
**Approved High School Courses Policy 3.205
Course Approval, American Sign Language**

The Background:

Chapter 270 of the Public Acts of 2017 requires the State Board of Education to approve American Sign Language (ASL) as a foreign language. This item presents the following courses for approval:

- American Sign Language I
- American Sign Language II
- American Sign Language III
- American Sign Language IV

While ASL will now satisfy the foreign language requirement for graduation, not all postsecondary institutions accept ASL as a world language for entrance criteria purposes.

Additional items outlining the requirements for educators seeking to teach ASL as a world language will be presented for first reading at the October 20, 2017 State Board meeting.

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 does not have a fiscal impact on LEAs.

The Recommendation:

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