

Education Attainment Committee

Meeting Briefing Packet

February 10, 2026

10:00 – 11:30 am EST

Committee Chair

Johnny W. Collett

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Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)

Education Attainment Committee Meeting

AGENDA

February 10th, 2026

10:00 am – 11:30 am EST

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85452510065?pwd=vAgTEL4eEtowhfuxYHLO7LSlj3IMCp.1>

Meeting ID: 854 5251 0065

Passcode:383561

10:00 AM	<u>Welcome and Overview</u>Johnny Collett, Committee Chair Deputy Executive Director University of Kentucky Human Development Institute (HDI)
10:10 AM	<u>Committee Goals and Priorities</u> Johnny Collett
10:20 AM	<u>Committee Responsibility and Oversight</u>Alisher Burikhanov Executive Director Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB)
10:30 AM	<u>CTE Certification Recommendations (Voting Required)</u>Cathy Hoehn Academic Program Manager Programs and Pathways Branch, Office of Career and Technical Education
10:40 AM	<u>Perkins State Leadership Recommendations (Voting Required)</u>Lori Looney Education Administration Program Manager Division of Technical Schools and Continuous Improvement, Office of Career and Technical Education
10:50 AM	<u>AI Taskforce Update</u> Alisher Burikhanov
10:55 AM	<u>Workforce Pell Update</u> Alisher Burikhanov
11:00 AM	<u>Work-Based Learning Continuum Summit</u>Johnny Collett and Alisher Burikhanov Justin Browning CTE & Innovation Coordinator Barren County Schools
11:15 AM	<u>Committee Discussion</u>Johnny Collett
11:30 AM	<u>Adjournment</u> Johnny Collett

Committee Goals and Priorities

Strategic Goal #2: Education Attainment

Education attainment is an important component for individuals to reach their full career potential; to create an environment of growth across the entire education continuum from preschool to adult learners; to reach the statewide focus of having 60% of Kentuckians with a postsecondary credential by 2030; and to further attract global investment in the commonwealth. The development of technology has had great impact on education, the general demographic decline in population, the limited potential of growing the educator workforce due to stagnate wages, and critical need of investments in early childhood education to equip young Kentuckians with foundational skills.

Priority #1: Work-Based Learning (Learner Perspective) - Expanding Access to Earn and Learn Opportunities

Strategic Action: Create seamless opportunities and expand options for learners to engage in WBL by developing clear explanations of commonly used terms, accessing available funds, and establishing a network of WBL experts that support learners.

Qualitative Metrics (with quantitative metrics as milestones reached):

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Gather data of WBL outcomes as it relates to postsecondary attainment (CPE/KYSTATS data) and employment, including subpopulations outcomes.

Midterm Measurement (within two years): Create informational definitions for internships, mentorships, job shadowing, work exposure, registered apprenticeships, etc.

Midterm Measurement (within two years): Research and maximize opportunities with tuition reimbursement among employers providing tuition assistance (used and unused) and provide case studies of best practices for employers and learners to increase awareness and encourage use of these opportunities.

Midterm Measurement (within two years): Launch a statewide network of experts on WBL, specifically with Career & Technical Education (CTE) across Kentucky school districts.

Longterm Measurement (within four years): Measure and report on utilization of created materials based on learners involved, businesses with WBL growth, and number of WBL experts across Kentucky supporting CTE students.

Priority #2: Increasing the Teacher Pipeline

Strategic Action: Establish a strong and accessible educational foundation for the next generation of educators. Growth of educators involves an understanding and awareness of current statewide and regional needs, creative and innovative strategies to attract dedicated professional into education as “next-career” opportunity and marketing all possible pathways.

Qualitative Metrics (with Quantitative Metric of Milestones Reached):

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Collaboratively examine data on teacher demand statewide and regionally; focusing on demand for K-12, CTE, and postsecondary technical instructors; additionally, gather data on the demand for early childhood educators.

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Research and create a guide on qualifications and requirements to be a technical instructor in the commonwealth; from K-12 CTE instructors, KCTCS technical instructors, government technical instructors (example Department of Corrections), registered apprenticeship instructors, and other opportunities.

Midterm Measurement (within two years): Increase awareness and understanding of future educators and technical instructors regarding the full spectrum of opportunities and options to enter the education sector.

Longterm Measurement (within four years): Measure annually enrolled and graduated students in various education pathways (K-12, postsecondary institution, registered apprenticeship, etc.); measure annually number of instructors across the education spectrum; and strive for growth based upon annual trends.

Priority #3: Expanding Access & Achievement in Education for All Kentuckians

Strategic Action: Ensure all Kentuckians can achieve across the educational spectrum including credentials earned, WBL opportunities, early postsecondary opportunities (such as dual credit), and employment.

Quantitative and Qualitative Metrics:

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Present state and regional baseline data on access and completion of dual credit opportunities, CTE completions, engagement and completion of WBL, postsecondary entry and achievement, and employment; the data should include disaggregation categorized by learners.

Midterm Measurement (within two years): Increase awareness and understanding of stakeholders on gaps related to achievement, opportunity, and expectations, best and promising practices, and the importance of engagement with employers throughout.

Longterm Measurement (within four years): Measure impact from baseline numbers collected to annual data gathered to understand the impact of implementing best practices.

Committee Responsibility and Oversight

Education Attainment Committee – Oversight and Accountability (Voting Items)

1. CTE Certifications – Quarterly
2. Perkins Leadership Fund – Annual
3. In-Demand Certifications – Annual
4. Proposed: Workforce Pell Programs – Quarterly

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certifications

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certification

Recommendations:

The BEAT team has reviewed the following certification applications and made recommendations for the approval of the CTE Certification Review workgroup.

Industry Certification Name	Industry Certification Program Area	Recommended Industry Certification List?
UK Produce Best Practices Training (PBPT)	Agriculture	Recommend as a standalone assessment; strong pathway alignment and immediate post-graduation value
FAA Remote Pilot	Agriculture	Do not recommend; insufficient alignment with agriculture standards and implementation concerns.
Certiport - Generative AI Foundations Certification	Computer Science	Recommend as a core stacked credential validating ethical and foundational AI knowledge.
Certiport -Pearson IT Specialist AI Certification	Computer Science	Recommend stacked with Generative AI Foundations; confirms responsible and professional AI knowledge.
CompTIA IT Fundamentals	Computer Science	Recommend updating to vendor-renamed title <i>CompTIA Tech Plus</i> .
OSHA 10	Law & Public Safety	Recommend removal; phase-out June 2027 due to hiring, instructor eligibility, and feasibility concerns.
HAAS Basic Mill Operator	Manufacturing	Recommend; industry values credential and supports workforce entry.

HAAS Basic Lathe Operator	Manufacturing	Recommend; highly valued credential with immediate employment relevance.
FAA Remote Pilot	Media Arts	Recommend; drone technology is emerging and should be added as part of stacked credentials.
TRACK Youth Apprenticeship Certification	Multi	Recommend as standalone Postsecondary Readiness Indicator; each certificate listed individually on Valid Industry Certification List.
Lean Six Sigma	Multi	Pending BEAT recommendation.

Recommended

- UK Produce Best Practices Training (PBPT) – Industry Certification Program Area: Agriculture - standalone assessment, strong pathway alignment, immediate post-graduation value.
- Certiport - Generative AI Foundations Certification – Industry Certification Program Area: Computer Science - core stacked credential, ethical and foundational AI knowledge.
- Certiport - Pearson IT Specialist AI Certification – Industry Certification Program Area: Computer Science - stacked with Generative AI Foundations, confirms responsible and professional AI knowledge.
- CompTIA – Industry Certification Program Area: Computer Science - updating to vendor-renamed title *CompTIA Tech Plus*.
- HAAS Basic Mill Operator – Industry Certification Program Area: Manufacturing - industry values credential, supports workforce entry.
- HAAS Basic Lathe Operator – Industry Certification Program Area: Manufacturing - highly valued, immediate employment relevance.
- FAA Remote Pilot – Industry Certification Program Area: Media Arts - emerging drone technology, add as part of stacked credentials.
- TRACK Youth Apprenticeship Certification – Industry Certification Program Area: Multi - standalone Postsecondary Readiness Indicator, each certificate listed individually on Valid Industry Certification List.

Pending / Under Review

- Lean Six Sigma – Industry Certification Program Area: Multi - pending BEAT recommendation.

Phase-Out

- OSHA 10 – Industry Certification Program Area: Law & Public Safety - scheduled to phase out by June 2027 due to hiring, instructor eligibility, and feasibility concerns.

Removal / Not Recommended

- FAA Remote Pilot – Industry Certification Program Area: Agriculture - insufficient alignment with agriculture

standards, implementation concerns.

Career and Technical Education Certification Programs

Industry Certification Program Area

➤ Certiport – Generative AI Foundations Certification

- **Website:** <https://certiport.pearsonvue.com/Blog/2024/September/Introducing-the-Generative-AI-Foundations-Cert.aspx>
- **Recognized by:** a consortium of companies requesting including Eyeconic, Inc. and the South Central Kentucky Regional Technology Council
- **Workforce Areas:** South Central
- **Previous Program Status:** N/A

➤ Certiport – Pearson IT Specialist AI Certification

- **Description:** Artificial Intelligence Professional Exam
- **Website:** <https://certiport.filecamp.com/s/i/n4mlgs8hJG6DV8kl/s/m40yiexUc78ZJ5qG>
- **Recognized by:** A consortium of companies requesting including Eyeconic, Inc. and the South Central Kentucky Regional Technology Council.
- **Workforce Areas:** South Central
- **Previous Program Status:** N/A

➤ HAAS Basic Mill Operator and HAAS Lathe Operator

- **Description:** These courses are designed to provide the basic knowledge necessary to get started as a CNC machine operator or CNC machinist. They offer basic machine operation, proper safety, and fundamental machining processes including programming, metrology, blueprint reading, basic math, and materials. After the online course is completed, a hands-on test is given at an authorized facility. There is no cost for this certificate.
- **Website:** <https://learn.haascnc.com>
- **Recognized by:** C&R Machine & Fabrication LLC
- **Workforce Areas:** Bluegrass
- **Previous Program Status:** No

➤ HAAS Basic Mill Operator and HAAS Lathe Operator

- **Description:** No Cost
- **Website:** <https://learn.haascnc.com>
- **Recognized by:** Machine Time Inc.
- **Workforce Areas:** Bluegrass
- **Previous Program Status:** No

➤ Produce Best Practices Training (PBPT)

- **Description:** Produce safety / \$500-\$1,000
- **Website** with additional information about certification - <https://fsic.ca.uky.edu/training/food-safety-regulation>

- **Recognized by:** and requesting the certification - Hallow Springs Farm
- **Workforce Area:** Cumberlands
- **Previous Program Status:** No

➤ **Unmanned Aircraft General - Small (UAG)**

- **Description:** \$150 test fee
- **Website:** https://www.faa.gov/uas/commercial_operators/become_a_drone_pilot
- **Recognized by:** Casey County Cooperative Extension Service/Casey County Schools
- **Workforce Area:** Cumberlands
- **Previously Program Status:** No

Based on the information we received from the CTE Director, the FAA Remote Pilot Certificate is already on the Valid Industry Certification List. It's aligned with several pathways and is even designated as High Demand. The certification process involves students obtaining an FAA Tracking Number, taking and passing the Unmanned Aircraft General – Small (UAG) knowledge test, and then completing FAA Form 8710-13 to receive their Remote Pilot Certificate.

2026-27 Perkins Leadership Fund Recommendations

Perkins State Leadership Fund Request Awards 2026-27

Grantee	26-27 Requested Amount	Project Overview
Office of Career and Technical Ed (OCTE)		
Professional Development	\$190,000.	Continuous professional learning and technical upgrades are essential for state staff and CTE educators to ensure their knowledge and skills remain current and precisely aligned with evolving industry demands.
Technical Assistance	\$35,000.	The Secondary Technical Assistance Project (STAP) ensures the effective implementation of secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs by offering continuous, tailored support to districts, schools, and CTE teachers statewide.
Career Programs & Pathways	\$449,795.	The Career Programs and Pathways Project provide instructional resources for educators, fosters business and industry partnerships, and supports the alignment of secondary and postsecondary pathways. This includes dual and articulated credit, apprenticeships, and industry certification resources and training.
OSHA	\$40,375.	This project funds the training of CTE instructors to receive train the trainer status to offer students the opportunity to receive the OSHA 10 credential before graduation.
Area Tech Centers CTSO Advisor Stipend	\$50,000.	CTSO advising adds significant responsibilities including chapter management, event planning, student supervision, and compliance tasks that extend well beyond a teacher's contractual duties. Stipends recognize this extra workload, making it more feasible for educators to accept and sustain these roles. This helps retain experienced teachers and reduces turnover, which is critical given Kentucky's documented CTE teacher shortage in rural and high-demand sectors.
Other applicants		
Kentucky Community & Technical College System	\$469,022.80	Project A: Comeback to Complete (C2C) Project B: Curriculum Coordinator Project C: Technical Programs Curriculum Project D: Applied Practice for Teaching (APT) Project E: CTE Professional Development, Operations, and Support To support KCTCS CTE faculty and staff in accessing professional development and industry training to enhance teaching skills and align

		with evolving business and industry needs. Project F: AI at Work - support project implementation, and provide professional development for faculty and staff involved in AI.
Office of Adult Education	\$62,995.	OAE services emphasize expanding postsecondary and workforce development opportunities that lead to sustainable careers and improved quality of life.
Murray State University	\$48,500.	The focus of this project is to provide tools to empower CTE teachers to design inclusive instruction and create equitable opportunities for CTE students across Kentucky.
University of Louisville	\$101,950.	CTE Teachers/Instructors from differing career clusters as co-developers, 30 teachers/instructors @\$1,500 per teacher
West Kentucky University	\$26,497.	This project will strengthen clinical instruction by expanding access to realistic, standardized clinical experiences that support safe RN-level decision-making, while meeting workforce expectations for technology-enabled training.
Preapproved eligible applicant requests (no interview required or conducted)		Eligibility explanation below
Non-Traditional Camps	\$60,000.	<p>The State must provide funds for:</p> <p>(A) Preparation for non-traditional fields in current and emerging professions, programs for special populations, and other activities that expose students, including special populations, to high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand occupations; (amounts between \$60,000 and \$150,000)</p> <p>(B) Individuals in State institutions, such as State correctional institutions, including juvenile justice facilities, and educational institutions that serve individuals with disabilities; (no more than 2% of total award)</p> <p>(C) recruiting, preparing, or retaining career and technical education teachers, faculty, specialized instructional support personnel, or paraprofessionals, such as preservice, professional development, or leadership development programs; and</p> <p>(D) Technical assistance for eligible recipients</p>
Non-Traditional Instruction	\$492,200.	
Department of Corrections	\$72,000.	
Dept of Juvenile Justice	\$20,075.	
Kentucky School for the Blind	\$4,200.	
Kentucky School for the Deaf	\$35,561.30	
Total	\$2,158,171.10	<i>Funding conditional on federal government awards</i>

Artificial Intelligence Workforce Readiness

Vision for AI Workforce Readiness:

The commonwealth will be the nation's leader in emerging & innovative technologies workforce readiness by modeling innovation, collaboration, and execution in prioritizing Kentucky businesses, all workers, and education. The work must be people-centered with intent of AI-human interaction.

1. SHORT TERM: Foundational AI principles for Kentuckians

- a. Kentucky certificate/credential for skilling Kentucky workers & learners
- b. Opportunities for Kentucky employers (small, medium, & large enterprises)
- c. Taskforce members as “client zero” for internal pilots

2. MID TERM: AI Innovation Hubs – Regional Skills Development

- a. Leverage regional SWATT partners, including local workforce development boards, regional universities/colleges, school districts, economic development, local chambers of commerce

3. LONG TERM: Industry Innovation Competitions

- a. Facilitate collaboration among key industries

Work-Based Learning Summit

WBL Summit – DRAFT for Discussion

Name: Work-Based Learning Continuum Summit

Goal: Align different perspectives of WBL to benefit all Kentucky students, workers, and employers

Content: Understand WBL from perspective....

- KDE (include district CTE, [use of the WBL manual](#))
- CPE (include institutions)
- Adult learners (WIOA OJT, Adult Ed)
- Employers in key sectors:
 - WBL in manufacturing & logistics
 - WBL in construction (ex: labor-management joint apprenticeship)
 - WBL in healthcare
 - WBL in education (ex: teacher apprenticeship)
 - WBL in professional, scientific, and technical services

Audience, WBL stakeholders:

- CTE instructors
- District leaders
- Everybody Counts
- Superintendents, principles, and other interested school officials
- Post-secondary career centers
- Local workforce development board practitioners
- Registered apprenticeship sponsors (employers)
- Government officials

Outcome: understand the similarities and differences as WBL is defined across the continuum. Answer the question of what we can do to align, streamline, collaborate so that WBL benefit all Kentucky students, workers, and employers.

Appendix

Everybody Counts

Your Future Starts Now

Connect with Everybody Counts Today!

Let's turn your passions into a paycheck - with one-on-one help from Everybody Counts Career Coaches.



Why Students Choose Us



Personalized Coaching

Get support tailored to your goals—college, career, or certifications.



Easy Scheduling

Meet during school hours, after school, or virtually. You choose.



Real Opportunities

Internships, job shadows, and job leads in your area.



Goal Planning

From resume help to job interview prep—we've got your back.

Partnering Communities

- Fayette
- Jessamine
- Scott
- Franklin
- Oldham
- Shelby
- Jefferson

Ready To Get Started?

It's free. It's easy. It's all about YOU.

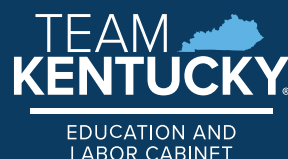
Ask your counselor to connect you with an Everybody Counts Coach or visit EverybodyCounts.ky.gov and click **Get Connected**.

"Coach Deon inspired me to get going on finishing my work so I could get a job somewhere that's good for me. It impacted me in many ways, including my ability to get work completed, how to communicate with people, improved my work ethic, and increased my job opportunities. My coach helped push me to the right path, so I know what's good for me. He created a good space for people like me to graduate and gave opportunities to move on after graduating."

Martin Silva - Class of 2025

Contact Information

Email: EverybodyCounts@ky.gov
Website: everybodycounts.ky.gov





Everybody Counts Benefits for Kentucky Employers



What we do for Employers

- Free promotion of your business to over 12,000 students graduating high school each year
- Coordinate delivery of company hiring events at local high schools
- Provide direct access to entry-level talent during the school year and upon graduation
- Cultivate essential skills to enhance employee workplace readiness
- Improve employee retention and productivity
- Save time and money on recruiting entry-level talent from local high schools
- Support new hire applicants to complete your company's hiring process and show up for work
- Ensure new hires enter the workplace equipped with real-world skills for long-term success

Services

- Youth workforce participation and readiness
- Work-based learning opportunities
- Employee talent pipeline
- Youth essential skills development

Why should employers engage with Everybody Counts?

Our services are free - there is no direct cost to employers. We create unique opportunities for your company to engage high school talent throughout the school year. Upon graduation, we support the successful transition into the workforce. We equip new hire talent with the essential skills your company requires, so employees are ready for your company's workplace.

We actively promote your company and our job opportunities to thousands of potential new hires each year.

Everybody Counts equips high school juniors and seniors with career pathway plans and the skills to thrive in Kentucky's workforce.

Employers can have confidence that new hires have developed essential skills outside of their academic coursework, enhancing:

- Workplace readiness
- Work-based learning
- Money management
- Time management

My *New*
Kentucky
Home

Contact our office to create your company's customized partner plan.
Website: everybodycounts.ky.gov
Email: everybodycounts@ky.gov
Interactive website: pathful.com/kentucky

TEAM
KENTUCKY
EDUCATION AND
LABOR CABINET