act 158 of 2018 (Act 158), signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf, provides alternatives to Pennsylvania's statewide requirement of attaining proficiency on the three end-of-course Keystone Exams (Algebra I, Literature, and Biology) for a student to achieve statewide graduation requirements. Effective with the graduating class of 2023, students have the option to demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through one of four additional pathways that more fully illustrate college, career, and community readiness.

ACT 158 REFERENCE | <https://www.education.pa.gov/K-1.2/Assessment%20and%20Accountability/GraduationRequirements/Act158/Pages/default.aspx>

## PATHWAY 1: KEYSTONE PROFICIENCY

Reach "Proficient" or "Advanced" on the following Keystone Exams:

- ✓ Algebra 1
- ✓ Literature
- ✓ Biology

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. No Keystone Exam score can be "Below Basic."

The Keystone Exam 3-score composite is  
**4452 or Greater**  
The Keystone Exam 2-score composite is  
**2939 or Greater**  
(where eligible under §121.1)

## PATHWAY 3: CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Students will meet local requirements for academic content covered by the Keystone Exams for all subjects. Courses required to earn credit at Lehigh Area High School: Algebra 1, Biology, and English 10. Must produce 1 or more of these artifacts:

- Industry-based competency certification
- Likelihood of industry-based competency assessment success
- Readiness for continued engagement in CTE Concentrator program of study

## PATHWAY 4: ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

Students will meet local requirements for academic content covered by the Keystone Exams for all subjects. Courses required to earn credit at Lehigh Area High School: Algebra 1, Biology, and English 10. 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:**
  - Attainment of one alternative assessment score or better: ACT (21), ASVAB AFQT (31), PSAT/NMSQT (970), or SAT (1010)
  - Attainment of Gold Level or better on ACT WorkKeys
  - Attainment of 3 or better on AP Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient
  - Attainment of 4 or better on IB Exam(s) related to each Keystone content area in which less than Proficient
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
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
4. **Be accepted in an accredited 4-year, nonprofit institution of higher education.**
  - 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. Courses required to earn credit at Lehigh Area High School: Algebra 1, Biology, and English 10.

### AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. Attainment of an established score on an alternative assessment**
  - ACT WorkKeys: Silver Level
  - AP score of 3 or better on any AP exam or 3 or better on any IP exam
- 2. Acceptance into any institute of higher learning for college-level coursework in an other-than-4-year program**
  - Acceptance letter
  - Placement test results
  - College registration form
- 3. Attainment of an industry-recognized credential**
  - Documentation that verifies attainment as defined by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
- 4. Successful completion of a dual enrollment or postsecondary course**
  - Credit-bearing, non-remedial course
  - High school or college transcript as evidence

### AND UP TO TWO OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. Service-Learning project completion**
  - 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)
- 2. "Proficient" or "Advanced" on a Keystone Exam**
  - Scaled score of 1500 or higher on one Keystone Exam
- 3. Letter guaranteeing full-time employment or military enlistment**
- 4. Completion of Internship or Cooperative Education Program**
  - Industry-based Learning Indicator Guidance: Work-based learning experiences
- 5. Compliance with the National College Athletic Associations (NCAA Division II) core courses for college-bound student athletes**
  - Minimum GPA Requirements (2.0) in approved NCAA core courses

## ADDITIONAL PATHWAYS

There are two other provisions available in addition to the five pathways described above.

### AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. Graduation based on IEP team decisions with regard to academic goals.**
- 2. Superintendent's waiver for students with extenuating circumstances**
  - The superintendent can grant a waiver to students at the recommendation of the high school principal and the office of education for a student who is unable to meet any of the pathways prior to graduation. For example, a student entering the district from another state during their senior year.



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For additional information, contact the  
Lehigh Area High School Administration  
at (610) 377-6180