



Kansas Community College Testimony in Support of SB 63

Thank you for the opportunity today to testify in support of SB 63. Kansas Community Colleges support the ability of all Kansas students, no matter who they receive their education from, (public school, private school, or home-school) to have the ability to take the ACT and ACT WorkKeys assessment without cost to the student. SB 63 will help ensure students who may be served by a nonaccredited private secondary school are aware of the ability to take the ACT and ACT WorkKeys Assessments without cost to the student.

The ACT and ACT WorkKeys assessments are valuable tools for both students and Kansas Community Colleges. The students benefit from the ability to get an ACT or ACT WorkKeys score which can help them with scholarship applications or job placement. The ACT and ACT WorkKeys Assessments help community colleges when students arrive for enrollment help. Often when students come to a community college the first challenge is placing them into courses that meet their current academic skill level. Careful attention is paid to ensure the course will be challenging but also allow the student to be successful on their quest to a certification or Associates Degree. Placing students into the correct course can be challenging without multiple measures to assess the student's achievement level. The ACT and ACT WorkKeys assessments are measures which can help colleges make accurate assessments. Usually our colleges will look at multiple measures which would include the ACT, student GPA, the student may take an Accuplacer exam, amongst other measures when helping the students find the courses that are right for them.

Research has shown that the use of multiple measures assessment is one of the best ways to improve student success and ensure students continue to persevere and complete the certification or degree. Having more students aware of the opportunity to take the ACT and ACT WorkKeys assessments without cost will ensure that no financial barrier exists to students being able to arrive at the college with these scores and will allow us to have another measure to help ensure students are placed in courses where they can find success.

Presented by: Heather Morgan, Executive Director of the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees, 785-221-2828, hmorgan@kacct.org.