



KESA Graduation Standards

Does the KESA Graduation rate use the 4 or 5-year cohort?

The Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA) graduation rate used for KESA outcome determination only includes 4-year cohort graduation data. No 5-year cohorts.

Are subgroups used for determination?

No. All students that are included in the 4-year cohort graduation rates are used for determination. No individual subgroups.

How is the KESA graduation rate calculated?

The KESA graduation rate is based on the annual 4-year graduation cohort from the most recent 5 school years. The determination does not use an average of the individual year's graduation rates but calculates a single rate based on the graduates and total cohort from the 5 most recent school years.

Where can I find the annual 4-year graduation cohort information?

To use the KESA Graduation Outcome Calculator, you will need to identify the number of graduates and total students in each 4-year graduation cohort included in the KESA graduation rate. This data is located in the Dropout Graduation Summary Report (DGSR) on KSDE Web Applications. **For graduation years 2024 and prior, use the 4-year cohort "Federal Graduation Rate." For graduation years 2025 and after, use the four-year cohort "State Graduation Rate."**

When will my system's KESA Graduation Rate be evaluated for an accreditation determination for the first time?

KESA outcome determination will begin at the end of 2026-2027. Because graduation rates are not finalized until the fall of the following school year, KESA Graduation Standards evaluation results will be announced in January 2028. **See the KESA Graduation Standards Evaluation Timeline document for more detail.**

What years will be included in the KESA graduation rate that is evaluated in 2026-2027?

KESA Graduation Standards Evaluations are based on the two most recent KESA graduation rates at the end of the 2026-2027 school year. The KESA graduation rate 2023 - 2027 will be based on the performance of students in the five most recent 4-year cohorts (the 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027 graduating classes). To determine the rate of change, the KESA graduation rate 2023 - 2027, will be compared to KESA graduation rate 2022 - 2026 (the 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026 graduating classes).

Will my system be unaccredited if the KESA Outcomes Standards are not met in a given year?

No. Not meeting a standard does not mean a system will be automatically unaccredited. Rather, failure to meet standards indicates that a closer look at the system needs to happen by the Accreditation Review Council (ARC) before an accreditation decision is determined.

Why should the KESA Graduation Rate Calculator be used if system's graduation rate does not matter until the 2026-2027 evaluation?

The Calculator may help a system a) understand the graduation rate that will be used for evaluation, b) identify patterns or gaps that the system can address to improve their graduation rate, and c) allow the system to project the graduation rate or count needed to meet standards for future outcome determination.

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