

Ohio Business Advisory Councils

Background and Requirements

The requirements for business advisory councils were first enacted under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 3313.174 in 1995 (renumbered to 3313.82 in 2009). Under ORC 3313.82, all school districts must have a business advisory council unless a district has set up a service agreement with an Educational Service Center (ESC). Where both the district and the ESC agree, the ESC's business advisory council may act as the district's business advisory council.

Responsibilities

Business advisory council responsibilities under 3313.82 include advising and providing recommendations on:

- the delineation of employment skills and the development of curriculum to instill these skills;
- changes in the economy and in the job market, and the types of employment in which future jobs are most likely to be available;
- suggestions for developing a working relationship among businesses, labor organizations and educational personnel.

2016 Recommendations

In December 2016, the governor's executive workforce board published the [Building Ohio's Future Workforce report](#) with 20 recommendations *"to prepare and continuously retrain Ohioans of all ages for the jobs of today and tomorrow."* Nine of the 20 recommendations in the workforce report align directly with the requirements of business advisory councils under ORC 3313.82.

Responding to the recommendations outlined in the report, the 132nd Ohio General Assembly enacted Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 3313.821 (as part of Am. Sub. H.B. 49) directing the superintendent of public instruction, in conjunction with the governor's executive workforce board, to establish operating standards for business advisory councils.

House Bill 49 New Requirements

Under ORC Section 3313.821, additional requirements for business advisory councils include the following.

- Each business advisory council must establish a plan on how the business advisory council will advise the board on the requirements listed in ORC Section 3313.82.
- Each business advisory council must file the plan with the Department of Education. Coordination will occur through the SAFE portal.
- Each business advisory council must meet at least quarterly.
- Each business advisory council and its school board of education must publish a joint statement, no later than the first day of March of each school year, describing how the school district or ESC and its business advisory council has fulfilled their responsibilities.

The Department of Education and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation are recommending posting the joint statement on the district's webpage.

Timeline

Deliverable	Due Date
The Department of Education publishes the Business Advisory Council Operating Standards	December 31, 2017
Districts review or establish business advisory councils	June 30, 2018
Districts and business advisory councils develop plan as required by ORC 3313.821	September 30, 2018
Districts and business advisory councils submit plans to the Department of Education through SAFE	September 30, 2018
Districts and business advisory councils publish first joint statement on accomplishments	March 1, 2019