

February 17, 2016

*The following was sent to the KYAE listserv.*



## **KESC clarification**

There were a couple of questions about the policy found on page 20 concerning the issuance of a Kentucky Essential Skills Certificate (KESC) after the completion of an academic program of study.

The expectations for issuing a KESC are the same as issuing an NCRC. The administration of the KESC assessment (through the successful completion of the WIN Soft Skills courseware) to issue a KESC ... *shall be administered at the conclusion of the student's academic program of study.*

In other words, since adult education is an instructional program and we know an academic program of study benefits our students (academic level gain), we don't want to get into situations where students only go through the software and earn a KESC without wrap around, contextualized academic instruction. To ensure that students receive the academic support they need, in conjunction with the soft/essential skills employers seek, we recommend that you *print the certificate only after the students have reached their goals*. [Because the KYAE Employability Standards align with the WIN Soft Skills](#) (scroll to bottom of page), you are able to *effectively integrate workforce preparation* into an academic program of study so that when students achieve their goals and leave your program, they are better prepared to compete for jobs in their local communities.

We have defined the time of an academic program of study based on enrollment NRS level and the completion of the program is when the student is eligible to post-test (levels 1-5). *Making a level gain is not a requirement, but highly encouraged; this is at the discretion of the program.*

"The successful conclusion of the academic program of study should result in an academic level gain for students in levels 1-5, 7-12. *In the event that an academic level gain is not made, programs have the option of extending the program of study (e.g., contextualized academic instruction, etc.) until the student makes an academic level gain.*"