



ADULT EDUCATION  
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

**KWIB Partner Spotlight:  
How Adult Education Providers Support Community & Employer Needs**

**May 6, 2026**

# Goals For Today...

- Introduce you to the Education & Labor Cabinet's Office of Adult Education and the KYAE Network
- Highlight some Adult Education providers
  - Local Leaders
  - Different program types
  - How it all works together!
- Quick Q&A - or reach out & I can connect you to local folks:  
Jamie N. Taylor, PhD  
Deputy Executive Director  
Office of Adult Education  
[jamie.taylor@ky.gov](mailto:jamie.taylor@ky.gov) or 513-675-7300

# Adult Education

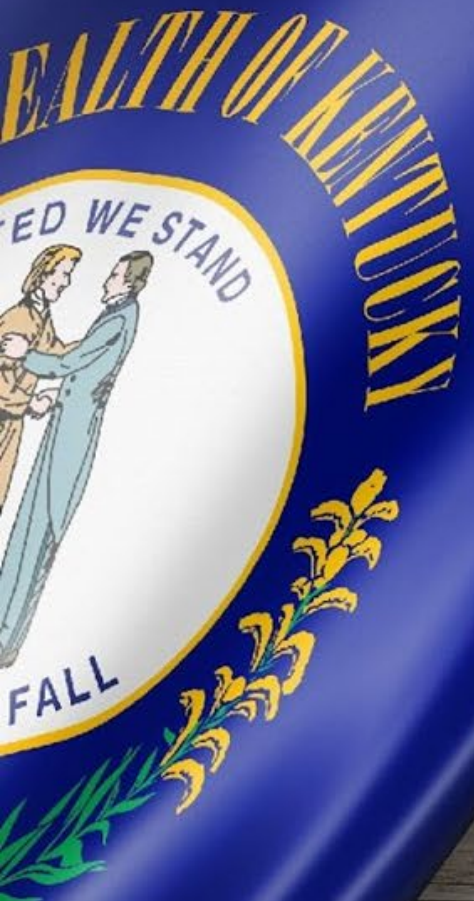
Who We Are & What We Do

Kentucky Population  
July 2025

4.6 Million People



Source: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/KY/PST04522>



# Working Age Adults (18-64)

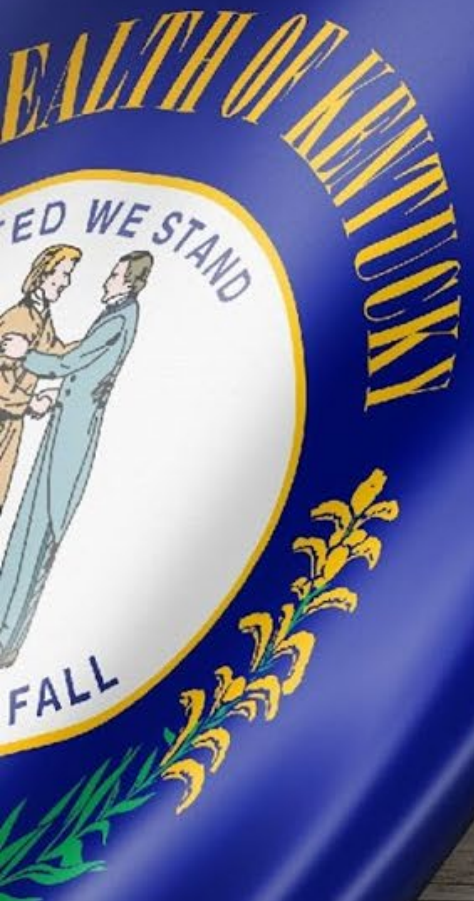
## 2.7 Million People



Source: KY STATS Adult Education Feedback Report, <https://kystats.ky.gov/Latest/AEFR>

# Working Age Population with less than a High School Diploma

Approximately  
**278,000**



SOURCE: ACS data 5-year estimate 2020-2024 <https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2024.B15001?q=B15001>



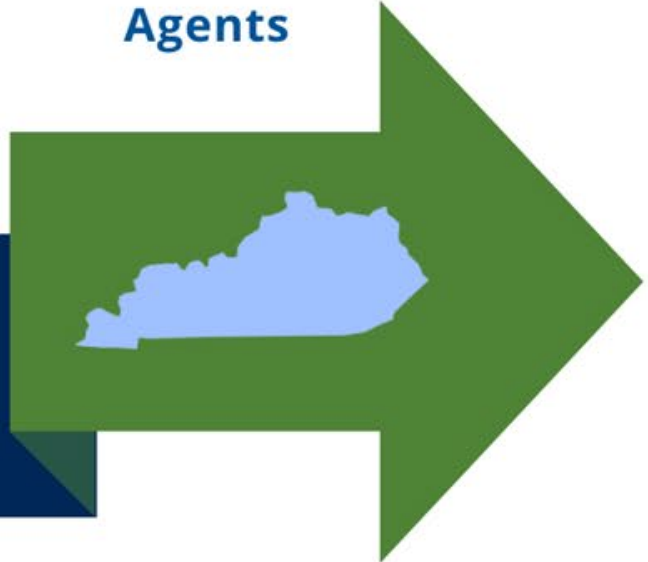
Office of  
Career,  
Technical,  
and Adult  
Education

Commonwealth  
of Kentucky

Education  
and Labor  
Cabinet

Office of  
Adult  
Education  
(WIOA TITLE II)

25 Fiscal  
Agents



# Adult Education Services

## **GED® Attainment and Transition to Postsecondary Education and Training**

We help adults earn their GED diploma and transition to postsecondary education and training, including finding their career path.

## **English as a Second Language and Citizenship**

We assist immigrants and other individuals who are English language learners to:

- Improve their reading, writing, speaking, and comprehension skills in English, as well as improving their mathematics skills
- Acquire an understanding of the American system of government, individual freedom, and the responsibilities of citizenship

## **Correctional Services**

- Adult education and literacy activities
- Special education, as determined by the eligible agency
- Secondary school credit
- Integrated education and training
- Career pathways
- Concurrent enrollment
- Peer tutoring
- Transition to re-entry initiatives and other post-release services to reduce recidivism

# Adult Education Services

## Family Literacy

We help adults who are parents or family members obtain the educational skills necessary to:

- Become full partners in the educational development of their children
- Lead to sustainable improvements in the economic opportunities for their family

### Family literacy activities include:

- Interactive literacy activities between parents and their children
- Training in parenting activities
- Parent literacy training that leads to economic self-sufficiency
- Age-appropriate education to prepare children for success in school and life experiences

Partnership with the National Center for Families Learning (Louisville, KY)

# Adult Education Services for Preparing Kentucky's Workforce

## Integrated Education & Training (IET)

An IET program can help people develop or refresh basic skills such as math, reading, or spoken English while simultaneously training for an in-demand occupation or industry.

**For example, students can earn a GED® Diploma and a welding certificate (dual enrollment).**

## Workplace Literacy

Workplace Literacy is a program or activity that enhances workforce productivity. Adult education providers offer these activities in collaboration with an employer or employee organization, either at the workplace or offsite.

**For example, students/employees can prepare for an industry certification or employer-defined milestones.**

# Eligibility Requirements

- A. Has attained 16 years of age;
- B. Is not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school under State law (*in Kentucky, the compulsory school attendance age is 18 years of age per KRS 159.010*) and
- C. Who-
  1. is basic skills deficient;
  2. does not have a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent and has not achieved an equivalent level of education or
  3. is an English language learner.

# ADULT EDUCATION SERVICE PROVIDER SYSTEM

## Local Educational Agency

- Edmonson County Board of Education (Allen, Butler, Edmonson, Logan, Monroe)
- Hardin County Board of Education (Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin, Hart, LaRue)
- Jefferson County Board of Education (Jefferson)
- Jessamine County Board of Education (Jessamine)
- Nelson County Board of Education (Marion, Meade, Nelson, Washington)
- Newport Independent Schools (Campbell)

## Institution of Higher Education

- Big Sandy (Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Pike)
- Bluegrass (Anderson, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Scott, Woodford)
- Gateway (Boone, Grant, Kenton, Owen, Pendleton)
- Hazard (Breathitt, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Owsley, Perry)
- Hopkinsville (Christian, Todd)
- Jefferson (Bullitt, Carroll, Gallatin, Henry, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer, Trimble)
- Madisonville (Hopkins, Muhlenberg)
- Maysville (Bracken, Fleming, Harrison, Lewis, Nicholas, Mason, Robertson)
- Morehead State University (Bath, Montgomery, Morgan, Powell, Rowan, Wolfe)
- Owensboro (Daviess, Hancock, McLean, Ohio)
- Somerset (Casey, McCreary, Pulaski, Russell, Wayne)
- Southcentral (Barren, Metcalfe, Simpson, Warren)
- Southeast (Bell, Harlan, Letcher)
- West Kentucky (McCracken)

## Nonprofit Agency

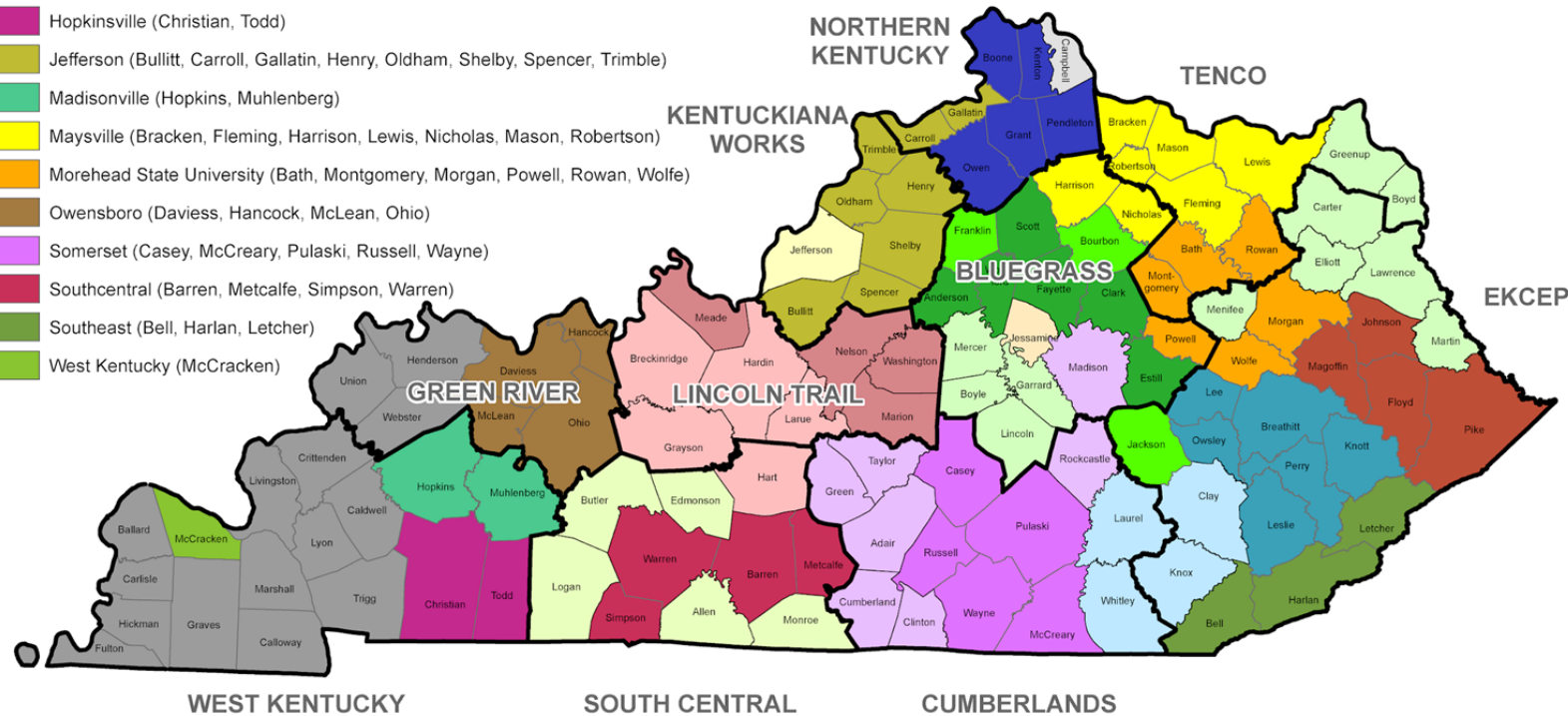
- Laurel County Literacy Council, Inc. (Clay, Knox, Laurel, Whitley)
- Thorn Hill Education Center (Bourbon, Franklin, Jackson)

## Public Library

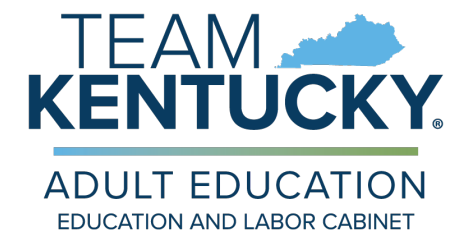
- Madison County Public Library (Adair, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Madison, Rockcastle, Taylor)

## Consortium

- Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (Boyd, Boyle, Carter, Elliott, Garrard, Greenup, Lawrence, Lincoln, Martin, Menifee, Mercer)
- West Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Henderson, Hickman, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, Trigg, Union, Webster)



KYAE Learning Centers



# Provider Network

Let's hear from the local folks  
just how this all works...

# Local School Board

Steven Schreck, Director  
Newport Independent Schools

# Takeaways from a director

- adult education is a very unique and versatile public service
  - real teachers in real classrooms teaching adults in real time!
  - for free!
- adult ed instructors are like high school teachers for adults
  - classes are not limited to GED prep!
  - apprenticeship exams for trades
  - ASVAB for military
  - exams for college placement
- adult ed instructors are excellent developers of curriculum
  - we reconcile years-worth of high school courses with the limited availability of busy adults to deliver results (on average, 39 hours to GED graduate)

# What do adult ed providers have in common?

- every county has a dedicated adult ed provider
  - at least one brick & mortar location for classes
- providers are allowed to "set up shop" in their counties only
- providers are generally named after their **fiscal agent**
  - provider names don't always reflect a county name

*students may enroll with any provider, regardless of county*

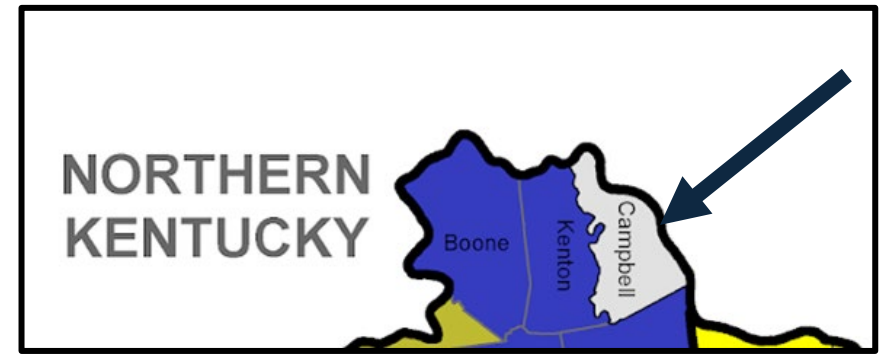
# How do adult ed providers differ?

- the **fiscal agent** (responsible for handling \$) varies with each provider
  - five "categories" of fiscal agent, each having unique advantages
- the provider's scale varies, which is determined by...
  - the number of counties they serve
  - the number of adults ages 18 - 64 in those counties who lack a HSE

*provider scale + fiscal agent type = unique style of providing adult ed*

# Newport Adult Education

- **Fiscal Agent Type:** Local School Board
  - Newport Independent Schools
  - 100% reimbursed by WIOA Title II, local grants and partners
- **Scale:** single-county service area
  - Campbell County
  - Four full-time instructors, three part-time instructors
  - Three locations in Newport
- **Unique style:** highly flexible and innovative
  - Student scheduling occurs by appointment
  - Freedom to initiate new ideas and partnerships immediately



example of partnership in action (beginning early FY26)

Thanks to KCC data, we're now featuring local job openings on our website

TEAM KENTUCKY ADULT EDUCATION | NEWPORT INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

HOME STUDENTS TRANSCRIPTS FAQ PERFORMANCE JOBS f

REAL JOBS IN NORTHERN KENTUCKY  
updated weekly on Mondays

JOBS WHILE WORKING ON YOUR GED

FEDEX IN HEBRON Material Handler, posted 3/30 APPLY	AEROTEK IN WALTON Order Selector, posted 3/30 APPLY
MIKE'S CARWASH IN FLORENCE Clean-Up, posted 3/30 APPLY	FAST MART IN DRY RIDGE Assistant Manager, posted 3/30 APPLY
TA IN FLORENCE Lot Attendant, posted 3/30 APPLY	KROGER IN BELLEVUE Deli Clerk, posted 3/29 APPLY
AEROTEK IN HEBRON Materials Specialist, posted 3/29 APPLY	AVIS IN HEBRON Car Detailer, posted 3/28 APPLY

MORE PAY WITH GED AND EXPERIENCE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY Youth Worker, posted 3/30 APPLY	COMMUNITY CHOICE IN ERLANGER Assistant Store Manager, posted 3/28 APPLY
CARROLS IN ALEXANDRIA General Manager, posted 3/28 APPLY	H&R BLOCK IN ERLANGER Administrative Assistant, posted 3/28 APPLY
MYEYEDR IN FLORENCE Medical Assistant, posted 3/28 APPLY	SUNBELT RENTALS IN INDEPENDENCE Equipment Specialist, posted 3/28 APPLY

CAREERS WITH POST-SECONDARY

DANAHER IN HEBRON Logistics Analyst, posted 3/28 APPLY	ST. ELIZABETH IN EDGEWOOD CNA, posted 3/28 APPLY
AQUENT IN FLORENCE Accounts Payable, posted 3/28 APPLY	GAMESTOP IN FORT MITCHELL Store Leader, posted 3/28 APPLY
DALLAS STAFFING IN FLORENCE Accounts Payable, posted 3/27 APPLY	KENTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT Special Ed Teacher, posted 3/27 APPLY
KENTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT Preschool Teacher, posted 3/27 APPLY	NORTHKEY IN COVINGTON Admission Evaluator, posted 3/27 APPLY

TEAM KENTUCKY ADULT EDUCATION

# Non-Profit

Tina Cook, Director  
Laurel County Literacy Council

# Laurel County Literacy Council

## How a Non-Profit Fiscal Agent Supports Adult Education

### Key Advantages

- Ability to respond quickly to community needs
- Easier to pilot new programs and partnerships
- Adult education is our only mission, not an add-on program
- Executive Director also serves as Program Director, ensuring full alignment and support
- 100% of Kentucky Adult Education funding supports student programming (no indirect costs)

**Our structure allows us to move quickly and focus entirely on adult learners. Adult education is not one program among many—it is our organization's mission.**



# Embedded in the Community

## Community Partnerships

- Libraries
- Recovery programs
- County jails
- Workforce development boards
- Local Chambers of Commerce
- Local employers and workplaces

Community members serve on our Board of Directors (e.g., Family Court attorney, County Attorney's Office, Local Employers, Retired Educators, Librarian, Bankers)

**Because our fiscal agent is a community-based nonprofit, adult education becomes part of the local support network rather than a separate system.**



# Supporting Local Employers

- Partnerships with employers, workforce boards, and economic development partners
- Short-term training and employer-based classes
- Contextualized instruction

*Workplace literacy*

*Digital skills*

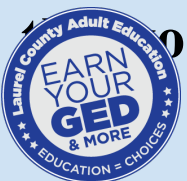
*Employability skills*

*Financial literacy*

## *Real Examples:*

**After a major factory closure, we helped upskill more than 300 workers by partnering with community organizations to provide space and seats.**

**We also went into another major factory during all three shifts (including a 3am-5am shift) to help workers earn the NCRC.**

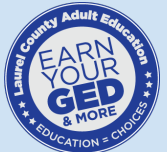


# Leveraging Community Support

As a nonprofit, we can pursue additional resources to support students:

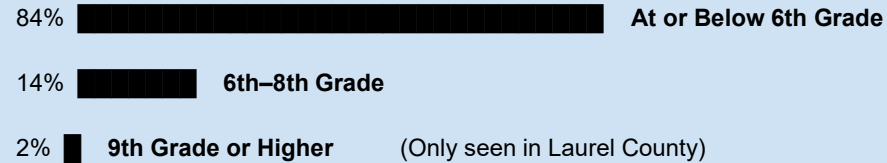
- Grants
- Donations
- Community partnerships
- Fundraising initiatives
- We offer college scholarships for students

**This flexibility allows us to combine federal adult education funding with local resources to expand opportunities for our learners.**



# Adult Education in Action – Our Region (Laurel, Whitley, Knox & Clay Counties)

## Literacy Levels of Entering Students: *Student Demographics from FY 2025*



The majority of our learners begin far below high school level. In fact, 84% enter at or below a 6th grade level. This highlights why adult education is such an important partner in workforce development—we help build the foundational skills that allow adults to move into training, credentials, and employment.

- Most learners require **foundational literacy and math instruction** before entering training pathways
- Adult education plays a **critical role in preparing workers for training, credentials, and employment**

## Innovative Programs

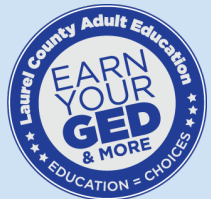
- **Multi-county HyFlex instructional model** connecting learners across four counties
- **Jail education programs in all four counties**, including GED, ABE, and ServSafe Food Handler certifications for anyone who qualifies for adult education services.

### *Hyflex--How It Works*

- Instructors from any county can teach students in all counties
- Students can attend in-person or live online through HyFlex
- Counties maintain local identity but collaborate as one instructional team

**Each county maintains its own local programming, but through our HyFlex model instructors can reach learners across all four counties. This allows us to expand access, share expertise, and serve rural learners more efficiently.**

**Collaboration across four counties expands access while maximizing limited instructional resources.**



# Public Library

Dorinda Maynard, Director  
Madison County Public Library

Adair, Clinton, Cumberland, Green,  
Madison, Rockcastle, Taylor Counties

# Madison County Public Library

## Richmond, Kentucky

### Madison County Public Library and Adult Education Programming

- Strengthening community learning through expanded collaboration
- Supporting adult learners with flexible access and shared resources



# Partnerships Build Community

**Library is governed by a Board of Trustees which ensures accountability and community-focused collaboration. This partnership has:**

- Enhanced partnerships and increased communication and expanded shared goals
- Expanded opportunities for adult learners with evening and weekend hours as well as access to study spaces, technology and support staff
- Increased opportunities for testing and decreased wait time for adult learners for scheduling



# Expanding Opportunities: Daily Access to the Learning Lab

The Learning Lab enhances adult education and family literacy through specialized support and state-of-the-art facilities.



## Learning Lab

A designated hub for personalized support and collaborative programs.



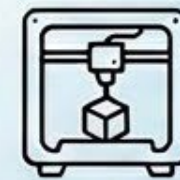
**Instruction,**  
Instruction,  
Tutoring, and  
Digital Learning



**GED Prep &  
Skill-Building  
Modules**  
(Learning  
Express Library)



**College &  
Career Planning**  
Planning tools for  
resume' building,  
interviewing skills,  
software skills



**Maker Space  
Access**  
for 3-D  
printing/modeling,  
sewing, Cricut,  
and laser cutter



## Family Literacy Partnerships & Resources

**Family Literacy:**  
Collaborate on literacy planning  
for multiple generations.

**Partner Support:**  
NCFL (National Center for  
Families Learning) partnership  
for expanded program design.

**Digital Skills for Parents:**  
Targeted workshops for digital  
fluency to support children's learning.

**Maker Space Integration:**  
Family-friendly projects to build  
practical skills.

# Family Literacy Partnerships and Resources with the Library at the Learning Lab



## Learning Lab

A designated hub for personalized support and collaborative programs.

## Family Literacy Partnerships & Resources



### Family Literacy:

Collaborate on family literacy planning for multiple generations.



### Partner Support:

NCFL (National Center For Families Learning), the Library and adult education collaborate for expanded program design.



### Digital Skills for Parents:

Targeted workshops for digital fluency to support children's learning.



### Maker Space Integration:

Family-friendly projects to build practical skills.

# Educational Consortium

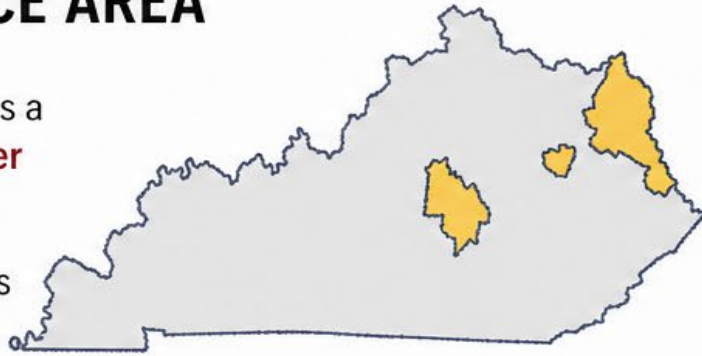
Donnie Osborn, Director  
KY Educational Development Corporation

# KEDC ADULT EDUCATION



## 11-COUNTY SERVICE AREA

- Each county features a **main learning center**
- Expanded access through satellite sites in high-need areas



## FLEXIBLE LEARNING LOCATIONS

**4** OPEN SITES  
in public libraries



**10** CLOSED SITES  
in residential treatment centers



## EXPERT INSTRUCTORS

**14** Instructors recognized as subject matter experts



## CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT

Students can start anytime when they are ready.



## FLEXIBLE LEARNING OPTIONS



IN-PERSON CLASSES



DIGITAL ASYNCHRONOUS  
(Self-Paced)



DIGITAL SYNCHRONOUS  
(Live Instruction)

# KEDDC ADULT EDUCATION



Our LPN structure allows us the ability to adjust to serve the needs of our target population in each county.

## WE OFFER



ABE



GED



ELA



WPL



FAMILY LITERACY

## PARTNERS



CEOC



KCC



JAGKY



PUBLIC LIBRARIES



RESIDENTIAL REHAB CENTERS



UNITED WAY



DRUG COURT



NCFL

# GED and...

Our partnership and responsiveness to our communities allow us to provide the support students need to continue beyond the GED.



Leading the state in GED graduates who enter Post-secondary and the workforce.



## FROM LEARNING TO LASTING IMPACT



**FOUNDATION**  
Build knowledge.



**GED**  
Earn your credential.



**POST-SECONDARY**  
Continue your education.



**WORKFORCE**  
Gain skills. Get hired.



**STRONGER COMMUNITIES**  
Stronger futures for all.

**FY 25**



**1178**  
ENROLLED STUDENTS



**201**  
EMPLOYMENT CREDENTIALS



**268**  
GEDS

# College or University

Tammy Castle, Director  
Big Sandy Community & Technical College

# Big Sandy Community & Technical College

- ❑ Direct referrals from BSCTC
- ❑ College environment-classrooms/labs (removes intimidation barrier)
- ❑ Direct access to Student Support Services-transition services/advising/financial aid
- ❑ Assistance with grant/funding opportunities.

Ability to form partnerships with the Community College System (RTW)

- ❑ GED graduates are celebrated by the college
- ❑ Mentoring from college enrolled students
- ❑ Spacious, well maintained learning environment on four campuses provided by BSCTC.

# Workplace Literacy (WPL) and Integrated Education and Training (IET)

## Employer Partners:

Appalachian Regional Health Care

Kentucky Career Center

Carl D. Perkins Job Corps

USP Big Sandy

Frontier Behavioral Health

East Kentucky Rehabilitation Center (EKRC)

Pike County Detention Center

Mountain Recovery Center

East Kentucky Manufacturing Institute (eKAMI)

Big Sandy Community and Technical College

Carl D. Perkins Vocational Rehabilitation

**Workplace and Academic Preparedness for a successful career.**

Addiction  
Recovery



Local and  
Regional  
Jails

Prison  
Education

# Our Corrections Program

- 2024-Present served 1102 justice involved participants
- Certified MRT program
- On-site college prep and workforce prep courses
- First-year experience (FYE110) credit course
- ServSafe

- GED
- Academic Prep
- Kentucky Essential Skills (KESC)
- Financial Literacy
- Digital Literacy
- Ready for Industry (#1 in the State of Kentucky) Award winning CCN

## Specialty Courts

SB90

- Family Literacy
- Child Development Associate
- Digital Literacy
- Financial Literacy
- Kentucky Essential Skills (Workplace Essential Skills) Certificate
- Academic Prep for Post-Secondary



- Parenting
- GED
- Paraeducator
- Anger Management
- ServSafe
- Moral Reconciliation  
Therapy
- Domestic Violence
- Trauma
- College Prep and  
Enrollment
- MUCH MORE....

**BSCTC Adult Education**  
606 788-2887  
Tammy Meredith-Castle,  
Director  
tcastle0030@kctcs.edu

# Local School Board

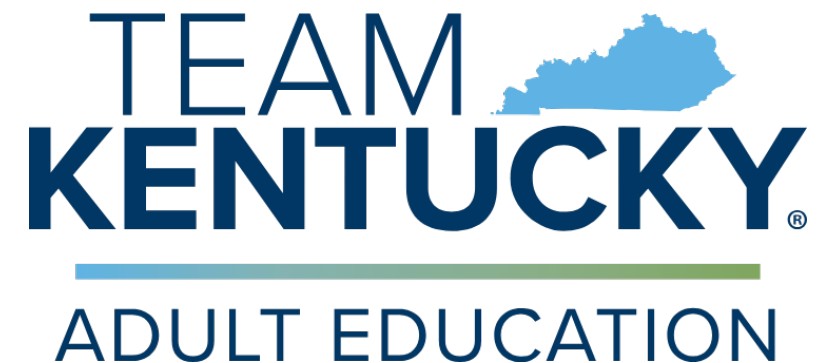
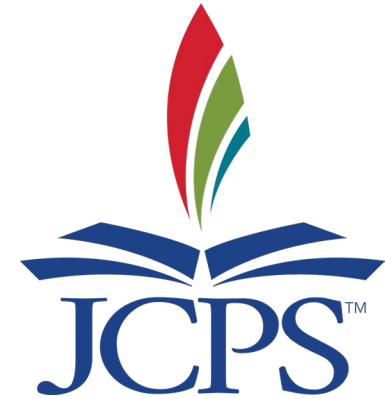
Ashley Janicki, Director  
Jefferson Co Public Schools

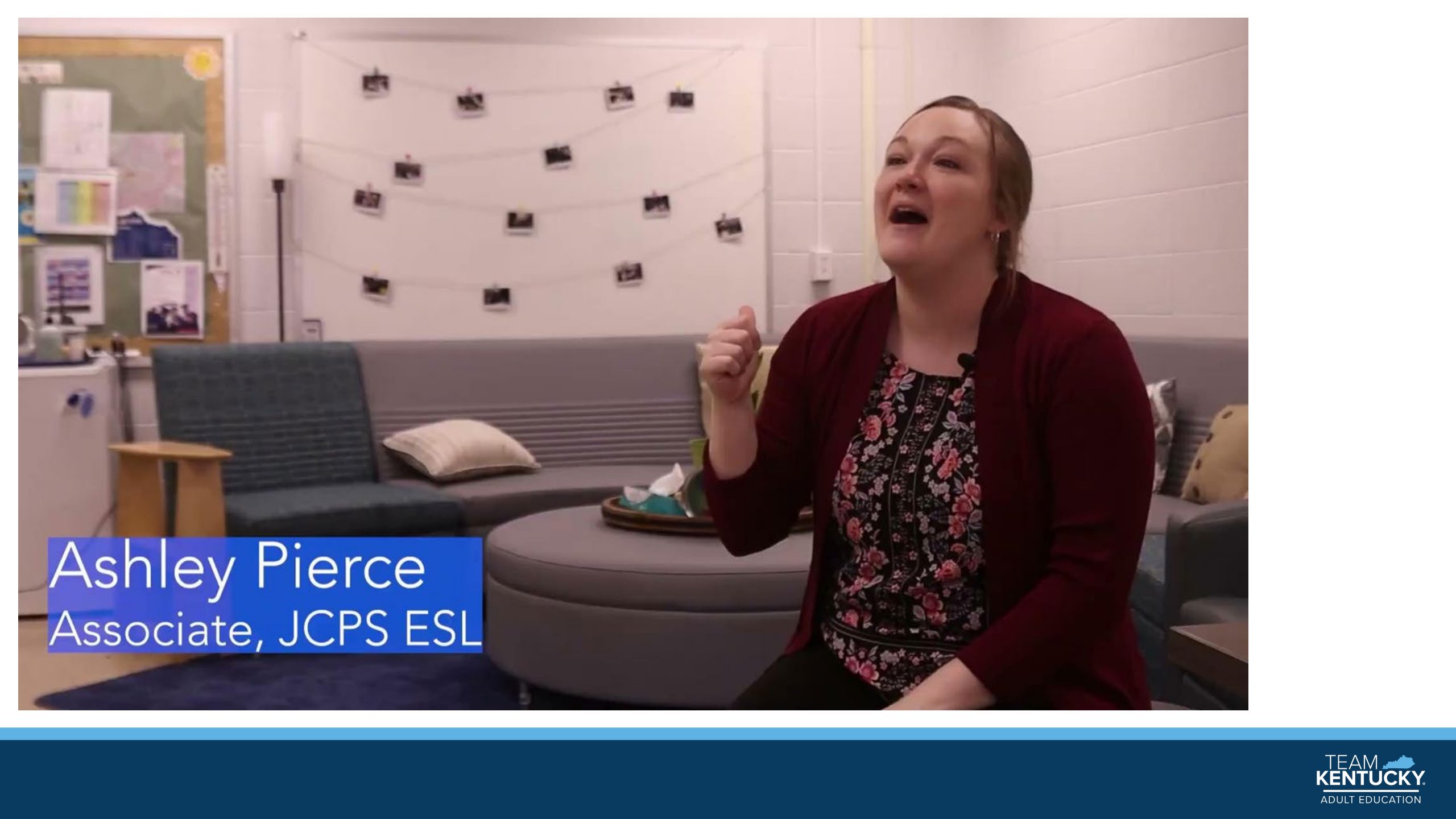
# JCPS Adult Education

- GED Preparation (ABE)
- English Language Classes (ESL)
  - Life Skills
  - Academic
- Family Education / Literacy - NCFL Partnership
- Workplace Literacy (WPL)
- Educational Enrichment Services (EES)
- Integrated Education Training (IET)
- Kentucky Paraeducator Prep + Testing (KPA)
- ServSafe Prep
- Louisville Learns
- GED Testing

# JCPS Adult Education

- 80+ Staff
- 4691+ Students
  - 1,434 at 12+ Hours
  - 771 Measurable Skill Gains (MSG)
  - 169 GED's
- 1 Main Center
- 20 Connection Points
  - Including 5 Employers



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a maroon cardigan over a floral patterned top, is seated and speaking. She is in a room with a grey sofa, a round ottoman, and a wall decorated with strings of photos. A blue banner at the bottom left contains her name and title.

Ashley Pierce  
Associate, JCPS ESL

# Potential Partner Organizations



AMERICAN  
PRINTING  
HOUSE



CATHOLIC  
CHARITIES  
OF LOUISVILLE, INC.



TEASDALE  
LATIN FOODS



KRAUTH  
ELECTRIC  
COMPANY



PIZZA  
PAPA JOHN'S



*Lantech*



ups



IKORCC  
INDIANA•KENTUCKY•OHIO  
REGIONAL COUNCIL of CARPENTERS



KORREKT OPTICAL

KENTUCKY  
VENUES



NORTON  
HEALTHCARE



MedCertify  
Train for Healthcare & IT Careers



Ladies of Promise



ceo

CENTER FOR  
EMPLOYMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES



REV-A-SHELF



Home  
Instead



JCPS



LA  
CASITA  
CENTER

Kelly Professional  
& Industrial



INTERNATIONAL  
RESCUE  
COMMITTEE

# Partner Organizations



# Questions?

Ask away...

# Want to Learn More?

Find Your Local KYAE Center

[kyae.ky.gov](http://kyae.ky.gov)



KYAE Learning Centers