



Kelly Dunn &lt;khdunn67@gmail.com&gt;

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**RE: [Counselortalk] 3 year grad has not passed ISTEP**

1 message

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**Culhan, Amanda** <aculhan@doe.in.gov>

Thu, Apr 19, 2018 at 11:17 AM

Reply-To: "Culhan, Amanda" &lt;aculhan@doe.in.gov&gt;

To: "counselortalk@list.indiana.edu" &lt;counselortalk@list.indiana.edu&gt;

Good morning. Criteria for both the evidence-based and work readiness waivers for the Graduation Exam include taking the "graduation examination in each subject area in which the student did not achieve a passing score at least one time every school year after the school year in which the student first takes the graduation examination". We have always interpreted this to include the student's senior year. I was made aware today that one of our offices here had received a different interpretation of this criteria, in that the summer re-test, following the student's junior year could count. I have asked our legal office here to review this and to let me know if the summer re-test, following the junior year, would meet this criteria. Once I receive that, I will share that will all of you.

As was mentioned, the [graduation pathways](#) may be another option to consider. Legislation passed in March, which does allow students to opt-in to the graduation pathways. The only catch is that we don't yet have final guidance approved by the State Board, which is scheduled to be presented for approval in July. While you should have all of the information you would need now for boxes 1 (diploma requirements met) and 3 (postsecondary-ready competencies), the guidance will include more details regarding box 2 (employability skills). So until that guidance is approved that piece is a little unclear. State Board staff does have a draft of this (attached) if you're interested in seeing what they might be looking at for this requirement. **Please note that this is still in draft form and may change.** If you have additional questions, please contact Alicia Kielmovitch at [akielmovitch@sboe.in.gov](mailto:akielmovitch@sboe.in.gov).

Finally, 2018 legislation also included a new waiver option for **seniors** who don't meet the **postsecondary-ready competency** component (box 3) for the graduation pathways. This waiver option is effective July 1, 2018. The waivers document has been updated to reflect the addition of this waiver option, which you can find [here](#).

## Amanda Culhan

*School Counseling Specialist***Indiana Department of Education**(317) 232-0510 | [aculhan@doe.in.gov](mailto:aculhan@doe.in.gov)[www.doe.in.gov](http://www.doe.in.gov) | Feedback: [How are we doing?](#)

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**From:** Eric Ressler [<mailto:eressler@mcas.k12.in.us>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 18, 2018 4:50 PM  
**To:** [counselortalk@list.indiana.edu](mailto:counselortalk@list.indiana.edu)  
**Subject:** [Counselortalk] 3 year grad has not passed ISTEP

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In the past I remember that 3 year grads who had yet to pass ECA, were required to come back the next fall when the test was offered for retakes. The requirement was that the test be taken every year, in order to qualify for the waiver.

Now we have a 3 grad who has yet to pass ISTEP. It was thought that this year's 3 year grads could qualify for the graduation pathways ISTEP waiver. Our student did pass the ASVAB, which is one of the proposed pathways.

Can our student receive a diploma, or are they required to come back and take the ISTEP one more time, next school year to qualify for the waiver?

Thanks,

***Eric R. Ressler***

Counselor Dept. Head | \_\_\_\_\_

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