

Preparing for your KSDE Audit

An overview of the documentation needed for your school district's annual KSDE audit

Prepared by the Kansas State Department of Education Fiscal Auditing Team for KSDE audits completed during the 2024-25 School Year

An electronic copy with links can found here: <u>KSDE Fiscal Auditing webpage</u>, under "Audit Guides" <u>https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Fiscal-and-Administrative-Services/Fiscal-Auditing</u>



Introduction

New! An audit preparation tool – <u>Checklist for School Districts' Annual KSDE Audit</u> – clearly identifies documents needed for your district's annual KSDE audit, including a short list of items (see page 1 of the <u>Checklist</u>) required to be uploaded *in advance* of your district's scheduled audit. A link to the Checklist is also included with the audit engagement letter from KSDE. The Checklist can also be downloaded from the KSDE Fiscal Auditing webpage, under the "Audit Guides" heading.

A Pre-Audit Questionnaire will be emailed to your school district's superintendent and board clerk in advance of your annual KSDE audit. The purpose of the questionnaire is to help us better prepare for your audit and ensure that we have current contact information for school district staff working with us to complete your annual audit in a timely manner. We appreciate your help in completing and returning the Pre-Audit Questionnaire to our office.

Audit engagement letters are emailed approximately three weeks before your KSDE annual audit. This letter from KSDE's Fiscal Auditing team will detail when the audit will be conducted and the KSDE auditor(s) assigned. At minimum, the letter will be emailed to your district superintendent and board clerk.

During your annual audit, KSDE Fiscal Auditing staff will verify:

- <u>current</u> year enrollment data submitted to the Kansas Individual Data on Students (KIDS) system. Current year items to be audited are in the first section shown below on pages 2-7.
- expenditures and programs for the <u>prior</u> year. These items are listed in the second section shown below on pages 8-10.

When preparing documentation for your school district's annual KSDE audit, please keep in mind:

- items on page 1 of the <u>Checklist for School District's Annual KSDE Audit</u> must be uploaded in advance of your scheduled KSDE audit. You may upload documents via KSDE <u>Auditor File Exchange</u> or via Google Drive to share directly with your KSDE assigned auditor.
- uploading other needed documentation (on pages 2 4 of the Checklist) is encouraged.
- a system-generated electronic report is preferred (as opposed to scanning a printed document).
- reports can be provided in either Excel or PDF format, but Excel or a .csv file is preferred.
- if the documentation includes an extensive amount of data on paper, you may want to provide it to the KSDE auditor when he or she arrives onsite.
- please do not email personally identifiable student information.

How to Prepare for Current Year Enrollment and Attendance records to be audited:

For the 2024-25 school year, student count day is Friday, September 20, 2024. KSDE will audit current year enrollment using data that your district submits to the Kansas Individual Data on Students (KIDS) system.

Items to be audited for <u>current year</u> enrollment include:

Enrollment and attendance records for all students counted by your district on September 20: Auditors will verify your student headcount and your student full-time-equivalent (FTE). Please provide the following:

a. Daily attendance records from the beginning of school through end of the day on October 3: This is a list of <u>all</u> students and their attendance through October 3. The list is generated as a report from your district's local student information system (SIS). Listed below are the student information systems commonly used, along with the attendance reports that would be helpful to have ready for your annual KSDE audit. In considering which report(s) to provide, remember that for middle schools and high schools, class period attendance is needed.

• PowerSchool: Monthly Attendance Report for Middle School and High School

GoEdustar: Attendance Report
 Skyward: Absence Occurrence Report or Daily Attendance Report

• Infinite Campus: Student Period Attendance Detail or Period Detail Batch Report

To confirm your district's reported full-time-equivalent (FTE) student attendance (Minutes Enrolled), or to aid in the calculations of individual student minutes, see the electronic calculator - Bell Schedule Calculator, on the KSDE Fiscal Auditing webpage under the section "Calculators." Also see: KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 6-7 (Enrollment), pages 8-13 (Minutes Enrolled), pages 14-15 (FTE Calculations).

- b. Attendance Entry/Withdrawal list through October 3: This is a list of students who have entered the district or have withdrawn from the district, by date, from the beginning of the school year through October 3.
- c. September 20 *individual student* class schedules for high school and middle school students.
- d. For each <u>high school</u>, please provide a current copy of the following:
 - bell schedule(s): if there are multiple schedules for each high school (depending on the type of day, late start/early release, for example), please include copies of all schedules; one for each type of day, if applicable. Please also provide, for each high school:
 - course catalog.
 - student handbook.
 - master teacher schedule.
- e. Attendance records and related documentation for students participating in a work-based learning experience / professional learning experience: For each high school, provide the names of all students (with local and state student identifier for each) participating in a workbased learning / professional learning experience. In addition, for each student: provide a current copy of the work-based learning agreement in place and work log / timesheet / attendance hours from the beginning of school through end of day October 3.
- f. Attendance records for non-public school students enrolled and attending part-time in your district.
- g. Attendance records for Special Education preschool students and part-time Special Education kindergarten and non-public school Special Education students.
- h. Eligibility documentation for Preschool-Aged At-Risk (3 and 4-year-old at-risk students), if applicable: The criteria used to identify Preschool-Aged At-Risk students (3 and 4-year-old atrisk) are outlined in the KSDE Enrollment Handbook, see pages 32-33 and also in new KIDS data field D58.

i. Attendance records for students attending an alternative school or attending a virtual school/program. Provide the following information related to rosters, headcount, student FTE or credits earned:

1. Students attending alternative school.

- enrollment documentation.
- if an adult student: enrollment form must include the question and answer to: Do you have a high school diploma?
- if an adult student: transcript analysis and individual graduation plan.
- daily attendance documentation for each and all students:
 - daily sign-in/sign-out logs documenting in-person attendance from the first day of the school session and through end of the day October 3.
 - daily/weekly course schedule and instructor for each course.
 - please remember the count days submitted for funding purposes should represent the student's normal school day schedule and be no different from any other days for the year. See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 16-17. Also see Note below:

Note: KSDE's expectation is that alternative schools and programs are very much like traditional schools. For example, like traditional schools, alternative learning services are provided on-site (students attend in-person) and learning services are provided on-site by a licensed teacher or teachers. The location and or attendance schedule of an alternative school or program may look slightly different from a traditional school.

2. <u>Current</u> year students 19 years and younger (as of September 20) attending virtual school:

Provide a roster of all such students and for each student, provide the following:

- enrollment documentation.
- if an adult student: enrollment form must include the question and answer to: Do you have a high school diploma?
- if an adult student: transcript analysis and individual graduation plan.
- attendance documentation for each and all students, including:
 - unaltered, system-generated daily attendance documentation from the virtual school/program's computer system showing when the student was connected to the virtual curriculum from first day of school through end of the day October 3, including for the two longest days attended.
 - Academic Activity logs maintained by the student for the purposes of documenting offline time; if younger than age 18, the Log must be signed by parent/guardian.
 - documentation from the computer system that the student was logged into *each* course listed on the log at least once from the beginning of school year up to and before October 4.
 - proof of Kansas residency. See <u>KSDE Enrollment Handbook</u>, page 25.
- 3. <u>All prior year (2023-24) students 19 years and younger who attended virtual school in grade levels 9-12 and ungraded):</u> Provide a roster of all such <u>high school</u> students who were enrolled and attended during 2023-24 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) and for each student, provide the following:
 - enrollment documentation.
 - official (signed) current transcript.
 - total credits required for high school graduation with student's cohort.
 - if an adult student: the enrollment form must include the question and answer to: Do you have a high school diploma?
 - also, if an adult student: transcript analysis, individual graduation plan.

If requested as part of your KSDE, audit (your assigned KSDE field auditor will request if needed):

- unaltered, system-generated daily attendance documentation from the virtual/ school/program's computer system showing when the student was connected to the virtual curriculum the prior year.

If a 19-year-old and younger virtual high school student was funded as a full-time or part-time virtual student the prior year in error, the following year an audit exception will be made and the student will be funded based on credit earned the prior year (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024). See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 20-21.

- 4. <u>Prior year (2023-24) students aged 20 years and older and virtual credits earned during the prior year:</u> Please provide a roster of students enrolled and earning credits during the 2023-24 school year. For each student provide:
 - enrollment documentation; must include the question and answer to: Do you have a high school diploma?
 - transcript analysis, including identification of classes needed to graduate.
 - individual graduation plan.
 - official (signed) transcripts, including credits earned July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. See <u>KSDE Enrollment Handbook</u>, pages 18, 49-50.
- 5. <u>Current year students aged 20 years and older as of September 20, 2024, and attending virtually:</u> Please provide a roster of students enrolled and headcount. For each student provide:
 - enrollment documentation; must include the question and answer to: Do you have a high school diploma?
 - transcript analysis, including identification of classes the student needs to graduate.
 - individual graduation plan.
 - proof of Kansas residency. See <u>KSDE Enrollment Handbook</u>, page 25. See <u>KSDE Enrollment Handbook</u>, page 24.
- 6. <u>Current</u> year Dropout Diploma Completion Virtual Students, aged 19 years and younger, grade levels 9, 10, 11, 12 and ungraded: Please provide a roster of students enrolled and headcount. For each student, provide:
 - enrollment documentation.
 - documentation of written consent exempting student from compulsory attendance or
 - documentation of absence for 60 consecutive days or more in the preceding school year
 - total credits required for high school graduation with student's cohort, and
 - total credits earned as of September 20, 2024 (current year).
 - proof of Kansas residency. See <u>KSDE Enrollment Handbook</u>, page 25.

See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 20-21.

- j. Attendance records for students in Juvenile Detention Centers (JDC) or a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) in your district: Please provide:
 - attendance logs for the prior year April (2023-24).
 - current year September and November counts, if applicable.
 - a copy of all current bell schedule(s) for the JDC or PRTF.

See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 29-30.

- k. Open Enrollment capacity for nonresident student transfers: Provide a roster of non-resident students whom had applied for open enrollment (application period was June 1 30, 2024) and a list of students (if any) denied transfer and the reason for any such denial(s). See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, page 35-36.
- I. **Enrollment weightings or other funding:** Your KDSE auditor will verify documentation related to the following weightings or funding, if applicable:

1. At-risk weighting:

- provide supporting documentation for any student claimed as eligible to receive free meals as of September 20, 2024, per the National School Lunch Program income eligibility criteria. For 2024-25, a student can be included in the FREE lunch headcount/list through any of the following: National School Lunch Program, the Direct Certification process, and Medicaid Free (MED-F).
- also, provide a list of students (with local and state student identifier for each) whose lunch status changed due to the verification process. Verification must be completed by no later than November 15, 2024.
- remember that part-time students grades K to 12, students 20 years and older, non-graded students, virtual students and non-funded preschoolers are excluded from the count for state at-risk weighting.
 - See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 37-39.

2. Bilingual/English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) weighting:

- for each student identified as bilingual (include any students coded as a "1, 2, 3, 5, 7 or 8" in KIDS data field D43) provide documentation of the home language survey and ESOL evaluation results.
- for students coded as a "2, 3 or 7" in KIDS data field D43, list each provider and contact minutes provided to those students during the week of September 20, 2024. A calculator is available on the KSDE Fiscal Auditing webpage under the calculators section, see: ESL Contact Time Calculator 24-25..
- provide a list of bilingual certified teachers and paras providing Bilingual/ESOL services.
 For those teachers on a "Plan of Study" toward achieving bilingual certification, provide documentation of annual progress made toward completed certification as well as documentation that they have not exceeded the three-year limitation.
- for each supervised para, provide documentation of weekly meetings with supervising teacher.
 - See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 40-44.

3. Career Technical Education (CTE) weighting:

- provide a September 20 roster for <u>each</u> class approved by KSDE for weighted (.5) funding by the Career and Technical Education (CTE) team under the Pathways Process.
- each class roster should include the following:
 - names of all students (with local and state student identifier for each) enrolled in the class on count day; do <u>not</u> include students taking the class for dual credit.
 - Pathways approved course code (all 16 characters).
 - name of the teacher or teacher(s) instructing the CTE class.
 - class period scheduled and if not already provided, the high school bell schedule(s).
- on a separate roster (if not already provided), include the names of students (with local and state student identifier for each) who take the class for dual credit during 2024-25.
- provide a list of all CTE courses for which dual credit can be earned.

- provide a list of CTE courses which are nested (3 CTE courses taught together at the same time) and documentation of the KSDE Pathway Consultant's written approval to nest the courses. Approval must be by October 15, 2024.
- if your building has a seminar period or like-period for which you are expecting to claim CTE weighting, please provide a list of any teachers or students who do not have full access to the seminar period. (For example, limited access because of club meetings, the teacher is scheduled out of the building, is teaching another class etc.).
- a current copy of each high school's bell schedule(s), if not already provided.
- a current copy of each high school's master teacher schedule, if not already provided.
- a current copy of each high school's course catalog, if not already provided. See <u>KSDE Enrollment Handbook</u>, pages 44-48.

4. Transportation weighting:

- if any student transportation is provided through contracted service, provide the names and specific contact information, including phone number and address, for any and all such contracted transportation services.
- provide a list of road closings that would have affected distance from a student's home to school on count day.
- provide a list of students (with local and state student identifier for each) for whom transportation is paid with special education funds (include students receiving special education services whose transportation from home to school and/or school to home is funded by special education funds).
 - See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, pages 48-49.
- 5. **Out-of-state Student funding**: Please provide a September 20 roster of students attending as regularly enrolled students, but whose residence is not in the state of Kansas. If the student's parent or guardian is currently an employee of the district, please provide proof of such employment. See KSDE Enrollment Handbook, page 30.

How to prepare for <u>prior</u> year expense records to be audited:

The KSDE auditor will verify the following expenditures and programs for the prior year (2023-24).

- 1. Transportation expenditures reported on Table XI of the Annual Statistical Report (18E): Provide a copy of the fund accounting report and any supporting documentation to verify expenditures. See <u>Audit Guide: Transportation</u>
- 2. Indirect Costs expenditures reported on Table V of the Annual Statistical Report: Provide payroll and/or fund accounting reports in support of the amounts claimed. Also, please provide an itemized list of any board of education expenses claimed. See Audit Guide: Indirect Costs
- 3. **Driver Education and/or Motorcycle Education competency records:** If this includes an extensive amount of data on paper, you may want to provide this to your KSDE auditor once he or she arrives onsite. If you provide the data electronically, please provide copies of tests, score sheets and other relevant data in support of the claim. See <u>Audit Guide: Driver Education and Motorcycle Education</u>
- 4. **Career Technical Education (CTE) Transportation Aid:** Provide a worksheet detailing how the mileage was calculated. See <u>Audit Guide: Career Technical Education (CTE) Transportation Aid.</u>
- 5. **Special Education Pupil Transportation expenditures reported on Form 308:** Provide a copy of the fund accounting report and any supporting documentation to verify expenditures.
- 6. State Categorical Aid for teachers, paraprofessionals and expenditures incurred and reported as costs for catastrophic special education individual student care, if these programs were not audited this past summer: Provide electronically, for example an Excel Spreadsheet or delimited file (.csv), generated from your payroll system, or from a separately maintained ledger the following:
 - a. payroll records for certified staff in support of actual salary earned.
 - b. total contracted salary data for certified staff.
 - c. payroll records for classified staff in support of actual hours worked.
 - d. roster of long-term substitutes and new hires, with the name of special education staff replaced.
 - e. paid invoices and service logs for staff contracted through third-party providers. If this includes an extensive amount of data on paper, you may want to provide this to the auditor when he or she arrives onsite.
 - f. records documenting staff development requirements (in-service) for paraprofessionals.
 - g. payroll records for all personnel in support of actual hours worked during the Extended School Year (ESY).
 - h. roster of Bi-Annual Certification (sole source funding) for staff whose duties are 100% special education. For staff with duties less than 100% special education, provide a personnel activity report (PAR/time and effort log). An electronic calculator is available on the KSDE Fiscal Auditing webpage, see: Special Ed Personnel Activity Report.
 - i. roster of early childhood students, from December 1 and May 1, for each early childhood special education classroom teacher claimed. Identify IEP and non-IEP students.
 - j. attendance documentation/service logs for all students claimed for Non-Public Equivalency. If this includes an extensive amount of data on paper, you may want to provide this to your KSDE auditor once he or she arrives onsite. If you provide the data electronically, please make sure to provide a copy of the contract, license or professional certification for staff providing services, service logs and paid invoices.

See: Special Education Reimbursement Guide 2023-24 – auditing during FY25

- 7. **Kansas Preschool Pilot (KPP) state grant**: Provide supporting documentation to verify expenditures. Note: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds, which are federal funds, may not be used to reimburse administrative costs. See: <u>Audit Guide: Kansas Preschool Pilot</u>
- 8. Parents As Teachers state aid and the local 50% match expenditures: Provide a copy of the fund accounting report and any supporting documentation to verify expenditures. See <u>Audit Guide: Kansas Parents as Teachers</u>
- 9. Bond and Interest payments, including the principal and interest for general obligation bonds issued *after* July 1992 and *after* July 2015: Provide a copy of the fund accounting report, a copy of the bond schedule and any additional supporting documentation to verify expenditures. See Audit Guide: Bond and Interest
- 10. Mentor teacher: Provide documentation (payment/pay records) to support that prior year mentor teacher state grants from KSDE were passed through and paid to the specific individual mentor teachers certified by the district at the end of the prior school year. See: <u>Audit Guide</u> <u>Mentor Teacher – State Grants</u>
- 11. **Professional Development:** Provide documentation to support actual expenditures reported as professional development and that those expenses were paid from the district's Professional Development Fund. See <u>Audit Guide: Professional Development</u>
- 12. **National Board Certified Teacher**: Provide documentation (payment/pay records) to support that National Board Certified Teacher grants from KSDE were passed through to individual teachers holding National Board Certification.
- 13. School Term-related documentation for prior year, 2023-24: Please provide prior year 1,116-hour logs for each and every attendance center and learning services program (as needed). See Audit Guide: School Term Audit Guide

Also, provide prior year 465-hour logs for each KSDE-approved Preschool-Aged At-Risk program/center location. Each Preschool-Aged At-Risk program should provide a minimum of 465 School Term hours for students attending. See <u>Audit Guide</u>: School Term Audit Guide

If you need help tracking progress toward meeting *current* year School Term requirements (2024-25) electronic 1116-Hour and 465-Hour Building Log Calculators are available on the <u>KSDE Fiscal Auditing webpage</u>.

- 14. Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF) instructional expenditures. Provide a copy of the fund accounting report and any supporting documentation to verify expenditures. See <u>Audit Guide: Juvenile Detention Centers</u>
- 15. **At-Risk state aid/High-Density At-Risk state aid:** Provide supporting documentation to verify expenditures for services as reported on your district's Local Consolidated Plan Annual Report State At-Risk. Expenditures must be for evidence-based best practices for at-risk programs and instruction approved by the State Board of Education for students receiving at-risk program services. See <u>At-Risk Pupil Assistance Guidelines</u>

- 16. Mental Health Intervention Team state aid and the local 25% match expenditures: Provide supporting documentation to verify total expenditures for mental health school liaison(s). Total expenditures should include state aid expenditures and local match expenditures. Also provide any supporting documentation to verify that mental health intervention team funds from KSDE were paid to the appropriate Community Mental Health Center (CMHC). See <u>Audit Guide: Mental Health Intervention Team State Grant</u>
- 17. Safe and Secure Schools state grant and local 100% match expenditures: Provide supporting documentation to verify state aid expenditures and local match expenditures. See <u>Audit Guide</u>: <u>Safe and Secure Schools</u>

Thank you for your assistance in preparing for your annual KSDE audit.

For more information, contact:

KSDE Fiscal Auditing (785) 296-4976 auditing@ksde.org



Kansas State Department of Education 900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102 Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212

www.ksde.org

The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201.