

K-12 School Finance; Kansas School Equity and Enhancement Act Amendments; House Sub. for SB 16

House Sub. for SB 16 amends the Kansas School Equity and Enhancement Act (KSEEA), creates law and amends current statutes related to public schools, and appropriates funds to the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) for fiscal year (FY) 2020 and FY 2021.

KSEEA Amendments

The bill makes several amendments to the KSEEA, as follows.

Base Aid for Student Excellence (BASE)

The bill amends the BASE for school years 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023. The following table shows the BASE former amount and the BASE amount under the bill.

Base Aid for Student Excellence		
<u>School Year</u>	<u>Former Amount</u>	<u>House Sub. for SB 16</u>
2019-2020	\$ 4,302	\$ 4,436
2020-2021	4,439	4,569
2021-2022	4,576	4,706
2022-2023	4,713	4,846

At-risk Education Programs

The bill requires the Kansas State Board of Education (KSBE) to identify and approve evidence-based programs provided by state-based national nonprofit organizations that:

- Focus on students who are eligible to receive at-risk program services or who face other identifiable barriers to success;
- Provide evidence-based instruction and support services to such students; and
- Evaluate outcomes data for such students, including, but not limited to, school attendance, academic progress, graduation rates, pursuit of postsecondary education, or other career advancement.

The bill also defines “evidence-based instruction” to mean an education delivery system based on peer-reviewed research that consistently produces better student outcomes over a

reports on student achievement, and the school district funding report on the homepage of the KSDE website under a prominently displayed link titled “Accountability Reports.”

The bill requires school districts to publish school district budget documents and the school district funding report on the homepages of their websites under a prominently displayed link titled “Accountability Reports.” The bill also requires the school district budget documents and the school district funding report to be posted on the websites of individual schools in the school district, if such schools have separate websites.

The bill requires each school district to provide a link to the KSDE webpage where the one-page performance accountability reports and longitudinal reports on student achievement are posted. The link must be prominently displayed on the school district’s accountability reports webpage.

ACT and WorkKeys Assessments

The bill requires the KSBE to provide the ACT college entrance exam and the three ACT and WorkKeys assessments required to earn a national career readiness certificate to each student enrolled in grades 11 and 12 at no charge to the student. The bill also requires KSBE to provide the PreACT college entrance exam to each student enrolled in grade 9. [Note: Sub. for SB 423 (2018) requires KSDE to provide the ACT and WorkKeys assessments to students in grades 9 through 12 during FY 2019.]

Other Provisions

Low-income Tax-credit Scholarship Program

The bill changes the definition of “public school” for purposes of the Low-income Student Scholarship Program from the 100 lowest performing schools to the 100 lowest performing elementary schools. The bill also allows students already receiving scholarships to continue receiving scholarships so no student will become ineligible due to the definition change.

Legislative Task Force on Dyslexia

The bill extends the Legislative Task Force on Dyslexia until June 30, 2022, allowing the Task Force to meet once each year.

Extension of 20-mill Property Tax Levy

The bill extends the statewide 20-mill property tax levy for schools to FY 2020 and FY 2021. The bill also extends the \$20,000 homestead exemption for the 20-mill levy for the same fiscal years.