

**- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL -****Professional Development****DEFINITIONS**

Professional development is defined as professional learning that is an individual and collective responsibility, that fosters shared accountability among the entire education workforce for student achievement, and:

1. Aligns with Kentucky Academic Standards in [704 KAR 003:303](#), educator effectiveness standards, individual professional growth goals, and school, district, and state goals for student achievement;
2. Focuses on content and pedagogy, as specified in certification requirements, and other related job-specific performance standards and expectations;
3. Occurs among educators who share responsibility for student growth;
4. Is facilitated by school and district leaders, including curriculum specialists, principals, instructional coaches, competent and qualified third-party facilitators, mentors, teachers or teacher leaders;
5. Focuses on individual improvement, school improvement, and plan implementation; and
6. Is on-going.

Professional development program means a sustained, coherent, relevant, and useful professional learning process that is measurable by indicators and provides professional learning and ongoing support to transfer that learning to practice.

Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) defines professional development as activities that are an integral part of school and local educational agency strategies for providing educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to enable students to succeed in a well-rounded education and to meet the challenging State academic standards; and that are sustained (not stand-alone, 1-day, or short term workshops), intensive, collaborative, job-embedded, data-driven, and classroom-focused.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

The school and District, under the direction of the Professional Development Coordinator (PDC), shall develop and implement plans of continuing professional development. The plans shall include, but not be limited to, the following components:

1. A clear statement of the school or District mission;
2. Evidence of representation of all persons affected by the Professional Development plan;
3. A needs assessment analysis;
4. PD objectives that are focused on the school or District mission, derived from needs assessment, and that specify changes in educator practice needed to improve student achievement; and

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### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CONTINUED)**

5. A process for evaluating impact on student learning and improving professional learning, using evaluation results.

Professional development activities shall be in accordance with federal guidelines and Kentucky State Regulation.

### **CERTIFIED STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

In addition to job-embedded professional learning included in the Professional Development Plan, it is the responsibility of each full-time certified staff member to complete the twenty-four (24) hours of professional development required in the District calendar. Part-time employees shall complete the appropriate portion of the twenty-four (24) hours.

### **NEW TEACHER ORIENTATION**

Prior to the opening of school all teachers new to the District shall be required to attend an orientation session to acquaint new personnel with Board policies, administrative procedures, Central Office staff, and the Principal(s) to whom they are assigned. The Superintendent/designee will be responsible for the program and all arrangements.

### **REQUIREMENT MUST BE FULFILLED**

Professional development is ongoing. However the twenty-four (24) hours required by statute must be fulfilled by June 1 of each year. If it is not, repayment for the appropriate hours will be deducted from the individual's paycheck.

It is the responsibility of the individual to provide appropriate documentation for all completed professional development. Internal offerings are documented by sign-in sheets. For activities outside the District, it is the responsibility of the individual to obtain the appropriate form prior to attendance, have it completed and return it to the PDC. Registration costs, meals, and mileage are the responsibility of the individual unless supplemental funds are provided by another source.

### **RELATED PROCEDURES:**

03.125 AP.21

03.19 AP.21

Review/Revised:7/24/2017