

# KANSAS ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS (K.A.R.)

## Agency 91

### Kansas State Department of Education

#### Article 31.—Accreditation

- 91-31-31. Definitions.** (a) "Accredited" means the status assigned to a school that meets the minimum performance and quality criteria established by the state board.
- (b) "Accredited on improvement" means the status assigned to a school that, for two consecutive years, is described by any of the following:
- (1) The school fails to meet one or more of the performance criteria applicable to the school.
  - (2) The school has a prescribed percentage of students in one or more student subgroups that fails to meet one or more of the performance criteria applicable to the school.
  - (3) The school fails to meet three or more of the quality criteria applicable to the school.
- (c) "Conditionally accredited" means the status assigned to a school that, for three consecutive years, is described by either of the following:
- (1) The school has a prescribed percentage of all students assessed that scores below the proficient level on the state assessments.
  - (2) The school fails to meet four or more of the quality criteria applicable to the school.
- (d) "Curriculum standards" means statements, adopted by the state board, of what students should know and be able to do in specific content areas.
- (e) "External technical assistance team" means a group of persons selected by a school for the purpose of advising school staff on issues of school improvement, curricula and instruction, student performance, and other accreditation matters.
- (f) "Local board of education" means the board of education of any unified school district or the governing body of any nonpublic school.
- (g) "Not accredited" means the status assigned to a school that, for five consecutive years, is described by either of the following:
- (1) The school has a prescribed percentage of all students assessed that scores below the proficient level on the state assessments.
  - (2) The school fails to meet four or more of the quality criteria applicable to the school.
- (h) "On-site visit" means a visit at a school by either the school's external technical assistance team or a state technical assistance team.
- (i) "School" means an organizational unit that, for the purposes of school improvement, constitutes a logical sequence of elements that may be structured as grade levels, developmental levels, or instructional levels.
- (j) "School improvement plan" means a multiyear plan for five years or less that is developed by a school and that states specific actions for achieving continuous improvement in student performance.
- (k) "Standards of excellence" means the expectations for academic achievement that the state board has set for Kansas schools.
- (l) "State assessments" means the assessments that the state board administers in order to measure student learning within the Kansas curriculum standards for mathematics, reading, science, history and government, and writing.
- (m) "State board" means the state board of education.
- (n) "State technical assistance team" means a group of persons appointed by the state department of education to assist schools in meeting the performance and quality criteria established by the state board.
- (o) "Student subgroup" means those students within a school who, for monitoring purposes, are classified by a common factor, including economic disadvantage, race, ethnicity, disability, and limited

English proficiency.

(p) "Unit of credit" means a measure of credit that may be awarded to a student for satisfactory completion of a particular course or subject. A full unit of credit is credit that is awarded for satisfactory completion of a course or subject that is offered for and generally requires 120 clock-hours to complete. Credit may be awarded in increments based upon the amount of time a course or subject is offered and generally requires to complete. Individual students may be awarded credit based upon demonstrated knowledge of the content of a course or subject, regardless of the amount of time spent by the student in the course or subject.

This regulation shall be effective on and after July 1, 2005. (Authorized by and implementing Article 6, Section 2(a) of the Kansas Constitution; effective July 1, 2005.)