
Approved High School Courses Policy 3.205

The Background:

The Approved High School Courses Policy 3.205 identifies courses that have been approved by the State Board for instruction in Tennessee schools.

This item updates the Approved High School Course Policy to ensure accuracy of current course offerings. The Department conducted a review of the courses listed in the policy and added several courses to the policy that currently exist in the course code management system. Several of the courses added to the policy include courses that are part of a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program of study. Likewise, the courses removed from the list were previously retired and are no longer part of a CTE program of study. These course changes were approved by the State Board of Education at their previous meetings but had not been reflected in the Approved High School Course policy.

Additionally, this item lists the courses that may be counted toward the new computer science graduation requirement beginning with students entering the ninth (9th) grade in the 2024-25 school year.

Between first and final reading, revisions were made to ensure accuracy of course offerings.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring State Board policy reflects current course offerings in schools.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.