
Career and Technical Education End-of-Course Assessments, Rule

The Background:

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins IV) is a federal law (P.L. 109-270) with the purpose of developing the academic and career and technical skills of secondary and postsecondary education students enrolled in career and technical education programs.

Section 113(b)(2)(A) calls for indicators for performance of “Student attainment of career and technical skill proficiencies, including student achievement on technical assessments that are aligned with industry-recognized standards, if available and appropriate.”

To comply with the law, the Career and Technical Education Division of the Department of Education will administer end-of-course tests in designated courses that align with the programs of study of career and technical education students. The tests will be administered in courses which would represent the third credit of a concentrator in a respective program of study. The weight of the end-of-course exam on the student’s course average will be 20% for the year 2009-2010 and 25% for the school year 2011-2012 and thereafter.

The Master Plan Connection:

Foundational Principle: Rigorous, relevant curriculum: A rigorous and relevant P-12 curriculum requires all students to become lifelong learners and critical thinkers. The curriculum prepares students for successful transition into postsecondary education, workforce training, and citizenship. Graduates of secondary institutions with rigorous, relevant curricula can apply knowledge in post-secondary work and further education. A rigorous, relevant curriculum integrates standards, instruction and assessment.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption on final reading the revision to Rule 0520-01-03-.06(d) Examinations in order for the Division of Career and Technical Education to begin to offer end-of-course examinations beginning with the Spring of 2010. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.

Rule 0520-01-03-.06(2)(d)

Add the following text:

In compliance with federally agreed upon indicators, end-of-course examinations aligned with students' programs of study will be given in Career and Technical Education program areas beginning with the Spring of 2010.

The revised rule will read as follows:

(d) Examinations.

1. End-of-course examinations will be given in English I, English II, English III, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, U.S. History, Biology I, Chemistry and Physics. Further, the results of these examinations will be factored into the student's grade at a percentage determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. §49-1-302
2. Students would not be required to pass any one (1) examination, but instead would need to achieve a passing score for the course average in accordance with the State Board of Education's uniform grading policy. The weight of the end-of-course examination on the student's course average is as follows for entering ninth (9th) graders:
 - (i) fall of 2009 and 2010 - 20%
 - (ii) fall of 2011 and 2012 - 25%
 - (iii) fall of 2013 and thereafter - 25%
3. End-of-course examinations aligned with the capstone courses of students' programs of study will be given in the Career and Technical Education program areas of Health Science Education and Marketing Education beginning with the Spring of 2010 in compliance with federally agreed upon indicators. The Health Science tests will be in the courses Health Science Anatomy & Physiology Diagnostic Medicine, Health Informatics, Support Services, and Nursing Education. The Marketing tests will be given in Marketing II, Advertising & Public Relations, Sales Management, Market Research & Analysis, Retail Operations, and Services Marketing.
4. Students would not be required to pass any one (1) examination, but instead would need to achieve a passing score for the course average in accordance with the State Board of Education's uniform grading policy. The weight of the Career and Technical Education end-of-course examinations on the student's course average is as follows:
 - (i) fall of 2009 and 2010 - 20%
 - (ii) fall of 2011 and 2012 - 25%
 - (iii) fall of 2013 and thereafter - 25%