Quarterly Board Meeting
Draft Minutes
August 27, 2026; 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm ET

IN-PERSON – Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program (EKCEP)
145 Citizens Lane Suite 101, Hazard, KY 41701
with virtual zoom option

1:30 pm ET Call to order

Lori Ulrich, Fleming-Mason Energy, KWIB Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees both in the room and online. She shared that captioning services are available through zoom and reminded online board members and proxies to unmute and enable their cameras for roll call, voting, and comments throughout the meeting.

For those participating in person, Chair Ulrich walked through the use of technology and process to indicate a desire to speak. She mentioned that the board strives to follow Robert's Rules of Order during meetings. The consent agenda and board materials were provided in the KWIB Quarterly Briefing Book. She stated that meeting minutes and presentations would be available on the KWIB website (kwib.ky.gov) under the date of the meeting. Any further questions could be directed to Debbie Dennison, (debbie.dennison@ky.gov).

Roll call was held, and quorum was confirmed.

KWIB (Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board) MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lori Ulrich, Chair	Business	X	Dr. Aaron Thompson (proxy: Leslie Sizemore)	Partner	X
Gov. Andy Beshear (proxy: Ray Perry)	WIOA CORE	X	Dr. Ryan Quarles (proxy: Jessie Schook)	Partner	X
Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman	WIOA CORE		George Nichols	Labor Representative	X
Beth Davisson (proxy: Callie Miracle)	Business	X	Heidi Margulis	Business	X
Sen. Gary Clemons	Legislative	X	Avral Thompson	Labor Representative	X
Sec. Jamie Link (proxy: Deputy Commissioner Michelle DeJohn)	Partner	X	Kevin Middleton	Workforce	X
Sec. John Hicks	Partner		Kevin Nolan (proxy: Rocki Rockingham	Business	X
Sec. Jeff Noel (proxy: Kristina Slattery)	Partner	X	Kevin Smith (proxy: Rena Sharpe)	Business	X
Rep. Bobby McCool	Legislative	X	Lyndon Pryor	Workforce	X
Commissioner Robbie Fletcher	Partner	X	Robert Shelton	Labor Representative	
Commissioner Mike Yoder	Partner	X	Ryan Holmes	Business	X
Judge Owen McNeil	Local Elected Official		Selma Owens	Business	
Mayor James (J.H.) Atkins	Local Elected Official	X	Suhas Kulkarni	Business	
Johnny W. Collett	Business	X	Tom Lilienthal	Business	X

Dr. J.C. Gregory	WIOA CORE	X	Jim Flynn	Education	
Alice Houston	Business		Susan Hershberg	Business	X
Annissa Franklin	Workforce Representative		David Hall	Business	X
Susie Edwards	WIOA CORE	X	Adam Caswell	Business	
Dianne Owen	Workforce Representative		Sharon Price (proxy: John Catron)	Workforce Representative	X
Kim Menke	Business	X	William Downey	Business	X

In-person guests attending: Travis Winkler, Justin Suttles, Megan Eldridge, Todd Schmiedeler, Bridget Back, Becky Carnes-Miller, Dylon Baker, Laurent Rawlings, Kristen Thompson, Arthur Jaramillo, Addison McCoun, Ashley Coleman, Tesa Turner, Paul Dole, Chris Ritchie, Jordon Phipps, Tonya Collins, Katheryn French, Sharon Poff

Online attendance: Joe Bringardner, Ben Reno-Webber, Tammy Hyde, Robert Arnett, Anthony Hellmueller, Myra Wilson, Crissy Sexton, Aveana Jackson, Jackie Masterson, Jill Blevins, Tom Thompson, Dennis Messer, Katie Houghlin, Jeremy Lewis, Katie Bale, Tami Hatfield, Mikeal Fannin, Ben Collier, Becki Wells, Peyton Coleman, Michael Gritton, Brent Sturgill, Sheila Clark, Tiffanie Reeves, Elizabeth Daniels, Kim Asbury, Jacob Sartin, Tom Sholar, Alexis Matthews

KWIB Staff: Alisher Burikhanov, Debbie Dennison, Sara Jaggers, and LaChrista Bowman

KWIB Membership Update

The membership update recognized departing members Todd Dunn, Senator Jimmy Higdon, and Cora McNabb and expressed appreciation for their service to the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board. Kevin Nolan, William Downey, Representative Bobby McCool, and Judge Executive Owen McNeil were recognized following reappointment to the Board. New members welcomed included Avral Thompson, Senator Gary Clemens, and Ray Perry, who will serve as a proxy for Governor Andy Beshear.

Consent Agenda (Voting Required)

Lori Ulrich, Chair noted that the Consent Agenda was an action item requiring a formal vote, and that all related materials were included in the Briefing Book provided. Items included:

- May 21, 2026, Minutes
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certification Approvals

Chair Ulrich called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. *Kim Menke made the **motion**, which was **seconded** by John Catron*. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously, with no opposition.

Work-Based Learning Definitions (Voting Required)

Johnny W. Collett, Vice Chair, provided an update regarding work-based learning definitions. Work-based learning was identified as a key priority within the 2026–2029 KWIB Strategic Plan and an area of focus for both the Education Committee and Employer Engagement Committee. The Education Committee's work includes expanding seamless opportunities for students to participate in work-based learning, while the Employer Engagement Committee is developing a business-to-business work-based learning guide and best practices.

The Education Committee identified a need for clear and consistent terminology related to work-based learning. Input and resources were gathered from organizations represented throughout the Board and other partners. Following review, the Education Committee recommended adoption of the work-based learning terms and definitions incorporated by reference in **705 KAR 4:041** as a foundational, common understanding for implementation of the strategic plan.

Chair Ulrich called for a motion to approve the work-based learning definitions as presented. *Heidi Margulis made the **motion**, which was **seconded** by Kim Menke*. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously, with no opposition.

Meeting Host and Local Workforce Development Board Spotlight: EKCEP

Chair Ulrich introduced **Becky Carnes-Miller, Executive Director, and Bridget Back, Deputy Executive Director, of the Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program (EKCEP)** and thanked them for hosting the meeting.

An overview of EKCEP was provided, including its role as one of 10 workforce boards in Kentucky and its service area covering 23 eastern Kentucky counties, with recovery and reentry services extending to 58 counties. Services include career counseling, training, credentials, job placement, work-based learning, youth services, recovery and reentry, supportive services, and business services. Prosper Appalachia was highlighted for serving more than 4,000 high school juniors and seniors, placing more than 2,000 youth in unsubsidized employment, and engaging more than 700 employers.

EKCEP reported a $2.33 return for every $1 invested in WIOA, with projected taxpayer benefits of $102 million. Additional program-level returns included $12.94 for every $1 invested in recovery and reentry services and $13.47 for every $1 invested in adult services. National performance rankings included eighth for adult participants served, fifth for measurable skills gains, and tenth for adults trained, with approximately 12,000 individuals served during the year.

A new AI-supported system developed by EKCEP was presented as a tool designed to standardize and strengthen career services. The system includes career exploration, resume development, job-specific resume customization, mock interviews, training resources, financial literacy, digital literacy, and work-readiness modules. The system is intended to enhance the work of career advisors and provide consistent services across EKCEP locations rather than replace career advisors.

Discussion following the presentation addressed the use of AI in workforce services and the importance of maintaining accessibility and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act as technology and hiring practices continue to evolve.

Appalachian Regional Health (ARH) Talent Strategy Overview

Dylon Baker, Vice President of Talent Strategy, Appalachian Regional Health (ARH), provided an overview of ARH's talent strategy and workforce development efforts. ARH is a nonprofit healthcare system with more than 140 locations across eastern Kentucky and southern West Virginia and more than 6,700 employees. Its talent strategy encompasses talent development, attraction, recruitment, onboarding, engagement, advancement, and retention.

ARH's workforce development efforts serve diverse populations, including youth, adult learners, veterans, individuals with disabilities, individuals in recovery or reentering the workforce, and individuals transitioning from incarceration or foster care. Work-based learning opportunities include job shadowing, volunteering, internships, externships, and registered apprenticeships across clinical and non-clinical career pathways. ARH also highlighted the ARH Access Project, an employer-led K-12 career awareness initiative that provides age-appropriate exposure to healthcare careers and includes work-based learning opportunities for high school students.

Additional initiatives include programs supporting recovery and reentry, healthcare training partnerships, and the ARH Allied Health Training Academy in Hazard. ARH also reported investments in scholarships, tuition assistance, employee development, and other efforts to support recruitment and retention.

Discussion focused on the importance of age-appropriate career exposure, connecting classroom learning to career opportunities, and introducing students to career options without placing them on a specific pathway too early. Additional discussion addressed potential opportunities for ARH to become a SkillBridge employer and expanding healthcare pathways for individuals with military experience.

HealthCorps: Healthcare Workforce Pipeline

Todd Schmiedeler, President and CEO of Thumbprint Consulting, and **Megan Eldredge, Vice President of Family Scholar House HealthCorps Programs**, presented an overview of the HealthCorps healthcare workforce pipeline. The program provides paid, cohort-based experiences and support for individuals pursuing healthcare careers, with a focus on reducing barriers to education and employment.

HealthCorps began in Kentucky through a Public Health AmeriCorps grant and has expanded to seven states. Over four years, the program served 602 participants across 31 host sites, with 44 percent continuing into healthcare employment and 62 percent continuing healthcare education. Kentucky's grant was renewed for three years, providing 125 participant slots annually through 2029.

The presentation highlighted the importance of addressing barriers such as transportation, housing, food insecurity, and financial challenges and strengthening partnerships among healthcare providers, workforce development boards, educational institutions, and community organizations. *Serve Kentucky* representatives encouraged continued coordination with local workforce boards to connect participants with healthcare education and employment opportunities.

Education and Labor Cabinet Update

Mike Yoder, Ph.D., Commissioner, Department of Workforce Development, , provided an update on statewide workforce initiatives from the Education and Labor Cabinet. The
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan was reported as conditionally approved, pending limited updates from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Updates highlighted continued growth in registered apprenticeships, with Kentucky more than doubling participation since 2016, as well as strong completion rates. Work-based learning and Career and Technical Education efforts continue to expand through registered apprenticeships, FAME, dual credit, and industry certifications, with an emphasis on alignment with key industry sectors and program quality.

The Statewide Workforce and Talent Team (SWATT) was discussed as an effort to strengthen coordination among workforce, education, business services, and economic development partners. Updates were provided on the Kentucky National Labor Exchange (NLx), which now includes more than 2,000 approved employers and 10,000 job postings.

The Education and Workforce Collaborative's self-sufficiency work emphasized aligning workforce training and employment with wages that support individuals and families. Workforce Pell was also highlighted following Kentucky's implementation on July 1, 2026, supporting short-term training programs leading to high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand occupations. Continued postsecondary and employer engagement was encouraged to ensure programs meet workforce and employer needs.

Closing Comments & New Business

Chair Ulrich recognized Laurent Rawlings, Vice President of Strategic Partnerships at the University of the Cumberlands and announced that the University plans for every student to graduate having experienced an internship. Chair Ulrich concluded with a reminder of the next KWIB quarterly meeting for November 19, 2026, which will be held at Centre College, in the Old Carnegie Building, 600 West Walnut Street, Danville, Kentucky. Future 2027 meeting locations were also noted for Louisville at Metro United Way in February and Bowling Green at the Impact Center in May.

The next KWIB Partner Spotlight was announced for September 2, 2026, with a focus on Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS). Board members were reminded to email KWIB.Projects@ky.gov for information regarding committee participation and travel reimbursement information was included in the KWIB Quarterly Briefing Book.

With no further business to address, Chair Ulrich called for a motion to adjourn*. Mike Yoder* ***made the motion****, and Kim Menke* ***seconded*** *it*. The motion was approved unanimously.

3:31 pm ET Adjournment

Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board

Meeting Briefing Book

August 27, 2026

1:30 – 3:30 pm ET

1:00 pm ET Networking

Location: Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP)

145 Citizens Lane, Suite 101, Hazard, KY 41701

Andy Beshear
Governor

Lori Ulrich
Chair

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Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board Meeting Briefing Book

August 27, 2026, 1:30-3:30 pm ET

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Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)

Quarterly Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 27, 2026
Meeting 1:30 – 3:30pm ET (1pm Networking)
In Person: Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP)
145 Citizens Lane, Suite 101, Hazard, KY 41701

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84342886958?pwd=a0MwqwDFbSst2iaZXS1EZHFHIlHLal.1
Meeting ID: 843 4288 6958/ Passcode: 657540 / dial via phone: 16465588656

1:30 **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Welcome/Housekeeping ……*Lori Ulrich, Chair*
Fleming-Mason Energy

1:35 **Roll Call**……*LaChrista Ellis*
Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)

1:40 **KWIB Membership Update**…… *Lori Ulrich, Chair*

1:50 **Consent Agenda (Voting Required)**…… *Lori Ulrich, Chair*

Provided in briefing book:
- *May 21, 2026, Minutes*
- *Career & Technical Education (CTE) Certification*

1:55 **Work-Based Learning Definitions (Voting Required)** ……*Johnny W. Collett, Vice Chair*
Deputy Executive Director, University of Kentucky Human Development Institute

2:00 **Meeting Host and Local Workforce Development Board Spotlight: EKCEP** ……*Becky Carnes-Miller*
Executive Director, EKCEP

Bridget Back
Deputy Executive Director, EKCEP

2:20 **Appalachian Regional Health (ARH) Talent Strategy Overview**……*Dylon Baker*
Vice President of Talent Strategy, Appalachian Regional Health

2:40 **HealthCorps: Healthcare Workforce Pipeline**……*Todd Schmiedeler*
President & CEO, Thumbprint Consulting

Megan Eldridge
Vice President, Family Scholar House HealthCorps Programs

3:00 **<u>Education and Labor Cabinet Update</u>** ……*Mike Yoder, PhD.*
Commissioner, Department of Workforce Development (DWD), Education and Labor Cabinet

- *WIOA State Plan Update – DOL Approved*
- *Work-Based Learning Performance (Registered Apprenticeship, FAME, & CTE)*
- *Statewide Workforce & Talent Team*
- *Kentucky NLx Job Postings*
- *Education and Workforce Collaborative – Self-Sufficiency Report*
- *Workforce Pell*

3:25 **<u>Closing Comments & New Business.</u>**……*Lori Ulrich, Chair*

3:30 **ADJOURNMENT**

<u>Next Meeting:</u>
Thursday, November 19th, 1:30pm-3:30pm
Location: Centre College, Old Carnegie Building
600 West Walnut Street, Danville, KY

ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Secretary of State
Frankfort
Kentucky

2026 – 320
June 10, 2026

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Sections 69 and 81 of the Kentucky Constitution and Executive Order 2020-857, I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby appoint the following as members of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board to serve for terms expiring June 9, 2029:

Avral Thompson, Loretto, representing labor organizations, to replace Todd Dunn, Louisville, whose term has expired; and

Gary Clemons, Louisville, representing the Senate, to replace Jimmy Higdon, Lebanon whose term has expired.

Further, I do hereby reappoint the following as members of the Board:

Kevin Nolan, Louisville, representing businesses, to serve for a term expiring December 13, 2028;

William Downey, Versailles, representing businesses, to serve for a term expiring October 7, 2028;

Bobby McCool, Van Lear, representing the House of Representatives, to serve for a term expiring October 7, 2028; and

Owen McNeill, Maysville, representing chief elected officials, to serve for a term expiring December 13, 2028.

Please issue commissions to them.

ANDY BESHEAR, GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Kentucky

MICHAEL G. ADAMS
Secretary of State

Consent Agenda

Quarterly Board Meeting
Draft Minutes
May 21, 2026; 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm ET

IN-PERSON – Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) 300 N Main Street, Versailles, KY 40383
with virtual zoom option

1:31 pm ET Call to order

Lori Ulrich, Fleming-Mason Energy, KWIB Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees both in the room and online. She shared that captioning services are available through Zoom and reminded online board members and proxies to unmute and enable their cameras for roll call, voting, and comments throughout the meeting.

For those participating in person, Chair Ulrich walked through the use of technology and process to indicate a desire to speak. She mentioned that the board strives to follow Robert's Rules of Order during meetings. The consent agenda and board materials were provided in the KWIB Quarterly Briefing Book. She stated that meeting minutes and presentations would be available on the KWIB website (kwib.ky.gov) under the date of the meeting. Any further questions could be directed to Debbie Dennison, (debbie.dennison@ky.gov).

Roll call was held, and quorum was confirmed.

KWIB (Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board) MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lori Ulrich, Chair	Business	X	Dr. Aaron Thompson (proxy: Miles Feroli)	Partner	X
Gov. Andy Beshear	WIOA CORE		Dr. Ryan Quarles	Partner	X
Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman	WIOA CORE		George Nichols	Labor Representative	
Sen. Jimmy Higdon	Legislative	X	Heidi Margulis	Business	
Sec. Jamie Link (proxy Deputy Commissioner Michelle DeJohn)	Partner	X	Kevin Middleton	Workforce	X
Sec. John Hicks	Partner		Kevin Nolan (proxy: Rocki Rockingham)	Business	X
Sec. Jeff Noel	Partner		Kevin Smith	Business	X
Rep. Bobby McCool	Legislative	X	Lyndon Pryor	Workforce	X
Commissioner Robbie Fletcher (proxy: Dr. Beth Hargis)	Partner	X	Robert Shelton	Labor Representative	X
Commissioner Mike Yoder	Partner	X	Ryan Holmes	Business	X
Judge Owen McNeil	Local Elected Official		Selma Owens	Business	X
Mayor James (J.H.) Atkins	Local Elected Official		Suhas Kulkarni	Business	
Beth Davisson (proxy: LaKisha Miller)	Business	X	Todd Dunn (proxy: Stephanie Collins)	Labor Representative	X
Johnny W. Collett	Business	X	Tom Lilienthal	Business	X
Dr. J.C. Gregory	WIOA CORE	X	Jim Flynn	Education	X
Alice Houston	Business		Susan Hershberg	Business	X

Annissa Franklin	Workforce Representative		David Hall	Business	X
Cora McNabb	WIOA CORE	X	Adam Caswell	Business	
Dianne Owen	Workforce Representative	X	Sharon Price	Workforce Representative	X
Kim Menke	Business	X	William Downey	Business	X

In-person guests attending: Justin Suttles, Natalie Burikhanov, David Potter, Chris Crumrine, Phil Neal, Rena Sharpe

Online guest attendance: Jessica Fortner, Sara Tracey, Cathy Hoehn, A Swanson, Becki Wells, Becky Miller, Cassie Bertram, Elizabeth Henson, Jackie Masterson, Karen, Carie Kizziar, Leslie Sandusky, Makayla Bradshaw, Michael Overby, Michelle Drake, Myra Wilson, Sheila Clark, Tami Hatfield, Tiffanie Reeves, Tom Sholar

KWIB Staff: Alisher Burikhanov, Debbie Dennison, Sara Jaggers, LaChrista Ellis, and Elishah Taylor

Consent Agenda (Voting Required)

Lori Ulrich, Chair noted that the Consent Agenda was an action item requiring a formal vote, and that all related materials were included in the Briefing Book provided. Items included:

- April 16, 2026, Minutes
- Kentucky Career Center (KCC) One-Stop Certification: NKY (Access Point)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certification Approvals

Chair Ulrich called for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. *Kim Menke made the **motion**, which was **seconded** by Kevin Smith*. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously, with no opposition. After the vote, Lori Ulrich welcomed attendees to Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) and thanked the KCTCS team for hosting.

KCTCS Welcome and Second Chance Update: Kentucky's Reentry Center

Ryan Quarles, Ed.D., President, Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), welcomed attendees and shared recent system accomplishments, including record enrollment, graduation rates, workforce participation, and expanded firefighter training across Kentucky.

President Quarles and **Natalie Burikhanov, Executive Director, Team Kentucky Office of Reentry Services** provided an update on House Bill 5 and the development of Kentucky's new Reentry Center at Northpoint Training Center in Danville. The initiative expands existing educational programming already offered in Kentucky prisons and jails through KCTCS partnerships.

The new reentry campus will provide workforce-focused education and training opportunities for incarcerated individuals nearing release, with an initial goal of serving up to 400 inmates annually. Proposed programs include welding, advanced manufacturing, HVAC, CDL training, diesel mechanics, heavy equipment operation, and electrical line work. Of note were programs selected based on Kentucky workforce needs and employer input.

Also emphasized was that the program is designed to improve public safety, reduce recidivism, strengthen Kentucky's workforce, and lower incarceration costs. The Department of Correction (DOC) has shared that successful reentry efforts contribute to lower crime rates, stronger families, and long-term economic benefits for communities.

Additional discussion points included:

- More than 300 employers have expressed interest in hiring second-chance employees.
- Participants in the program will be selected based on eligibility requirements and good behavior.
- The facility will replicate real-world work environments and support employment placement prior to release.

- Existing prison education programs, GED opportunities, and women's programming at Peewee Valley continue to expand.

Board members and attendees expressed strong support for the initiative and discussed the potential for future growth and replication of the model across Kentucky.

High-Demand Industry Certifications (Voting Required)

Tom Thompson, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE), provided an overview of the process used to identify and approve high-demand industry certifications in Kentucky.

Thompson shared that certification applications originate through local workforce development boards, or business and industry partners through the application process on the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) website. Applications are reviewed by KWIB staff and as appropriate forwarded to the Kentucky Department of Education's Office of Career and Technical Education for next steps.

He continued sharing that Business Education Alignment Teams (BEAT), made up of business and education representatives aligned to specific program areas, evaluate industry pathway certifications based on workforce demand, quality, and industry relevance. Recommendations by the KWIB CTE Workgroup and Education Committee are made prior to review by the full board. An approval vote by the board means the certification pathway is added to the Valid Industry Certification List.

For high-demand industry certification identification and review, local workforce development boards are given 90 days to evaluate the pathways identified on the valid industry certification list and identify which are considered high demand based on employer and community input. Any certification identified as high demand by at least one local workforce board was included on the proposed high-demand list presented to the board.

Senator Jimmy Higdon asked about participation from local economic development representatives in the review process. Staff confirmed that local workforce boards engaged economic development partners through local networks and board representation, though specific participation numbers were not collected. The Cumberlands area noted as example, in the Zoom chat feature, that three (3) economic development representatives had reviewed their areas high-demand pathways.

Following discussion, the board approved the high-demand industry certification list as presented. *Kevin Smith made the **motion**, which was **seconded** by Kim Menke.* A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously, with no opposition.

KWIB Strategic Plan 2026-2029 (Voting Required)

The Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) reviewed and approved the 2026–2029 Strategic Plan, which builds upon the original workforce strategic plan developed in 2016. The updated plan was shaped through statewide stakeholder engagement conducted during development of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) State Plan, including input from local workforce development boards, businesses, labor organizations, nonprofits, educators, and community partners.

The plan outlines four strategic goals:

1. Education
2. Employer Engagement
3. Workforce Participation
4. Coordination and Return on Investment (ROI)

The strategic plan focuses on strengthening collaboration between education, workforce development, economic development, and employers to better meet Kentucky's workforce needs.

Key themes and priorities discussed included:

- Expanding work-based learning opportunities, internships, and registered apprenticeships.
- Strengthening partnerships between employers and education providers to align training with workforce demands.
- Increasing workforce participation by addressing barriers such as childcare, housing, and transportation.
- Expanding opportunities for underrepresented and underserved populations, including veterans, individuals with disabilities, youth, immigrants, refugees, and justice-involved individuals.
- Improving coordination across workforce and education systems while strengthening accountability and return-on-investment metrics.
- Enhancing workforce data collection and forecasting to better understand future workforce and skill demands.

Discussion highlighted Kentucky's continued growth in registered apprenticeship programs, which have increased from approximately 2,600 apprentices a decade ago to more than 5,700 today.

Senator Jimmy Higdon commented on the importance of strengthening Kentucky's teacher pipeline.

Following discussion, the board approved the KWIB Strategic Plan 2026–2029. *Kim Menke made the **motion**, which was **seconded** by Commissioner Mike Yoder.* A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously, with no opposition.

Member Update

Chair Ulrich shared that Selma Owens of Lexington was appointed Chair of the Coordination and Return on Investment (ROI) Committee, formerly known as the Resource Alignment Committee. In addition, Ms. Owens will join the KWIB Executive Committee.

Lori Ulrich highlighted Ms. Owens' professional background as an entrepreneur, owner of Selma's Catering, and experienced hospitality and workforce development professional with a strong track record of supporting workplace learning and career development opportunities for youth.

Ms. Owens expressed appreciation for the opportunity and shared her enthusiasm for serving in the role.

Recognition was made of previous committee leaders, including Kim Menke, Kim Humphrey, and Johnny W. Collett, for helping establish the committee's foundation and metrics work. Board members emphasized the importance of business leadership in evaluating workforce development outcomes, funding impacts, and return on investment across Kentucky's workforce system.

Update: Workforce Pell Grant

David Potter, Ph.D., Senior Coordinator, Education Transition Strategist, Kentucky Adult Education gave an update on the Workforce Pell Grant implementation and upcoming policy requirements. Members were informed that the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) must formally adopt the Workforce Pell Grant policy before the federal and state deadline of July 1.

Dr. Potter provided an overview of Workforce Pell and its significance for Kentucky's workforce development system. Workforce Pell expands Pell Grant eligibility to short-term credential programs, allowing students to access grant funding—not loans—for workforce training programs lasting between 8 and 15 weeks.

Dr. Potter explained that Workforce Pell programs are intended to support rapid, stackable, portable credentials aligned with employer workforce needs and high-demand occupations. Eligible programs must prepare students for occupations classified as:

- In-Demand,
- High-Wage, or
- High-Skill

Federal law requires occupations to meet at least one of these criteria to qualify.

Discussion topics also included:

- FAFSA completion requirements for Workforce Pell recipients.
- The importance of improving FAFSA awareness and participation.
- Opportunities to strengthen workforce responsiveness through closer coordination with economic development efforts.
- The potential impact of Workforce Pell on emerging industries and workforce training expansion.

Board members also lifted broader workforce and education challenges, including educator pay, teacher shortages, and funding concerns related to early childhood education and Head Start programs.

KCTCS leadership expressed strong support for Workforce Pell and noted that institutions across Kentucky are preparing programs and exploring opportunities to maximize participation and workforce impact.

Board members concluded by emphasizing that Workforce Pell implementation will require strong job placement outcomes and close alignment with labor market demand to maintain program eligibility and effectiveness.

Update: Work Ready Communities Metrics

Jessica Fortner, Senior Consultant, TPMA shared a presentation outlining revisions made to the program based on statewide stakeholder engagement with workforce boards, educators, economic development organizations, and employers.

The updated Work Ready Communities model emphasizes stronger alignment with regional workforce needs and a shift toward measurable, outcome-driven strategies. Key changes include:

- Establishing clear, measurable goals tied directly to workforce and talent development priorities.
- Transitioning from a one-time designation to an ongoing, collaborative regional strategy.
- Strengthening alignment with regional economic and workforce conditions.
- Incorporating broad stakeholder input into program design.
- Expanding the definition of workforce readiness to include key barriers such as housing, childcare, transportation, and broadband access.

Jessica highlighted two primary outcomes of the redesign:

1. Clear expectations supported by consistent data and standardized regional planning tools (in coordination with KYSTATS).
2. Stronger collaboration among workforce, education, economic development, employers, and community organizations through structured, ongoing engagement.

The updated model also simplifies participation through a centralized application process, shared data and resource guides, and technical assistance for communities. Recognition under the program will reflect ongoing progress rather than a one-time certification.

Jessica emphasized that the goal is to support all communities—regardless of starting point—in building and strengthening workforce readiness through collaboration and shared learning across regions.

Stakeholders are encouraged to continue promoting regional collaboration, broaden participation across local partners, and share best practices and success stories. The updated Work Ready Communities model is expected to be launched by the end of the year.

Education and Labor Cabinet Update

Mike Yoder, Commissioner, Department of Workforce Development, provided an update from the Education and Labor Cabinet, emphasizing continued collaboration across workforce development, education, economic development, and community partners.

He highlighted strong partnership efforts between the Department of Corrections and KCTCS, including investments supported through the Governor's Reserve Fund that expand prison-based welding and workforce training programs. He noted that these initiatives help ensure incarcerated individuals are better prepared for employment upon release, benefiting employers, communities, and the broader Kentucky workforce.

The Commissioner emphasized the importance of coordinated locally driven workforce services supported at the state level. He referenced ongoing collaboration with workforce boards, nonprofits , and industry partners, as well as continued engagement through the SWATT Council and related initiatives.

He also noted efforts to improve statewide coordination of workforce data and business services, including a unified system designed to help local and regional partners better track and respond to employer and workforce needs across Kentucky.

Additional updates included:

- Continued development of marketing materials outlining services offered through the Education and Labor Cabinet and its agencies.
- Resources from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Adult Education, Career Development, and Workforce Talent Project Managers.
- Expansion of apprenticeship initiatives supported by federal funding opportunities and local workforce board participation.
- Strengthening alignment between education pathways and workforce opportunities to support both postsecondary education and direct career entry.

Commissioner Yoder concluded by thanking Cabinet staff and partners for their ongoing collaboration and commitment to improving workforce outcomes across the Commonwealth.

Closing Comments & New Business

Lori Ulrich concluded with closing comments and updates on upcoming initiatives and board activities.

Johnny W. Collett, Vice Chair, University of Kentucky Human Development Institute (HDI), introduced an employer survey from the University of Kentucky's Human Development Institute's Training Innovation Project (TIP), funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The project focuses on strengthening the capacity of vocational rehabilitation professionals to better engage with employers and improve employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities.

He emphasized the importance of employer input in the survey and encouraged board members and business partners to participate and share it broadly. The survey is available through the TIP website at tiptrain.org.

Lori Ulrich provided several final updates, including:

- A reminder that a virtual meeting will be scheduled in June to vote on the Workforce Pell policy prior to the July 1 deadline.
- Upcoming KWIB committee meetings will support implementation of the strategic plan.
- The next full in-person KWIB meeting scheduled for August 27 in Hazard at EKCEP.
- Reach out to KWIB staff for committee participation for members interested in joining.
- Travel reimbursement and meeting calendar details included in the briefing book.

She asked for additional discussion. Board members briefly discussed educator workforce challenges and teacher compensation.

The meeting also included farewell recognition for Cora McNabb, Executive Director, Vocational Rehabilitation, who announced her retirement after 20 years with Vocational Rehabilitation and approximately 34 years in the disability services field. Members expressed appreciation for her long-standing service and contributions to Kentucky's workforce system.

Ms. McNabb shared final remarks highlighting Vocational Rehabilitation's continued impact, including more than 10,000 applications received year-to-date and over 4,000 individuals placed into employment during the same period, underscoring ongoing demand for services and workforce efforts.

With no further business to address, Lori Ulrich called for a motion to adjourn. *Kevin Smith* ***made the motion****, and Tom Lilienthal* ***seconded*** *it*. The motion was approved unanimously.

3:19 pm ET Adjournment

August 27, 2026
Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board
Consent Agenda Item

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certification

Recommendation

The Business and Education Alignment Taskforce (BEAT) reviewed and recommended the certifications, which the CTE Certification Review Workgroup approved on June 11, 2026, and the KWIB Education Attainment Committee on June 23, 2026, and are now presented to the KWIB for final approval, as outlined in the following certifications:

Industry Certification Name	Industry Certification Program Area	Recommended Industry Certification List?
Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA)	Healthcare	The **Healthcare BEAT does not recommend adopting the Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA) certification** due to age-related restrictions that make securing clinical placements for minors impractical at most local laboratories.
Certification: Registered Phlebotomy Technician (RPT)	Healthcare	The Healthcare BEAT advises against adopting the AMT Registered Phlebotomy Technician (RPT) certification because its venipuncture requirements are unrealistic and regional hospitals do not hire separate laboratory assistants.
National Center for Construction Education Research (NCCER) - Electronics Systems Technician	Manufacturing	The OCTE deprecated the Electronics Technology pathway (47.0105.00) effective July 2025 due to a lack of statewide adoption. Consequently, the **Manufacturing BEAT recommends removing the NCCER Electronics Systems Technician certification** from the approved list effective July 2027. This removal is justified because the NCCER curriculum does not specialize in electronics until Levels 3 and 4; therefore, students will have already completed their foundational training through the NCCER Electrical Level 1 assessment, which remains aligned with existing pathways in the statewide program of study directory.
FCR-O1 FANUC Certified Robot Operator-1	Engineering Manufacturing	Vendor name changed to, "NOCTI - FANUC Certified Robot Operator with ROBOGUIDE"

Certiport - Digital Literacy IC3 GS5 Certiport - IC3 GS6 Level 2 Certiport - IC3 GS6 Level 3	Computer Science	Based on the 2024 K-12 Computer Science Report and Modernization Framework alignment, the **Computer Science BEAT recommends removing IC3 GS5 and GS6 Level 2 and Level 3 certifications** from the Computer Science pathways with a formal phase-out date of June 2028. This decision reflects evolving workforce expectations, as foundational digital literacy skills are now typically mastered prior to pathway entry, and the corresponding Digital Literacy coursework has transitioned to the Business and Marketing program area effective the 2026-2027 school year.
Lean Six Sigma - Yellow, Green, and Black Belts	Multi	The **Business and Marketing BEAT recommends the Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt (LSSYB) as a stackable credential** for high-demand management and supply chain careers. The **Computer Science BEAT Team recommended Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt as a stackable credential** that complements pathway-specific technical certifications while providing transferable skills valued across multiple industries.

To learn more about the item listed in the consent agenda above, please click the link to access the relevant information on Google Drive. https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1z-al7MMq6Vtj4U-1LGiSE-lVybtdDHGm

Work-Based Learning Definitions

705 KAR 4:041. Work-based learning program standards.
Section 1. Definitions.

Apprentice – A worker who is at least 16 years old (unless a higher age is required by law) and is employed to learn a skilled trade or occupation.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) – defined as a program of study that leads to the development of academic and specialized occupational skills in various career fields.

Career Pathway Completer – A student who has completed at least four credits in a Kentucky Department of Education-approved career pathway.

Cooperative Education – A work-based learning program that combines classroom instruction with paid, job-related work experience at a business or industry.

Entrepreneurship – Education that helps students understand economic principles and apply classroom learning by starting and operating a business enterprise.

Internship – A work-based learning experience that provides hands-on experience in a specific occupation and may include course credit and pay.

Journeyperson Certificate – A nationally recognized, portable credential earned upon completion of an apprenticeship program.

Mentoring – A work-based learning activity in which business or community volunteers build one-on-one relationships with students to help them understand careers and workplace expectations beyond traditional teaching or supervision.

Registered Apprenticeship Program – A program approved by the U.S. Department of Labor that combines paid on-the-job training with classroom instruction under the guidance of an experienced industry professional.

Registered Youth Apprenticeship – A program that combines academic and technical classroom instruction with work experience through a U.S. Department of Labor registered apprenticeship.

Registered Youth Pre-Apprenticeship – A program or set of activities designed to prepare students for entry into a U.S. Department of Labor registered apprenticeship program.

Related Technical Instruction – The classroom training component of a registered apprenticeship program, requiring 144 hours of instruction for every 2,000 hours of apprenticeship training.

School-Based Enterprise – A simulated or actual business that operates within a school setting.

Service Learning – A teaching approach that combines meaningful community service with classroom instruction and reflection to enhance learning, promote civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

Shadowing – A work-based learning activity in which students learn about a career by observing someone working in that occupation.

State Apprenticeship Agency – The state agency and staff responsible for registered apprenticeship activities on behalf of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Work-Based Learning – A teaching approach that engages students in real-world work experiences through structured activities connected to the curriculum, allowing them to apply classroom knowledge and skills in the workplace.

Work-Based Learning (WBL) Definitions Compilation

The Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) Education Attainment Committee requested a review and alignment of **Work-Based Learning (WBL)** definitions across partner agencies and organizations.

In response, input and resources were gathered from key partners, including:

- Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE)
- Everybody Counts Initiative
- WIOA Youth – Education & Labor Cabinet
- Kentucky Community & Technical College System (KCTCS)
- Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE)
- Kentucky Adult Education (KYAE)
- Office of Industry & Apprenticeship Services (OIAS)
- Career Development Office (CDO)
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
- Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS)

These responses reflect a range of perspectives, including:

- Federal and state-aligned definitions (e.g., Pre-ETS, Perkins V, and 705 KAR 4:041)
- Programmatic and operational definitions currently in use
- Variations in how WBL components and experiences are categorized
- Considerations regarding consistency across systems to avoid confusion for employers and learners

The collected input highlights both **common themes**—such as employer engagement, skill development, and real-world application—and **differences in terminology and structure** across partner agencies.

Stakeholder Definitions Compilation
A comprehensive compilation of all partner responses, definitions, and supporting resources has been developed and is maintained in a shared document.

Access the full compilation here:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jIlgvZTnLwgL7 pqJqmFbp-XjnmKzFfoi

Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP)

Who We Are & Where We Serve

The **Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program (EKCEP)** is a nonprofit workforce development organization headquartered in Hazard, Kentucky. Founded in 1968 — one year after the federal Concentrated Employment Program was created — EKCEP has served as the premier workforce development solution in Eastern Kentucky for more than 55 years. Today, EKCEP is one of only three remaining Concentrated Employment Programs in the nation, and serves as the administrative entity for the Eastern Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board.

Our mission: *"Preparing, advancing, and expanding the workforce of Eastern Kentucky."* We provide access to more than a dozen state and federal employment and training programs through the Kentucky Career Center network, with comprehensive centers in Hazard (Perry Co.) and Prestonsburg (Floyd Co.) plus affiliate sites throughout the region.

1968	3	23	58	#1
Serving the region 55+ years	Remaining CEPs in the nation	Appalachian counties (core)	Counties reached statewide	KY's top workforce board

23 EKCEP counties (WIOA core) ■ Recovery & Reentry

THE REGION WE SERVE

Core WIOA services span 23 rural Appalachian counties. Through **Recovery & Reentry**, our reach extends to **up to 58 counties** statewide — reaching nearly half of Kentucky through a single connected delivery model.

23 EKCEP counties:
Bell, Breathitt, Carter, Clay, Elliott, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Menifee, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Wolfe.

WHAT WE DO

A full continuum of workforce services under one roof

Career Counseling	Training & Credentials	Job Placement	Youth & Reentry
One-on-one career advising, planning, and case management for jobseekers of all ages.	Occupational training, on-the-job training, apprenticeships, and industry credentials.	Employer partnerships, business services, and matching talent to regional demand.	Prosper Appalachia for youth plus Recovery & Reentry programs.

Beyond training and placement, EKCEP coordinates **supportive services** — transportation, work apparel, and barrier-relief assistance — alongside employer and business services, all delivered through the Kentucky Career Center network in partnership with local Community Action Agencies.

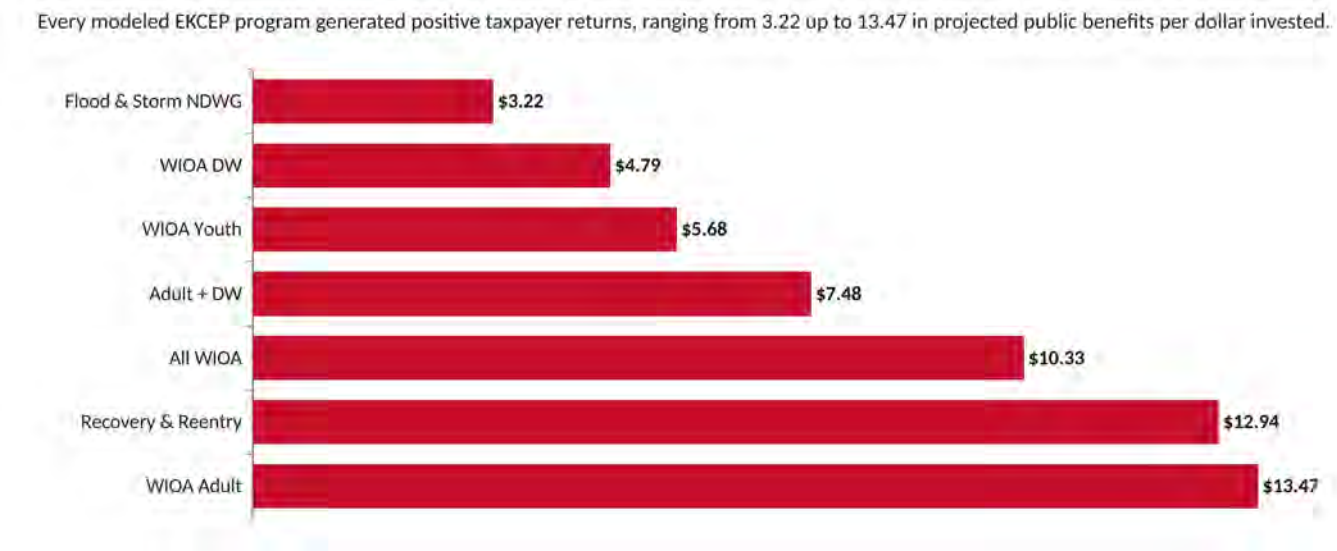
Return on Investment & DOL Rankings

An independent FY 2025 economic impact study by **Lightcast** measured the public benefits generated by EKCEP programs relative to taxpayer investment. Results show a strong return across the portfolio — with WIOA activities returning **$10.33 in public benefits for every $1 invested**, a more than 3× improvement over FY 2024. Taxpayer benefits reflect added tax revenue and reduced government costs over a ten-year projection horizon.

$10.33	$102.2M	26.3%	1.1 yrs
Public benefits per $1 (All WIOA)	Projected WIOA taxpayer benefits	Annualized ROI	Payback period

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Benefit-cost ratio by program (projected public benefits per $1 invested)



Every modeled EKCEP program generated positive taxpayer returns — ranging from $3.22 to $13.47 in projected public benefits per $1 invested. Source: Lightcast Economic Impact Study, EKCEP FY 2025.

YEAR-OVER-YEAR MOMENTUM

WIOA return grew more than 3× from FY 2024 to FY 2025

- **+564 participants** — WIOA participation grew from 7,562 to 8,126.
- **Stronger earnings** — Adjusted earnings gains rose from ~$50.4M to $70.5M.
- **Greater benefits per dollar** — Projected taxpayer benefits rose from $76.9M to $102.2M.
- **More than 3× higher return** — Benefit-cost ratio jumped from 3.18 to 10.33 in a single year.

DOL PERFORMANCE STANDINGS

Among the top workforce boards in the nation (PY 2024)

#5	#7	#8	#10	#11	#22
Combined MSG (98.4%)	Adult Exiters (2,659)	Adult Served (2,963)	Adult Trained (1,240)	Youth MSG (98.8%)	Combined Served (3,967)

*National ranks out of more than 530 local workforce boards. EKCEP consistently serves and trains many times more participants than the national median local workforce board — approximately **13× the median for Adult Participants Served** and **11× for Adult Trained Participants**. Source: USDOL PY 2024 local-board performance data.*

Our AI-Enabled Workforce Platform

EKCEP Works is an AI-enabled workforce services platform built to unify career advising, client management, document creation, interview preparation, job tracking, case documentation, and analytics in a single environment. Information entered once flows across every tool — reducing duplicate data entry and freeing staff to spend more time coaching people.

TEN PLATFORM MODULES

One connected workflow, from intake to outcomes

1. Client Profile One digital record per client — intake, service history, and progress in one place. Feeds every other module.	**2. Career Interest Assessment** Structured, data-driven interest and aptitude assessment stored on the record. A defensible basis for the IEP.
3. Career Exploration Occupations matched to the assessment, shown with wages, demand, and outlook — no separate LMI lookup.	**4. Career Planning** Turns the goal into ordered steps — training, milestones, actions. Helps advisors develop a structured IEP using assessment and client information.
5. Training Library Online courses a job seeker can begin the same day. Assigned from the plan; completions tracked automatically.	**6. Resume Building** A general resume from the client record, plus a targeted version matched to a specific job posting.
7. Mock Interview AI-driven STAR-method practice — unlimited, private, and without consuming advisor time.	**8. Job Opportunities** Saved postings and pipeline on one dashboard, connected to the client and resume record.
9. Lexi Knowledge Bot AI policy assistant trained on your own program documents. Two advisors ask, get the same answer.	**10. Client Management** The documentation layer — case notes, services, and outcomes recorded against the same client record.

Training Library — courses included in the platform. AI and digital literacy, soft skills, and financial literacy — with new courses added over time as employer and program needs evolve. Courses are assigned directly from the client's career plan, with completions tracked automatically. Priced into the tier, not per seat.

PURPOSE-BUILT FOR EACH PROGRAM

Flexes to the workflow of every EKCEP program

WIOA	Prosper Appalachia	Recovery & Reentry
Uses KEE Suite for intake and eligibility — with EKCEP Works for profiles, assessments, career exploration, resumes, and interviews.	The single system for high-school juniors and seniors — powering career exploration, planning, and work-based learning.	Uses RADOR for state data entry, with EKCEP Works for case notes and outcomes.

More capacity. Better outcomes.

EKCEP Works is now being positioned for workforce boards, community colleges, and other providers — a scalable model developed right here in Eastern Kentucky.

Appalachian Regional Health (ARH)

WORKFORCE INITIATIVES IMPACT REPORT

(FY 2025–26)

ARH

WORKFORCE ADVANCEMENT & DEVELOPMENT

$272,482
in external funding secured to support workforce initiatives

$591,000
est. in labor value contributions by workforce partners

$467,433
awarded in tuition reimbursement, supporting 146 team members with advancing their education

$595,000
awarded in scholarships and student stipends, supporting 92 future healthcare professionals

TALENT ACQUISITION

Attracting and onboarding the talent needed to serve our communities.

1,709
Total Hires
(+24.9% year-over-year)

5.2%
Vacancy Rate
Compared to 9.9% national average

TEAM MEMBER EXPERIENCE & ENGAGEMENT

Creating a workplace where team members feel supported, connected, and empowered.

20.42%
Team Member Turnover Rate
Improved from 22.68%

3.97
Team Member Engagement Score
Up from 3.91

141
Team Member Engagement Initiatives conducted across the system

$45,407
Saved by Team Members through ARH discount partnerships

WORKFORCE HIGHLIGHTS

24.9%
increase in hires year-over-year

$863,482
in external funding support secured for workforce development initiatives

$1,062,433
invested in supporting the educational journey of future healthcare professionals coming into the organization

WORKFORCE
KENTUCKY & WEST VIRGINIA

One Team • One Commitment • One Goal

Serving the people of Appalachia

> *"By investing in our workforce, we are investing in the health, stability, and future of the communities we proudly serve. The accomplishments highlighted in this report represent important progress, but they also reinforce the responsibility we share to continue building the workforce our communities need today and for generations to come."*

— Dylon C. Baker
Vice President of Talent Strategy

HealthCorps: Healthcare Workfoce Pipeline

FSH WORKS
Discover your potential.

FSH HEALTH CORPS

Building Kentucky's next generation of healthcare professionals

FSH HealthCorps addresses the healthcare workforce shortage by equipping AmeriCorps members with meaningful healthcare experience, professional skills, and a pathway toward employment or continued education. Since the program's inception in 2022, we have been working to increase the capacity of the host sites to provide overall better patient care while creating a sustainable workforce pipeline.

602 Members	277,380 Hours Served	31 Host Sites

Proven Workforce Pipeline

44%

44% of members reported part time or full time employment in the healthcare field in the months following their service

Proven Continued Education Pipeline

62%

62% of members reported continuing education in the healthcare field in the months following their service

Member Testimony

"I became a FSH HealthCorps member because there aren't a lot of opportunities for people as young as I am to get experience in healthcare. The best part of my service has been hands-on learning. This opportunity has helped me build empathy and work with different types of people and age groups. After my service, I will be going to Morehead State and taking classes in radiolody and sonography. I'm excited to continue my journey in healthcare."

Tatum Ford, served at Bridgepointe at Ashgrove Woods

Kentucky WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Education and Labor Cabinet Update

Work-Based Learning Performance (Registered Apprenticeship, FAME, & CTE)

Kentucky Registered Apprenticeship Data 2026 – Q3 Report

	USDOL PY2025	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Q3 2026	Q4 2026
	10/1/2024-9/30/2026	10/1/2024 - 12/31/2025	1/1/2025-3/31/2025	4/1/2025-6/30/2025	7/1/2025-9/30/2025	10/1/2025-12/31/2025	1/1/2026-3/31/2026	4/1/2026-6/30/2026	7/1/2026-9/30/2026
Active Apprentices	**5776**	5916	5668	5519	5776	5865	5833	**5731**	
Active Sponsors	**259**	281	262	264	259	267	267	**269**	
Avg Entry Wage	**$20.06**	$20.75	$20.15	$21.47	$18.62	$19.82	$21.85	**$22.78**	
Avg Completion Wage	**$26.31**	$23.74	$24.4	$28.09	$28.5	$28.91	$35.62	**$32.83**	
New Programs	**21**	2	8	4	7	8	6	**4**	
New Occupations	**45**	17	6	9	13	11	17	**10**	
New Apprentices	**2384**	447	469	623	853	478	605	**610**	
Apprentice Completions	**943**	149	214	386	194	131	231	**474**	
Apprentice Cancellations	**1592**	309	503	382	398	258	406	**252**	

Current Active Employers	**709**
Completion Rate*	45.81% DOL FY 2024

(all data as of 8/20/2026)

*Statewide completion rates are calculated by USDOL and have significant lag time due to the formula for calculating the rate. The most up-to-date rate is for USDOL Program Year 2024.

Kentucky Key Sector Breakdown

Construction	4067	69.98%
Education	245	4.22%
Healthcare	146	2.51%
Manufacturing & Logistics	490	8.43%
Professional, Scientific, & Tech.	47	0.81%
Other (nearly all is utilities)	817	14.06%

New Occupations added during DOL Program Year 2025-2026

DOL Program Year 2025 (10/1/2024-9/30/2025)	DOL Program Year 2026 (10/1/2025-9/30/2026)
Operating Engineer	Residential Wireman
Heavy and Tractor Trailer Truck Driver	Electrician, Maintenance
Plumber	Computer Support Specialist-Desktop Support Tech
Millwright	Production Cook
Tool Maker	Landscape Management Technician
Pipe Fitter (Construction)	Pharmacy Technician, Retail Store (Revised)
Teacher Aide I	Retail Operations Specialist
Electrician, Substation	Graphic Designer
Line Maintainer (Alternate Title: High Voltage Electrician)	Teacher Aide I
Construction Craft Laborer	Dry-Wall Applicator
Float Nurse	Glazier
Pharmacy Technician, Retail Store (Revised)	Mechanical Engineering Technician (NOF)
Carpenter	Cloud Operations Specialist 1
K-12 Teacher	Drafter, Civil
Peer Specialist	Early Childhood Educator
Tool and Die Maker	Mechanical Engineering Technician (NOF)
Electrician, Maintenance	Fire Alarm Inspection Test Maintenance Technician
Fire Fighter, Crash, Fire	Construction Equipment Mechanic
Mechanical Engineering Technician (NOF)	Electrician, Maintenance
Fire Fighter	K-12 Teacher
Landscape Management Technician	Operating Engineer (Alternate Title: Heavy Construction Equipment Mechanic)
Nurse, Licensed Practical	CNC Operator and Programmer
Teacher Aide I	Electrician (Alternate Title: Interior Electrician)
E-Commerce Specialist	IT Generalist
Automotive Technician Specialist	Tool and Die Maker
Police Officer (Alternate Title: Military Police)	Industrial Maintenance Mechanic
Line Maintainer (Alternate Title: High Voltage Electrician)	Electrician (Alternate Title: Interior Electrician)
Public Affairs	Computer Support Specialist-Desktop Support Tech
Early Childhood Educator	Operating Engineer
Industrial Maintenance Mechanic	Veterinary/Lab Animal Tech (Alternate Title: Animal Care Specialist)
Digital Marketer	Sous / Head Chef
Cook (Any Ind) (Alternate Title: Nutrition Care Specialist)	Cook, Pastry (Hotel & Restaurant)
CNC Operator - Milling	Cook
K-12 Teacher	Cook
Community Health Worker	Industrial Manufacturing Technician (NOF)
Tool and Die Maker	Fence Erector
IT Generalist	
Early Childhood Educator	
Machine Repairer, Maintenance	
Mold Maker, Die-Cast & Plastic	
K-12 Teacher	
Diesel Mechanic	
Cook (Any Ind) (Alternate Title: Nutrition Care Specialist)	
Maintenance Technician	
Early Childhood Student Support Specialist	

KCTCS FAME Data

Chapter / Branch	2026–27 New Cohort	2025–26 Students	Completed / May 2026 Graduates	Retained After 1st Year	Reasons Students Left	Avg. Time to Completion	Starting Wages	Credentials Earned
Bluegrass FAME, Georgetown/Main Branch	39	65 reported for Georgetown	33 graduates	Included within Bluegrass total, branch-specific retention not provided	Primarily poor work performance, one personal reason across Bluegrass	2 years	Not provided, varies by company	AMT AAS, Industrial Maintenance Tech Diploma, Electrical Mechanic Certificate, Mechanic Level I Certificate, Robotics Technician Certificate
Bluegrass FAME, Danville Branch	1	10 reported for Danville	5 graduates	Branch-specific retention not provided	Not broken out separately for Danville	2 years	Not provided, varies by company	Same Bluegrass credential pathway
Cumberlands FAME, Somerset	16	8 started Aug. 2025, 1 left	11 graduated May 2026 from prior cohort	7 of 8 appear to remain	1 changed careers	Not provided	Not provided	AAS Industrial Maintenance Technology, AMT Track, Robotics Technician, Electrical Mechanic, Mechanic Level I, Electrician Levels I & II, Welder Helper
Greater Louisville FAME	33 first-year students, document also reports 52 incoming/continuing students for 2026–27	35 total	11 graduates, 1 pending completion	19 second-year students retained	Change of mind before school starts, pregnancy, academic reasons, figures need clarification	Approx. 18 months	Approx. $28/hr, some $30–$32 third-shift opportunities	AAS Industrial Maintenance AMT Track, Diploma, multiple certificates, FAME USA credential, possible DOL Apprenticeship credential
Northern KY FAME	16	21	123 reported as completed as of May 2026, likely cumulative and needs clarification	7	Poor work attendance and poor work performance	5 semesters	Not provided	Industrial Maintenance Technology, AMT Track

KCTCS FAME Data

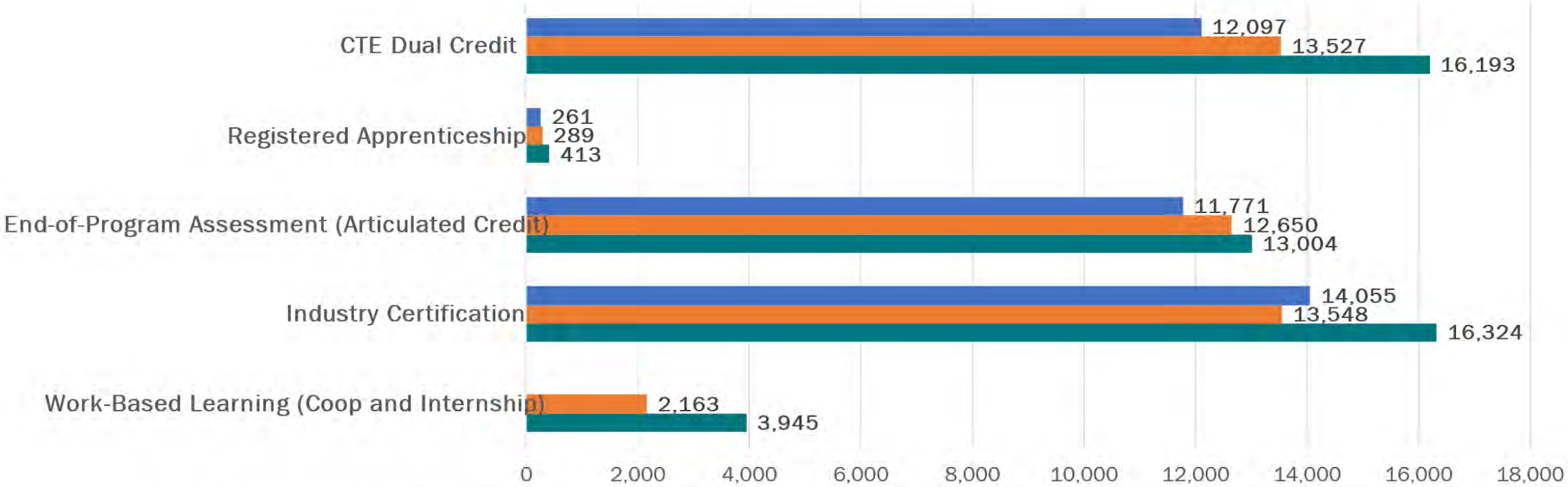
Chapter / Branch	2026–27 New Cohort	2025–26 Students	Completed / May 2026 Graduates	Retained After 1st Year	Reasons Students Left	Avg. Time to Completion	Starting Wages	Credentials Earned
SKY FAME, Bowling Green	14	16	127 graduates in 10 cohorts (first graduating class was 2018)	We started with 21 students in this cohort and now have 16.	Violating Workplace Ethics agreement with the school (attendance), fail a class, lose their sponsorship due to pointing out at work (attendance typically) are the main reasons we see. The rare instances are students leaving because they realize the program is not for them or something in their personal life.	5 semesters	Our by-laws voted on by our manufacturers state the minimum pay is $18/hour for starting pay. Most of our manufacturers pay more than that.	Associate of Applied Science- Industrial Maintenance Technology: Advanced Manufacturing Technician Track 7 Certificates: Industrial Maintenance Electrical Mechanic Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Level 1 Industrial Maintenance Robotics Technician Welder Helper Electrician Trainee Level I Electrician Trainee Level II Automation Technician
HCC FAME, Henderson	11	12	15	15	One left after orientation due to academic concerns, one dismissed for grades below C and personal reasons	5 semesters, approx. 20 months	Approx. $28/hr	AAS Industrial Maintenance Technology, AMT Track; Electrical Mechanic, Mechanic Level I, Welder Helper, Automation Technician certificates; FAME USA AMT certification
HOP FAME, Hopkinsville	12	3	7	3	Response says “all of those,” needs more detail	2 years	$18–$24/hr	Reported as 8 average, specific credentials need clarification
GO FAME, Owensboro	21 students beginning first year, 2026–28 cohort	23 students began the 2025–27 cohort	17 graduated May 2026 from the 2024–26 cohort	15 of 23 continuing into second year, 2025–27 cohort	2025–27: 8 left due to employer termination related to attendance/workplac	18 months / 5 semesters	Approx. $16–$20/hr, varies by employer, tuition coverage, and	Primary: AAS in Industrial Maintenance. Additional: Most pursue AAS in Electrical

KCTCS FAME Data

Chapter / Branch	2026–27 New Cohort	2025–26 Students	Completed / May 2026 Graduates	Retained After 1st Year	Reasons Students Left	Avg. Time to Completion	Starting Wages	Credentials Earned
					e behavior, mental health/personal barriers, and one student passed away. 2024–26: 9 did not complete, including employer terminations related to attendance/workplace behavior and one student who joined the Marines.		employer/student agreements	Technology through double major. Certificates may include Industrial Maintenance Mechanic Levels I & II, Exploratory Machining I, Welder Helper, Automation Technician, Integrated Manufacturing Technician, Industrial Maintenance Technician, and other applicable technical certificates.

Career Readiness by Numbers

(12th-grade graduating cohort)



	Work-Based Learning (Coop and Internship)	Industry Certification	End-of-Program Assessment (Articulated Credit)	Registered Apprenticeship	CTE Dual Credit
2022-2023		14,055	11,771	261	12,097
2023-2024	2,163	13,548	12,650	289	13,527
2024-2025	3,945	16,324	13,004	413	16,193

2022-2023 2023-2024 2024-2025

Data source: State Report Card (SRC) as of 12.18.2025
WBL data was not collected until 2023-2024 for inclusion for accountability

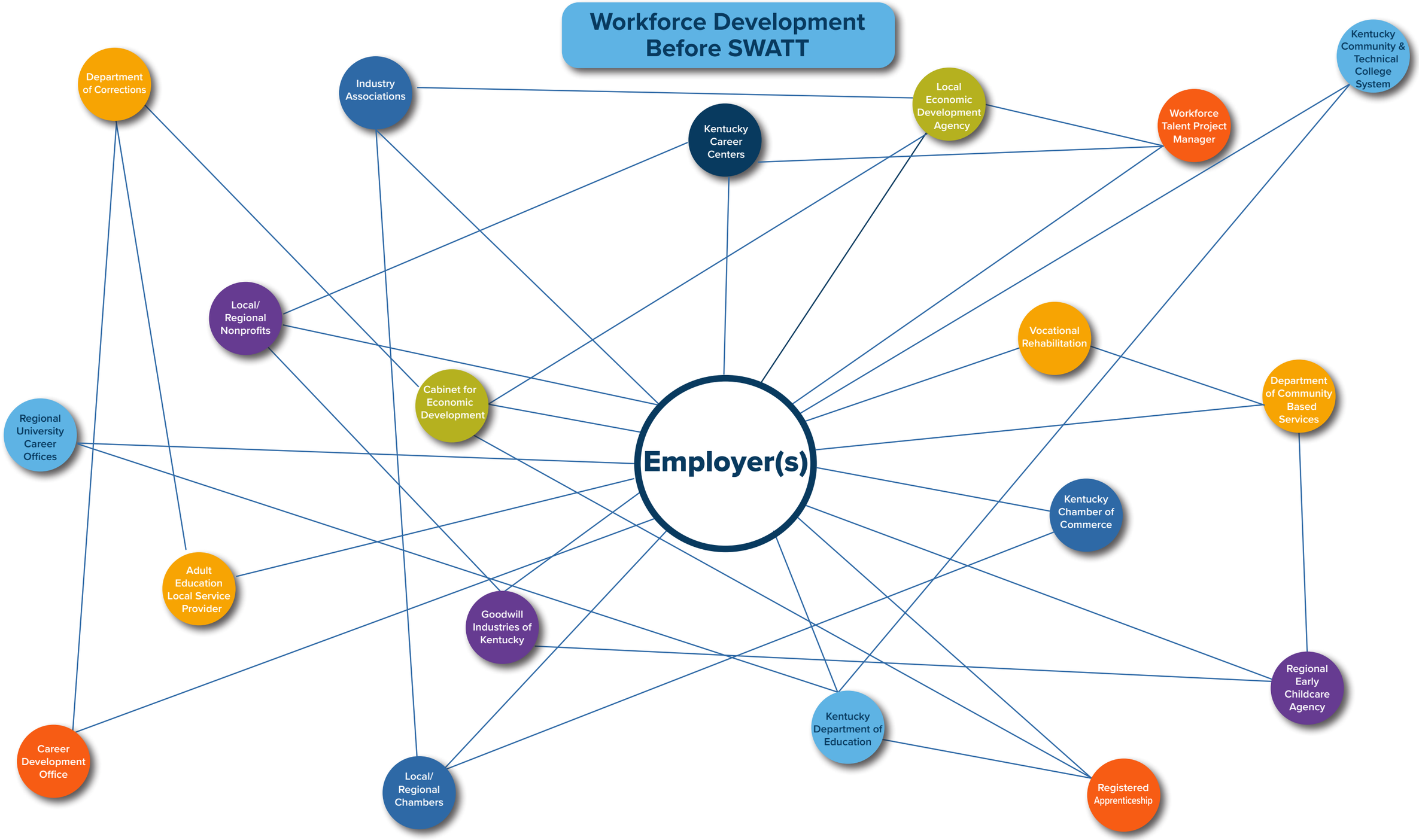
Kentucky WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Statewide Workforce & Talent Team (SWATT)

SWATT Statewide Workforce & Talent Team Network

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

Workforce Development Before SWATT



SWATT Statewide Workforce & Talent Team Network

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

Kentucky NLx Job Posting Guide

Employer Job Posting Guide

Kentucky Career Center
Career Training Employer

Post your open positions for free and connect with top talent.

KYJobs.usnlx.com offers Kentucky employers two free options for posting jobs on the state's labor exchange. Positions posted through the site also appear on additional job search platforms, including **USNLx**, **Hiring Our Heroes**, **MySkillsMyFuture** and **CareerOneStop**.

POST YOUR JOBS FOR FREE

Option 1:

Register and manually post your jobs

First, you must create an account at **kentucky.usnlx.com.** No generic accounts like "recruiter" or "human resources" will be approved. A first and last name are required.

The next step is to add information required about your organization. Once you receive approval, you may start posting your open jobs.

Option 2:

Request free indexing by the U.S. National Labor Exchange

Instead of manually posting your open positions on the National Labor Exchange, you may request free indexing of the jobs posted on your company's website.

To request free indexing of the job listings on your company website, complete and submit a request form to the National Labor Exchange at **jobs.usnlx.com**.

Need help?
Contact **workforce@ky.gov** or call (502) 564-5920.

kentucky.usnlx.com

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

Kentucky WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Education and Workforce Collaboration Self-Sufficiency Report

Kentucky Education and Workforce Collaborative

2026 Self-Sufficiency Report

Background

Executive Order 2020-551 established the Education and Workforce Collaborative and assigned it a set of specific deliverables to strengthen the commonwealth's workforce development system. Section VIII directs the Collaborative to conduct a Self-Sufficiency and Benefit Cliff Analysis, an examination of the income thresholds at which Kentucky workers achieve financial stability and the barriers created when rising wages trigger sudden loss of public benefits.

This report fulfils Section VIII mandate. It draws on three primary sources: the 2026 Living Wage Index Benchmark Series published by the Living Wage Institute; the 2025 State of ALICE Report *(United Way of Kentucky, 2023)*; and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Policy Rules Database Dashboard tool, which provides a nationally validated framework for modeling benefit cliffs.

Section VIII of the order specifically requires the Collaborative to assess the self-sufficiency standards for households of various compositions and must reflect what is needed to adequately meet the basic needs of Kentucky citizens in representative regions of the state absent public or private assistance. It is also required to have the ability to analyze the benefit cliff with regard to individuals who are receiving state assisted benefits in comparison to the determined self-sufficiency wage via the private sector.

Executive Summary

As this report provides wages for the commonwealth and then reviews the benefit cliffs that many Kentuckians face, it is important to highlight the wages that stand out. The hourly living wage for the entire state is $20.21/hr. for a single Kentuckian (*Living Wage Institute, 2026)*. The stability budget as described in the ALICE report is $22.99/hr. for a single Kentuckians *(United for ALICE, 2023)*. The benefit cliffs that are modeled for Lee County (most hardship) and Oldham County (least hardship) for single Kentuckians amount to $44,000 annual salary as the point where all public assistance programs are phased out. That annual salary at an hourly rate is roughly $21.50/hr.

Moreover, part of the workforce development definition of a high-wage occupation is whether the occupation exceeds Kentuckians median occupational wage, which is $22.99/hr. The definition of high-wage occupations impacts investments in training, education, and career coaching across the continuum of education and workforce development.

The conclusion that can be drawn from this report is that a sustainable living wage in the commonwealth would be anything higher than $20-$23/hr.

For additional details, the full report is available on the KWIB website.

Kentucky WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Workforce Pell

KENTUCKY WORKFORCE PELL GRANT

About the Workforce Pell Grant

Kentucky's Workforce Pell Grant Program outlines the approach to identifying, evaluating, and recommending short-term workforce training programs for state approval under 787 KAR 2:050E.

Program Eligibility Standards

- Be offered at a Higher Education Act Title IV eligible postsecondary institution
- Have 8 -14 weeks of instruction
- Have 150 - 599 clock hours
- Lead to a recognized stackable and portable credential (or sole recognized credential)
- Train for a Kentucky high-wage, high-skill, or in-demand occupation
- Align with employer hiring needs
- 70% completion and 70% job placement
- Provide academic credit toward a related certificate/degree
- Meet value-added earnings requirement (beginning 2030–2031)
- Meet requirements for at least one year

Learn More and Apply

Visit the Office of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board website to learn more and access resources including:

- "Workforce Pell Application" July 2026
- "Workforce Pell Report", July 2026 & Data Dictionary
- Kentucky Workforce Pell Regulation: 787 KAR 2:050E
- US Department of Education Workforce Pell Final Rule

For any questions or more information, please contact kwib.projects@ky.gov

Kentucky Career Center
Career Training Employer

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

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STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY

787 KAR 2:050E

This emergency administrative regulation is being promulgated pursuant to KRS 13A.190(1)(a) and is necessary to meet an imminent deadline for the promulgation of an administrative regulation that is established by federal law and state statute and prevents an imminent loss of federal funds.

On May 19, 2026, the United States Department of Education issued a final rule, 34 CFR 690.90, *et seq.*, to create the new Workforce Pell grant program beginning on July 1, 2026. The Act was passed by Congress and signed into law on July 4, 2025. In addition, SB 249 RS 26 codified as KRS 151B.138 requires that the Commonwealth of Kentucky does not impose requirements more restrictive than or inconsistent with the federal rule and creates an emergency.

Ordinary administrative regulation procedures are inadequate to comply with federal and state law. Therefore, this emergency regulation is necessary to establish the legally required framework for the creation of a Workforce Pell program to comply with federal and state law.

This emergency regulation is temporary in nature and will be replaced by an ordinary administrative regulation and the companion ordinary administrative regulation is identical to this emergency regulation.

Andy Beshear, Governor
Commonwealth of Kentucky

Michael Yoder, Commissioner
Department of Workforce Development

1 EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

2 Department of Workforce Development

3 Office of Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board

4 (New Emergency Regulation)

5 787 KAR 2:050E. General provisions for operation of the Workforce Pell Program.

6 RELATES TO: KRS 151B.015, 151B.017(4), 20 U.S.C. 1070a, 34 C.F.R. 690, *et seq.*, SB 249

7 RS26, codified as KRS 151B.138.

8 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 151B.017(4), KRS 13A.100

9 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 151B.017(4) requires the secretary of the

10 Education and Labor Cabinet for the Commonwealth of Kentucky to promulgate administrative

11 regulations that are necessary to implement programs mandated by federal or state law, or to

12 qualify for the receipt of federal funds, and that are necessary to cooperate with other state and

13 federal agencies for the proper administration of the cabinet and its programs. This administrative

14 regulation establishes further guidance and clarification, in addition to the minimum federal

15 requirements established in 34 CFR 690, *et seq.*, necessary for the operation of a Workforce Pell

16 program.

17 **Section 1. Definitions.**

18 (1) "Articulation agreement" means a formal contract between two education institutions

19 which guarantees that specific courses, credits, or entire programs completed at the first school

20 will be seamlessly transferred and applied toward a degree at the receiving institution.

1 (2) "Credential competencies" are the specific knowledge, skills, and abilities included in a
2 credential.
3 (3) "High-skill occupation" means an occupation which requires technical or vocational training,
4 related on-the-job experience, completion of an apprenticeship, or an associate's degree or higher.
5 (4) "High-wage occupation" means an occupation which has a median wage that meets or exceeds
6 the overall median wages for all occupations within its relative area (either at the local workforce
7 area or state level).
8 (5) "Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)" is the state board defined in 34 CFR
9 690.91 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-857.
10 (6) "In-demand occupation" is:
11 (a) One whose projected annualized employment growth rate is at least as large as the
12 annualized projected growth rate for all occupations within its relative area (either at
13 the local workforce areas or state level); or
14 (b) One that is projected to account for at least 0.4% of the total demand for all occupations
15 within the relative area (either at the local workforce areas or state level), where
16 demand is defined as the projected job openings expected to be produced by economic
17 growth and exits of workers from the labor force; or
18 (c) One that the Governor has identified to be emerging or critical to the state's economic
19 growth because of investment in the commonwealth.
20 (7) A "portable credential" is a credential that is widely recognized by educational institutions
21 and employers that allow the credential holder to seamlessly transfer that credential and apply it
22 toward a degree at the receiving institution.

1 (8) "Related technical instruction (RTI)" is the formal classroom or online education component
2 of a registered apprenticeship program.
3 (9) A "stackable credential" is a combination of courses into diplomas or certificates that
4 students may complete on the way toward a related degree.
5 **Section 2. Methods.**
6 (1) In determining whether the expected competencies for which the recognized postsecondary
7 credential intends align with the competencies needed in such high-skill, high-wage, or in-demand
8 sectors and occupations, the Governor shall receive input from employers and stakeholders
9 through the KWIB structure, which encompasses business and industry, registered apprenticeship
10 providers, and joint labor-management training providers, during the application review process.
11 (2) Occupations and industry sectors that are considered high-skill, high-wage or in-demand shall
12 be reviewed and updated, at least every two years, concurrent with the Workforce Innovation and
13 Opportunity Act (WIOA) state plan submission, which will be published on the KWIB website.
14 (3) Whether the credential is stackable, shall be determined based on the evidence provided by
15 the institutions in the application. Institutions are required to provide evidence of program
16 specific articulation agreements either with their own academic programs or other institutions
17 that demonstrate noncredit to credit transfers.
18 (4) Whether the credential is portable shall be determined by reviewing, the valid industry
19 certification list available at: https://kwib.ky.gov/career-technical-education-
20 resources/Pages/Career-&-Technical-Education-Certification-Processes.aspx. If a program is not
21 on the valid industry certification list, then the credential will be evaluated for portability by
22 reviewing the application to determine if more than one employer recognizes the credential in the
23 hiring process.

1 **Section 3. Information required in the application.** An institution requesting a determination
2 by the Governor shall apply to the Office of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)
3 on the portal on the KWIB website. The Kentucky "Workforce Pell Application," June 2026, shall
4 be incorporated by reference consistent with Section 7.
5 **Section 4. Review process of an application.**
6 (1) Within 30 days of the receipt of a complete application, the application shall be reviewed by
7 the Office of the KWIB for completeness and compliance with state and federal law.
8 (2) The Office of the KWIB shall also review all written agreements, including established
9 articulation agreements, transfer-of-credit agreements, consortium or partnership agreements, or
10 similar arrangements to determine that such credit will be accepted at one or more eligible
11 institutions.
12 (3) Once the Office of KWIB's review is complete, the application shall be forwarded to the
13 Governor for review.
14 (4) If the application is not approved by the Governor, the applicant may appeal as set forth in
15 Section 6.
16 (5) Six months prior to the expiration of an institution's program participation agreement, the
17 institution shall reapply for a determination using the process set forth in this Section. If the
18 institution and the program meet the requirements, the Governor may, in his discretion, provide a
19 certification of continued approval.
20 (6) If the program is determined not to be eligible, the institution shall have an appeal right as
21 outlined in Section 6.
22 **Section 5. Reporting.**

1 (1) For each award year after the date that the eligible workforce program is approved, the
2 institution shall report to the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) within nine months
3 after the end of the award year. The form they will use, "Workforce Pell Reporting", July 2026,
4 shall be incorporated by reference consistent with Section 7.
5 (2) Individual level data shall not be provided to other agencies as set forth in KRS
6 151B.134(3)(a).
7 (3) For state eligibility requirements, KYSTATS shall produce reports annually for in-demand
8 and high-wage occupations that will be provided to the Office of the KWIB and posted publicly
9 on https://kwib.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx.
10 (4) For federal eligibility requirements, specifically for initial programmatic requirement of 70%
11 completion and 70% job placement, KYSTATS shall produce custom reports using the most
12 current administrative data for the use by the Office of the KWIB to evaluate aggregate program
13 completion and job placement.
14 (5) To calculate value-added earnings, KYSTATS shall produce custom reports using the most
15 current administrative data to aggregate information for existing and approved Workforce Pell
16 programs.
17 (6) In all instances, the KYSTATS reports shall strictly be used for evaluation by the Office of
18 the KWIB for final approval by the Governor in consultation with the KWIB.
19 (7) KYSTATS shall provide to the Governor upon request aggregate data on the Workforce Pell
20 program in compliance with KRS 151B.134(3)(a).
21 (8) If the program does not report as required, the Governor may withdraw approval but the
22 institution would have an appeal right as outlined in Section 6.
23 **Section 6. Appeal.**

1 (1) If the Governor denies a request for determination or withdraws approval, he or she shall issue
2 a notice of denial or withdrawal which informs the institution of the specific reason for the action.
3 (2) A written request for an appeal shall be filed with Governor within twenty (20) calendar days
4 of the date of the notice of determination or withdrawal of approval. This request shall be sent to
5 the Office of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board, at the address indicated on the notice.
6 (3) If the request for an appeal is not timely filed, the notice of determination or withdrawal of
7 approval shall be effective upon the expiration of the time for the applicant to request an appeal.
8 (4) The Governor shall issue a decision within sixty (60) days of receiving the appeal from the
9 Office of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board.
10 **Section 7. Incorporation by Reference.** (1) The following materials are incorporated by
11 reference:
12 (a) "Workforce Pell Application", July 2026; and
13 (b) "Workforce Pell Reporting", July 2026.
14 (2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the
15 Office of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board, 500 Mero Street, 4th Floor, Frankfort,
16 Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
17 (3) This material is also available at https://kwib.ky.gov.

787 KAR 2:050E. General provisions for operation of the Workforce Pell Program

As approved by:

Michael Yoder, Commissioner, Department of Workforce Development

6/30/2024
Date

PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall be held on August 31, 2026, at 1:00 pm, at Mayo-Underwood Hearing Room 133CE, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40601. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by five workdays prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing was received by that date, the hearing may be cancelled. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation. Written comments shall be accepted through August 31, 2026. Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

CONTACT PERSON: Chelsea Fallis, Administrative Specialist Senior, 500 Mero Street, Third Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601, 502-564-0757, chelsean.fallis@ky.gov.

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

787 KAR 2:050E. General provisions for operation of the Workforce Pell Program.

Contact Person: Chelsea Fallis, Administrative Specialist Senior, 500 Mero Street, Third Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: 502-564-0757
Email: chelsean.fallis@ky.gov

Subject Headings: Economic Development, Education: Career and Technical, Education: Vocational and Technical

(1) Provide a brief summary of:

(a) What this administrative regulation does: This administrative regulation outlines the requirements for the workforce pell program in compliance with federal law and SB 249 RS26 codified as KRS 151B.138.

(b) The necessity of this administrative regulation: KRS 151B.017(4) requires the Secretary of the Education and Labor Cabinet to promulgate administrative regulations that are necessary to implement programs mandated by federal law.

(c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statute: This administrative regulation conforms to federal and state law because it sets forth the eligibility determination process for the workforce pell program.

(d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This administrative regulation governs the eligibility determination process for the workforce pell program.

(2) If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:

(a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation: This is a new regulation.

(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation: This is a new regulation.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statute: This is a new regulation.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This is a new regulation.

(3) Does this administrative regulation or amendment implement legislation from the previous five years? Yes, this proposed amendment implements Senate Bill 249 RS26.

(4) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation: Kentucky has 24 public universities and colleges with 156,000 full time equivalent enrolled students. Kentucky also has 18 independent colleges and universities with an enrollment equivalent to 60,000 students.

(5) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (4) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in question (4) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment: The entity seeking certification /approval of their workforce pell program will have to apply and report as outlined in the administrative regulation.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the entities identified in question (3): There are no costs to any person or entity.

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3): The regulated individuals will understand how to request a determination that their program qualifies for workforce pell funding.

(6) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:

(a) Initially: None.

(b) On a continuing basis: None.

(7) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation or this amendment: None is needed.

(8) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change if it is an amendment: There are no fees or funding requested.

(9) State whether or not this administrative regulation establishes any fees or directly or indirectly increases any fees: This administrative regulation does not establish fees or directly or indirectly increase any fees.

(10) TIERING: Is tiering applied? Tiering is not required in this administrative regulation because it applies equally to all affected entities.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

787 KAR 2:050E. General provisions for operation of the Workforce Pell Program.

Contact Person: Chelsea Fallis, Administrative Specialist Senior, 500 Mero Street, Third Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: 502-564-0757
Email: chelsean.fallis@ky.gov

(1) Identify each state statute, federal statute, or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation: 20 USC 1017a, 34 C.F.R. 690.90, *et seq.*; KRS 151B.015, 151B.017(4); KRS 13A.100; SB 249 RS26, codified as KRS 151B.138.

(2) State whether this administrative regulation is expressly authorized by an act of the General Assembly, and if so, identify the act: This act is authorized by KRS 13B.170 and SB 249 RS26, codified as KRS 151B.138.

(3)(a) Identify the promulgating agency and any other affected state units, parts, or divisions: Office of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board is the promulgating agency. It will also impact the Kentucky Center for Statistics.

(b) Estimate the following for each affected state unit part, or division identified in (3)(a):

1. Expenditures:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

2. Revenues:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

3. Cost Savings:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

(4)(a) Identify affected local entities (for example; cities, counties, fire departments, school districts): None.

(b) Estimate the following for each affected local entity identified in (4)(a):

1. Expenditures:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

2. Revenues:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

3. Cost Savings:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

(5)(a) Identify any affected regulated entities not listed in (3)(a) or (4)(a): None.

(b) Estimate the following for each regulated entity identified in (5)(a):

1. Expenditures:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

2. Revenues:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

3. Cost Savings:
   For the first year: None
   For subsequent years: None

(6) Provide a narrative to explain the following for each entity identified in (3)(a), (4)(a) and (5)(a): Not applicable.

(a) Fiscal impact of this administrative regulation: None.

(b) Methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion: Not applicable.

(7) Explain, as it relates to the entities identified in (3)(a), (4)(a), and (5)(a):

(a) Whether this administrative regulation will have a "major economic impact," as defined by KRS 13A.010(13): This proposed amendment will not have a major economic impact.

(a) The methodology and resources used to reach this conclusion: Not applicable.

SUMMARY OF MATERIAL INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following material is incorporated by reference:

(1) "Workforce Pell Application" is the information required to be completed by an institution seeking a determination of eligibility regarding their workforce pell program. 34 CFR 690.90, *et seq.*, requires the Governor to establish how an institution seeks a determination regarding the eligibility of their workforce pell program. This form collects the institution's information needed for the eligibility determination process.

(2) "Workforce Pell Reporting" is the information required to be completed by an institution to report the student outcomes for continued certification of the workforce pell program.

Appendix

Partner Spotlight

Partner Spotlight highlights partner initiatives by sharing best practices and innovative approaches in Kentucky's workforce development system.

September 2, 2026 • 12:00 p.m. (ET)

Discussion Topic:
Kentucky Workforce & Education: Key Data & Trends

Presenter(s):
Matt Berry, Executive Director
Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)

Sam Keathley, Senior Workforce Analyst
Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)

Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board | Team Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet | Your New Kentucky Home

Passcode: 431173

What Is the Public Workforce System?

Kentucky's public workforce system connects talent with opportunity by linking employers, employees and job seekers across the state to build skills, careers and a stronger economy.

Who We Are

We're a partnership of state agencies, local workforce boards and community organizations offering free services to employers and job seekers. Whether you're searching for a job, advancing your career, or growing your business, we're here to help.

What We Do

Recruitment Support
We connect employers with qualified candidates.

Training & Career Pathways
We assist with building skills to meet Kentucky's workforce needs.

Retention Services
We assist in employee growth through training and apprenticeships.

Barrier Reduction
We help people overcome challenges like transportation, child care and accessibility.

How It Works

Kentucky Career Center

The Kentucky Career Center (KCC) is the gateway to the state's public workforce system. With 80+ certified locations statewide, KCC connects employers and job seekers to a network of partner agencies that offer specialized programs, services and support.

Partner Agencies

- Career Development Office
- Office of Adult Education
- Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Office of Industry & Apprenticeship Services
- Local Workforce Innovation Boards
- Everybody Counts
- Other community partners and agencies

Kentucky Career Center
Career Training Employer

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

New Kentucky Home

Kentucky Career Center
Career Training Employer

Career Development Office

Comprehensive Career Centers Statewide

We operate 13 comprehensive career centers statewide that help job seekers find lasting employment, connect individuals to education and training opportunities and support employers in finding skilled, qualified workers.

Our Programs

Job Matching Services

- Connect job seekers with employers looking to hire
- Job seekers receive career services, job search help, referrals and placement assistance
- Employers can post jobs and find qualified applicants

Unemployment Support

- Supports individuals receiving unemployment benefits
- Helps with reemployment plans, career information and enrollment in services to get back to work

Veterans Services

- Provides dedicated staff to help veterans and eligible individuals with significant barriers find careers and training
- Connects employers with job seeking veterans

Seasonal Farm Work

- Authorizes temporary workers (H-2A) to enter the U.S. when not enough local workers are available for seasonal agricultural jobs

Support for Job Seekers and Employers

Whether you're a job seeker or an employer, the CDO team is ready to assist you—visit kcc.ky.gov to find the location nearest you.

Kentucky Career Center
Career Training Employer

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

New Kentucky Home

Kentucky Career Center
Vocational Rehabilitation

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Benefits for

Kentucky Employers

Workforce Facts

Kentucky has among the highest rate of people with disabilities in the nation and among the lowest rate of people with disabilities who are employed.

Workers with disabilities who receive accommodations match non-disabled workers in:

- Productivity
- Attendance
- Reliability
- Overall effectiveness

Benefits of Hiring People with Disabilities

- Reduces reliance on governmental supports and contributes to the economy.
- Lessens utilization of healthcare and promotes better overall health.
- Provides financial support for the individual and their families.
- Improves quality of life by building self-confidence, self-reliance and social support.
- Provides opportunities for re-training, advancement, retirement contributions and travel.

Employer Services Branch

We assist businesses in hiring, developing and keeping valued employees and support businesses with placement and retention of individuals with disabilities in the workforce.

These services include:

Recruitment & Hiring

- Pre-screening applicants based on essential job functions
- On-the-job training and internships

Workplace Support

- Onsite job trainer and support services
- Job restructuring and worksite adjustments
- Assistive technology and specialized equipment

Accessibility:

- Accessibility checklists
- Worksite accessibility surveys

Additional Resources

- Staff development
- Financial incentives information
- Follow-up services

To learn more, visit KCC.KY.GOV

TEAM KENTUCKY
ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Ed Solutions for

Kentucky Employers

About Us

We are committed to empowering Kentucky businesses to reach their maximum potential. With a team of experienced professionals, we provide **customized education** and **training services** designed to help employers navigate challenges and capitalize on opportunities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to work with Kentuckians to improve their quality of life through education, training and employment so they can take care of themselves and their families and help their communities and the state's economies expand and thrive.

Employer Benefits

- Enhanced productivity & efficiency
- Increased employee retention
- Improved safety and workplace communication
- Higher employee engagement and morale

Services

Workplace Readiness

We assist in developing skills in communication, teamwork and critical thinking.

Digital Literacy Training

We assist in optimizing and enhancing technology skills.

English Language Learning

We offer English language and civics education for non-native speakers.

GED Preparation and Testing

We offer in-depth GED test preparation and free GED test fees for eligible Kentuckians.

Customized Training Solutions

We offer job-specific literacy and skills training.

Soft Skills Development

We assist in improving delivery of customer service, conflict resolution and more.

Check out our services. **KYAE.KY.GOV**

Kentucky Career Center
Industry and Apprenticeship Services

Workforce Talent Project Team

You aren't doing this work alone.

We're here to help employers hire, develop and retain top talent – connecting the right people, programs, and partnerships to unlock tailored workforce strategies for your business.

Services

- **Free, full-service** business support for employer's workforce needs
- Provide **easy access** to workforce analysis and strategy for Kentucky's businesses
- Address **attraction and recruitment** challenges with an industry-focused, data-informed approach
- Support with **workforce selection and onboarding** solutions
- **Create a business structure** that delivers results for employers and career seekers

Benefits

- **Customize workforce strategies** aligned to industry demands at no cost
- **Foster employer relationships** and maintain strong ties to address workforce needs
- Create a **business structure** that delivers results for employers and career seekers
- Improve **communication and confidence** among workforce partners
- Access to Kentucky's proven **speed-to-market advantage** that gets you operational faster

Scan the QR code and connect with us today.

KYWORKS.KY.GOV

502-564-5920 or workforce@ky.gov

Your personalized workforce service is just one call away!

Kentucky Career Center
Industry and Apprenticeship Services

Office of Industry and Apprenticeship Services

Services

- **Registered Apprenticeships (RA)** and on-the-job training opportunities are available.
- Companies can get up to $9,600 in **valuable financial incentives** including work opportunity tax credits (WOTC), deep training discounts and grants.
- Receive **rapid response and layoff support** to assist employees during transitions and to minimize business disruptions for workers and the community
- Kentucky Fair Chance Bonding is available to employers and applicants **at no cost to protect your business.**

Benefits

- **Apprenticeship Workforce Consultants** provide no-cost guidance, program development, recruitment, training and workforce solutions for over 1500 occupations.
- **91% of apprentices** remain employed after completing their programs and 87% of Kentucky apprentices are employed and in the same industry.
- Registered apprenticeships show a $1.44 return on every dollar invested.

Scan the QR code to connect with us today.

Let's make hiring easier.

KYWORKS.KY.GOV or APPRENTICESHIP@KY.GOV

502-564-5920

Your personalized workforce service is just one call away!

EVERYBODY COUNTS

Kentucky Employers

What We Do

- **Free promotion** of your business to over 12,000 students graduating high school each year
- **Save you time on recruiting** entry-level talent from local high schools
- Provide **direct access to entry-level talent** during the school year and upon graduation
- Ensure new hires enter the workplace **equipped for long-term success**
- Improve employee **retention** and **productivity**

Why Partner with Everybody Counts?

Our **services are free** with no direct cost to employers.

Everybody Counts equips high school juniors and seniors with career pathways and skills to thrive when they enter Kentucky's workforce.

Employers can have confidence that new hires have developed essential skills outside of their academic courses.

Everybody Counts enhances workplace readiness, work-based learning, money management and time management.

Visit everybodycounts.ky.gov or email us at everybodycounts@ky.gov to learn more.

2026 Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board Quarterly Board Meetings

August 27 - Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP)
145 Citizens Ln Suite 101, Hazard, KY 41701

November 19 - The Old Carnegie Building in the Evans-Lively Room at Centre College
600 West Walnut Street, Danville, KY 40422
Link to Centre Campus Map

All meetings are scheduled for 1:30-3:30 pm ET / 12:30 - 2:30 pm CT and will be conducted in-person with a virtual option.

2027 Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board Quarterly Board Meetings

February 18 – Metro United Way
334 East Broadway, Louisville, KY 40202

May 20 – IMPACT Center for Leadership and Innovation
830 Cumberland Trace Road, Bowling Green, KY 42103

August 19 - Location TBD

November 18 - Location TBD

All meetings are scheduled for 1:30-3:30 pm ET / 12:30 - 2:30 pm CT and will be conducted in-person with a virtual option.

CENTRE COLLEGE

600 W Walnut St., Danville, KY 40422

ATHLETIC FACILITIES

- **C1 Sutcliffe Hall**
  - Alumni Gym
  - Athletic Offices
  - Bowman Gym
  - Buck Fitness Center
  - Hazelrigg Gym
  - Hall of Fame Café
- **C2 College Street Field**
- **C3 Andy Frye Stadium**
  - Joe McDaniel Field
  - Track and Field Offices
- **C4 Champions Hall**
  - Lisa Owens Track
  - Craig Johnson '75 Pool
  - Sport Performance Center
  - 365 Market
- **C5 Tennis Courts**
- **C6 Kitty Baird Center**
  - Esports Lab
- **C7 Gordon Dabney Center**
- **C8 Andrew P. Amend Field**
- **C9 Fishman Park**
  - Baseball Offices
  - Gary Wright Field
- **C10 Softball Field**
- **C11 South Campus Field**
- **C12 Softball Player Development Center**
- **C13 Seabury Family Tennis Center**
- **C14 Track and Field Throws Area**
- **C15 Athletics Grounds Building**

ACADEMIC FACILITIES

- **A1 Crounse Hall**
  - Grace Doherty Library
  - Centre Learning Commons
  - Center for Teaching and Learning
  - Vahlkamp Theater
  - Einstein Bros. Bagels
- **A2 Young Hall**
- **A3 Franklin W. Olin Hall**
  - The Austin E. Knowlton Center for Science and Mathematics
- **A4 Norton Center for the Arts**
  - Grant Hall
  - Newlin Hall
  - Weisiger Theatre
- **A5 Jones Visual Arts Center**
  - AEGON Gallery
- **A6 Outdoor Classrooms**
- **A7 Bell Tower**
  - Outdoor Stage
- **A8 Powell Memorial**
  - Outdoor Classroom

STUDENT RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

- **R1 Acheson Hall & Caldwell Hall**
- **R2 Cheek Hall & Evans Hall**
- **R3 Yerkes Hall**
- **R4 Pearl Hall**
- **R5 Ruby Cheek House**
- **R6 Northside Hall**
- **R7 Higgins Hall**
- **R8 Wiseman Hall**
- **R9 Bingham Hall**
- **R10 Greek Park**
- **R11 847 W. Walnut**
- **R12 Brockman Commons**
- **R13 Breckinridge Hall**
- **R14 Nevin Hall**
  - Residence Life Office
- **R15 Stevenson Vinson Hall**
- **R16 LaMotte Tyler Hall**
- **R17 Cooper Ganfield Hall**
- **R18 Fox Hall**
- **R19 Rodes Hall**
- **R20 122 St. Mildred's Ct.**
- **R21 124 St. Mildred's Ct.**
- **R22 5th Street Residences**

ALPHABETICAL LISTING

- R1 Acheson Hall
- C8 Andrew P. Amend Field
- C3 Andy Frye Stadium
- C15 Athletics Grounds Building
- A7 Bell Tower
- R9 Bingham Hall
- 2 Boles Hall
- R13 Breckinridge Hall
- R12 Brockman Commons
- R1 Caldwell Hall
- C4 Champions Hall
- 4 Cheek Emeritus House
- R2 Cheek Hall
- 5 Chenault Alumni House
- 12 Centre Post Office
- C2 College Street Field
- 8 Combs Center
- R17 Cooper Hall
- A1 Crounse Hall
- R11 Department of Public Safety
- R2 Evans Hall
- 13 Facilities Grounds Building
- 7 Facilities Management
- A3 Franklin W. Olin Hall
- C9 Fishman Park
- R18 Fox Hall
- R17 Ganfield Hall
- C7 Gordon Dabney Center
- R10 Greek Park
- R7 Higgins Hall
- 6 Horky House
- R7 Information Technology
- A5 Jones Visual Arts Center
- C6 Kitty Baird Center
- R16 LaMotte Hall
- R14 Nevin Hall
- R6 Northside Hall
- A4 Norton Center for the Arts
- 9 Office of Diversity and Inclusion
- 10 Old Carnegie
- 1 Old Centre
- A6 Outdoor Classrooms
- 11 Parson's Center
- R4 Pearl Hall
- A8 Powell Memorial
- R19 Rodes Hall
- 3 Roush Campus Center
- R5 Ruby Cheek House
- 14 St. Mildred's Guest Cottage
- R20 122 St. Mildred's Ct.
- R21 124 St. Mildred's Ct.
- C13 Seabury Family Tennis Center
- C10 Softball Field
- C12 Softball Player Development Center
- C11 South Campus Field
- R15 Stevenson Hall
- 15 Stone Guest Cottage
- C1 Sutcliffe Hall
- C5 Tennis Courts
- C14 Track and Field Throws Area
- R16 Tyler Hall
- R15 Vinson Hall
- R11 847 W. Walnut
- R8 Wiseman Hall
- R3 Yerkes Hall
- A2 Young Hall

ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES

1. **Old Centre**
   - Admission Welcome Center
   - President's Office
   - Academic Affairs Office
2. **Boles Hall**
   - Admission
   - Financial Aid
3. **Roush Campus Center**
   - Cowan Dining Hall
   - Student Life Office
   - Intercultural Suite
4. **Cheek Emeritus House**
5. **Chenault Alumni House**
   - Development and Alumni Engagement
6. **Horky House**
   - Human Resources
   - Finance Office
7. **Facilities Management**
8. **Combs Center**
   - Leadership Programs
   - Strategic Marketing & Communications
9. **Office of Diversity & Inclusion**
10. **Old Carnegie**
    - Center for Career & Professional Development
    - International Student Services
    - Centre Global (Study Abroad & Away)
11. **Parson's Center**
    - Student Health & Counseling
12. **Centre Post Office**
    - Centre Document Services (CDS)
13. **Facilities Grounds Building**
14. **St. Mildred's Guest Cottage**
15. **Stone Guest Cottage**

R8 Registrar's Office
R7 Information Technology Services (ITS)
R11 Department of Public Safety
R14 Residence Life Office

CAMPUS DINING

CENTRE GARDEN

CENTRE BOOKSTORE
Sutcliffe Hall

CRAIK HOUSE
College President's Residence

OVERSTREET HOUSE
College Provost's House

CAMPUS PARKING

- P1 Student Parking
- P2 Faculty, Staff and Guest Parking
- P3 Student Parking
- P4 Student Parking
- P5 Guest Parking
- P6 Faculty and Staff Parking
- P7 Faculty, Staff and Student Parking
- P8 Facilities and Maintenance Parking
- P9 Student Parking
- P10 Student and Guest Parking
- P11 Student, Faculty and Staff Parking
- P12 Faculty and Staff Parking
- P13 Faculty and Staff Parking
- P14 Guest Parking
- P15 Guest Parking
- P16 Facilities and Maintenance Parking
- P17 Student Parking
- P18a Facilities and Maintenance Parking (Beneath Overpass)
- P18b Faculty and Staff Parking
- P19 Student Health Service Parking
- P20 Guest Parking
- P21 1-Hour Guest Parking
- P22 Student Parking
- P23 Faculty, Staff and Student Parking
- P24 Event Parking
- P25 Event Parking
- P26 Faculty and Staff Parking
- P27 Event Parking

Scan QR Code for Mobile Navigation:

CENTRE COLLEGE IS A TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS

Board Membership Travel Reimbursement Information

Per the By-Laws of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board, Article III, Section 2, Members of the Board and non-members serving on committees or workgroups, shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for all actual and necessary expenses incurred in connection with their duties in accordance with state travel expenses and reimbursement administrative regulation.

Regulation and Travel Expense and Reimbursement: The reimbursement rate is determined using the American Automobile Association (AAA) Daily Fuel Gauge Report for Kentucky for regular unleaded gasoline. The gasoline cost used for the calculation is located on the AAA website at http://gasprices.aaa.com/?state=KY.

The rate shall be adjusted on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 each calendar year based on the average retail price of regular grade gasoline for the week beginning on the second Sunday of the prior month as follows:

	AAA Average Weekly Fuel Cost	Reimbursement Per Mile
a.	$ .01 to $1.499	36 cents per mile
b.	$1.50 to $1.699	37 cents per mile
c.	$1.70 to $1.899	38 cents per mile
d.	$1.90 to $2.099	39 cents per mile
e.	$2.10 to $2.299	40 cents per mile
f.	Greater than $2.299	41 cents plus 1 cent for every 20 cent increase

Mileage for in-state travel shall be based on the “Kentucky Official Highway Map”, MapQuest website, Google Maps website, or similar web mapping service. Out-of-state mileage shall be based on the most recent edition of the “Rand McNally Road Atlas”, MapQuest website, Google Maps website, or similar web mapping service.

Current rate through October 1, 2026, is $0.47/ mile.

Education and Labor's financial office requires board members to create a vendor account on: https://vss.ky.gov This allows for direct deposit, after the event has occurred, and “voucher” paperwork has been submitted and approved.

If you will follow the prompts in the link and then let KWIB staff know what your “vendor number” is, KWIB staff can set up the “voucher” that will calculate your reimbursable expense and prompt the process for payment. Email kwib.projects@ky.gov for more information or questions.

Futuriti

How Kentuckians find their future.

Commonwealth Education Continuum

Futuriti helps Kentuckians understand the state's 5 high-demand workforce sectors.

Kentucky's in-demand career sectors offer many opportunities to build rewarding careers while supporting the state's growing economy. These sectors, approved by the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board, provide stability and growth and allow you to make meaningful contributions to your community.

Kentucky WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Healthcare

Healthcare practitioners and healthcare support workers play vital roles in maintaining and improving people's health. Practitioners, such as doctors and nurses, diagnose, treat, and manage illnesses, while support workers assist with daily care, administrative tasks, and patient comfort.

Manufacturing and Logistics

Workers in manufacturing build and assemble goods, from cars and electronics to clothing and food products, often using advanced machinery and technology. Logistics professionals prioritize and manage the supply chain, ensuring that materials are transported efficiently.

Construction

Construction careers contribute to all aspects of Kentucky life, from building homes and schools to developing roads and bridges. With opportunities ranging from entry-level positions to skilled trades and leadership roles, the industry offers a clear pathway for growth and specialization.

Education

Education careers require patience, creativity, and strong communication skills to engage learners and guide them toward success. Beyond the classroom, education offers opportunities in curriculum development, educational technology, and administration, providing numerous paths.

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

Professionals in these fields may specialize in designing cutting-edge technology, conducting scientific research, managing finances, or offering legal and business advice. These roles require knowledge, analytical thinking, and a commitment to staying ahead of industry trends.

WIOA Title I: Adult, Dislocated Workers and Youth

Kentucky Governance

Kentucky WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

U.S. Department of Labor
Funding & Oversight

↓

Commonwealth of Kentucky

↓

Governor

Appoints ← **Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board**
Vision, Strategy and Policy

Consultation ↔ **Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board**

↓

Department of Workforce Development

- Funding Allocation & Oversight Policy
- Monitoring Responsibilities & Technical Assistance
- Establishment of Policies and Guidance

Funding / Oversight → **Local Areas and Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEO)**

- Local Fiduciary Responsibility
- Local Board Appointment
- Local Oversight

Appoints → **Local Workforce Development Board**
Local Strategy, Workforce Convener, Linkage to Business, & Hiring Board Staff

↓

Fiscal Agent

- Ensures sustained fiscal integrity & accountability of funds
- Provided by a separate entity of grant sub-recipient
- Disburses funds at the direction of the Local Workforce Development Board for expenditures

Direct Service Providers

- Employment & Training Activities for Adults, Dislocated Workers, & Youth
- Provided by a separate entity of grant sub-recipient

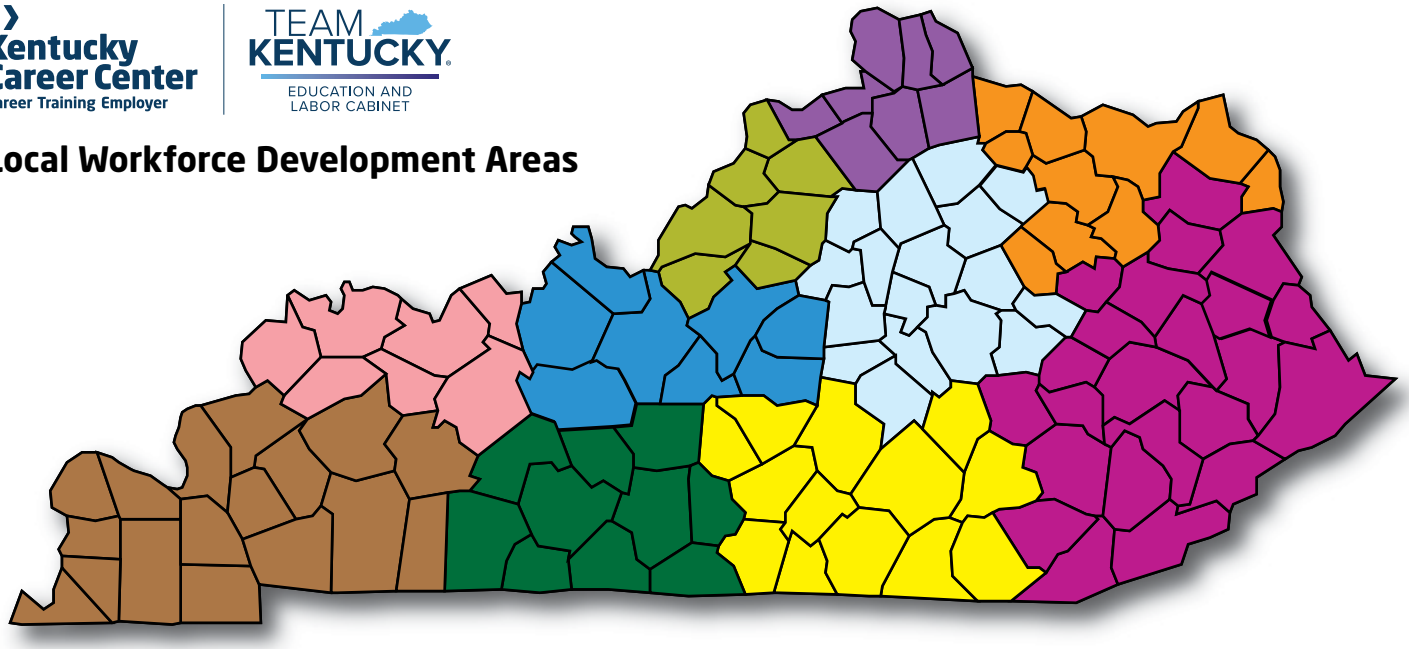
One-Stop Operator (Coordinator of Local Service Providers)

- Provided by separate entity or grant sub-recipient

Kentucky Career Center
Career Training Employer

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

Local Workforce Development Areas



Bluegrass
Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, Woodford
Tiffanie Reeves, Director
699 Perimeter Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40517
859-810-2536
ckycareers.com
treeves@bgadd.org

Cumberlands
Adair, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, Laurel, McCreary, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Taylor, Wayne, Whitley
Myra Wilson, Director
PO Box 1570
Russell Springs, Kentucky 42642
270-866-4200
cumberlandsworkforce.com
myra@lcadd.org

EKCEP
Bell, Breathitt, Carter, Clay, Elliott, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Menifee, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Wolfe
Becky Carnes-Miller, Director
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606-436-5751
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KentuckianaWorks
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Michael Gritton, Director
410 West Chestnut Street, Suite 200
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502-574-2500
kentuckianaworks.org
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Lincoln Trail
Breckinridge, Grayson, Hardin, LaRue, Marion, Meade, Nelson, Washington
Jackie Masterson, Interim Director
PO Box 604
Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42702
270-769-2393
ltcareercenter.org
jackie@ltadd.org

Northern Kentucky
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Correy Eimer, Director
22 Spiral Drive
Florence, Kentucky 41042
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South Central
Allen, Barren, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Simpson, Warren
Jon Sowards, President/CEO
2355 Nashville Road, Suite C101
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270-846-6707
southcentralworkforce.com
jon@southcentralworkforce.com

TENCO
Bath, Boyd, Bracken, Fleming, Greenup, Lewis, Mason, Montgomery, Robertson, Rowan
Justin Suttles, Director
201 Government Street, Suite 300
Maysville, Kentucky 41056
606-956-2634
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justin.suttles@ky.gov

West Kentucky
Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, Muhlenberg, Todd, Trigg
Sheila Clark, Director
300 Hammond Drive
Hopkinsville, Kentucky 42240
270-886-9484
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sheila.clark@ky.gov

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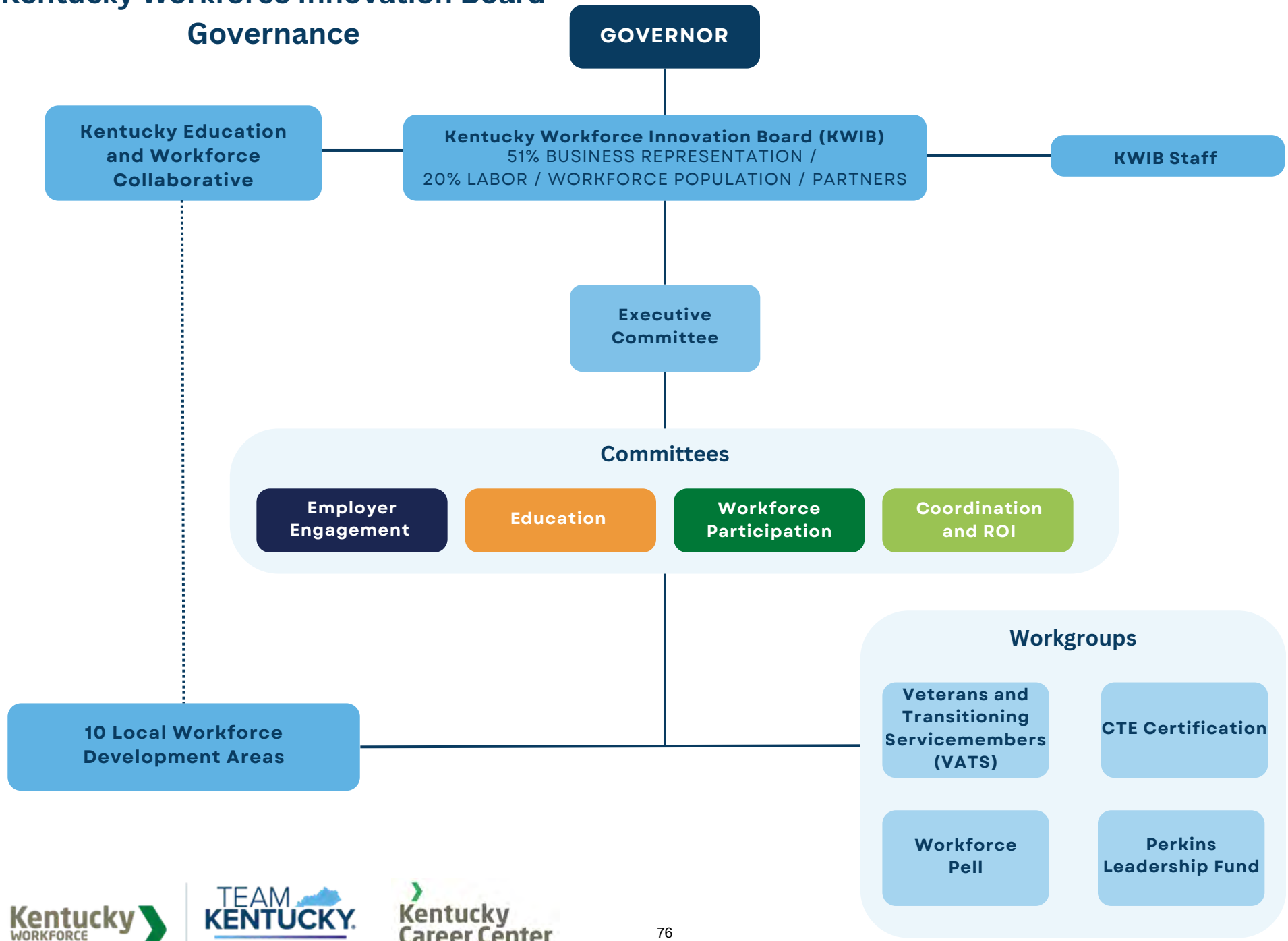
Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board Governance



Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board | Team Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet | Kentucky Career Center Career Training Employer

Updated August 2026

TEAM KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

HELP DRIVE KENTUCKY'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

What innovative ideas will achieve a workforce ready for the jobs of the future?

Join the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board

Strategic Committees

EDUCATION
Align and build a lifelong education system to meet the future of work

WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION
Create opportunities for untapped talent and remove barriers to work

EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT
Shape a business-led workforce system

COORDINATION & ROI
Consistently improve the system and increase return on workforce investment

Business and community leaders, educators, and government professionals interested in serving, email us at kwib.projects@ky.gov.

Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board
500 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40601
kwib.ky.gov

Kentucky WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD