



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Thomas R. Bice  
State Superintendent of Education

January 15, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

**FROM:** Thomas R. Bice <sup>TRB</sup>  
State Superintendent of Education

**RE:** Alabama Career Planning System and Kuder, Inc.

In March 2013, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) announced the continuation of the Alabama Career Planning System with Kuder, Inc. All students in Grades 6-12 have access to this comprehensive education and career planning tool. Located on the Alabama Career Information Network (ACIN), this tool allows students, parents, and educators to plan for students' future and find links between their interest and aptitudes, start planning their classes, explore careers, and research postsecondary options as early as sixth grade.

As a part of Alabama PLAN 2020, all students are required to enter the ninth grade prepared and with a four-year plan that addresses their individual academic and career interest needs. The ALSDE has been pleased to collaborate with the Alabama Career Planning System-Kuder, Inc., to develop the electronic platform and format for this four-year plan. The use of this electronic platform and format has made it necessary for all local education agencies (LEA) to use the Alabama Career Planning System-Kuder, Inc., or an ALSDE-approved alternative when working with students to create their four-year plan and as a part of its annual review. This usage will be validated as part of the annual system accountability process. The system allows students to have access to all of the courses taught in their high school by downloading into the Alabama Career Planning System the master schedule information for each high school from the INOW/STI System. This allows students to plan high school and college courses based on all of the options available to them through their LEA, the ACCESS System, and dual enrollment.

Future plans for the system include a reversal of this information sharing from Kuder back to the INOW System/STI System. This will allow an ongoing review of students' course selections, annual updating of the student career planning tools based on academic progress, and assistance to local administrators in developing future master schedules based on student course demand.

For questions, more information, or to participate in training opportunities, please contact Dr. Philip C. Cleveland, Director, Career and Technical Education/Workforce Development, by telephone at 334-242-9111 or by e-mail at [pleveland@alsde.edu](mailto:pleveland@alsde.edu), or Ms. Margaret L. Smith, Education Administrator, by telephone at 334-353-0777 or by e-mail at [msmith@alsde.edu](mailto:msmith@alsde.edu).

TRB/PCC/MLS

cc: Dr. Warren Craig Pouncey  
Dr. Philip C. Cleveland  
FY14-1013

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