



EDUCATION AND  
LABOR CABINET

## **KWIB Executive Committee**

### **Meeting Briefing Book**

May 11, 2026

11:00am – 12:30pm ET

Zoom Meeting

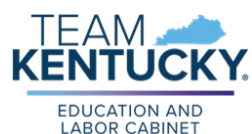


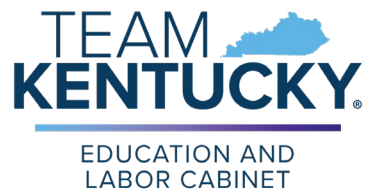
# KWIB Executive Committee Meeting

May 11, 2026, 11:00am – 12:30pm ET

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**AGENDA**  
**KWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**May 11, 2026**  
**11:00am – 12:30pm ET**  
**Virtual**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82475567489?pwd=Szx0nUfKAZQSXnQPHMyG0wojtVtQUa.1>  
 Meeting ID: 824 7556 7489  
 Passcode: 108819

**11:00am Call Meeting to Order**.....*Lori Ulrich, KWIB Chair*  
*Fleming-Mason Energy*

**11:05am KWIB Executive Committee Approval (Voting)**.....*Lori Ulrich, Chair*  
 - Approval of 02/02/26 minutes

**11:20am KWIB Business**.....*Lori Ulrich, Chair*  
 - State Plan Modification – Submitted  
 - KWIB Strategic Plan  
 - Committee Chair Update: Selma Owens, Coordination and ROI Committee (formerly Resource Alignment Committee)  
 - Kentucky Career Center Certification  
 - CTE Certifications / [Employer Form Update](#)  
 - High-Demand CTE Certifications  
 - SB249: Workforce Pell Expansion

**12:00pm Preparation for 5/21 KWIB Board Meeting**..... *Lori Ulrich, Chair*  
 - Agenda Items:  
   o KWIB Strategic Plan *Alisher Burikhanov*  
   o Workforce Pell *Executive Director, Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board*  
   o HB5: Reentry Campus  
   o Work Ready Communities  
 - Host: Kentucky Community and Technical College System, 300 North Main Street, Versailles, KY

**12:30pm Adjournment**.....*Lori Ulrich, Chair*



# KWIB Executive Committee Meeting

## MINUTES

February 2, 2026; 9:30am – 11:00am ET

Via Zoom

**Committee Member Attendance:** Lori Ulrich, Chair, KWIB; Johnny W. Collett, Vice-Chair, KWIB, Education Attainment Committee Chair; LaKisha Miller, Proxy, Employer Engagement Co-Committee Chair; JC Gregory, Ph. D., Workforce Participation Committee Chair; and Kim Menke, Past-Chair, KWIB

**DWD Staff:** Alisher Burikhanov; Aveana Jackson; Debbie Dennison

**9:31 am CALL TO ORDER / WELCOME**

**Lori Ulrich, Chair, Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) and Fleming-Mason Energy (business)** welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She referred to the agenda and asked for discussion or vote around last meetings minutes. **Kim Menke** *motioned* to approve the minutes and **JC Gregory, Ph.D.**, *seconded*. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Ulrich pointed to the Annual Board Liability Insurance Renewal documents in the briefing packet and asked for discussion or a motion to move forward with the chosen insurer. **Kim Menke** *motioned* to approve the insurance and **Johnny W. Collett** *seconded*. None opposed and the motion passed unanimously.

### KWIB BUSINESS

**Chair Ulrich** continued with the agenda and shared information on the **Work Ready Communities – Next Generation** program and asked for feedback. Discussion included survey results, incentives in promotion of being Work-Ready, best practices and the importance of this to employers. Employers need help with attracting talent and retaining and upskilling talent and those points should be considered when certifying a region or county. The deliverables and final content are anticipated by Spring2026.

Chair Ulrich transitioned to Perkins Leadership Fund applications and noted that interviews were held with applicants on their innovative projects last week. While funds have not yet been granted by the Department of Education, applications for more than \$2 million have been reviewed and approved for fund recommendation. A complete list can be reviewed in the brief packet.

Kim Menke, past-Chair, KWIB, shared the work of the **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workforce Readiness Taskforce**. The taskforce has been meeting since August and identified the importance of educating and building awareness among businesses. Discussion included the importance of this effort in identifying AI workforce readiness skills for Kentucky employers. Employer engagement and continued collaboration building a framework of achievable and flexible AI benchmarks continues. Additional discussion included the numerous statewide efforts being conducted around AI and the need for unification on efforts. Alisher Burikhanov, Executive Director, KWIB and Chair Ulrich thanked Kim for his and Dr. Sun's leadership in this effort.

Chair Ulrich referenced the provided list of Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway certifications that have been recommended to be added, changed or removed. Discussion included sharing the role of the Business and Education Alignment Teams (BEAT) within Office of CTE (OCTE) and who is involved in deciding whether a pathway is added, changed or removed. Alisher shared that each BEAT includes educational subject-matter-experts (SMEs) as well as regional employers that have vested interest in pathways offered. Discussions are had before any credential is added, removed or changed.

Finally, Chair Ulrich noted that the KWIB Quarterly Board meeting is moved to a later date noting recent Department of Labor (DOL) guidance received for the State Plan. A public comment period must happen before the full KWIB board votes on updates being sent to DOL.

#### **EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET (ELC) UPDATES**

**Mike Yoder, Ph.D., Commissioner, Department of Workforce Development (DWD)**, shared updates on the Statewide Workforce and Talent Team (SWATT) efforts including survey and roadshow results. Recommendations include: utilization of a shared system for intake, definitions of success, creating a unified message, making sure there is a continuity plan, and that it is easy for employers. From these recommendations, the following *priorities* have been identified: creating a business play book, defining success metrics, piloting a shared intake system, identifying best practices and pairing tools with training and communication. Of note is that two KWIB member companies are participating in pilot initiatives. Additional information on SWATT and other statewide strategic objectives can be found [here](#).

**Alisher** shared that [Pell Grants](#) are available to the workforce for short job-training programs and for portable, stackable, in-demand credentials not tied to other postsecondary degrees. The KWIB will be providing recommendations on the eligibility requirements of Workforce Pell and tie to high-wage, high-skill and in-demand occupations as part of the governance and definitions to be put in place. This framework must be created by June 30, 2026.

**Alisher** transitioned to other updates within the cabinet. He noted highlights from the January 22, 2026 Education and Workforce Collaborative Board meeting. The meeting highlighted the work of AmeriCorps and Serve Kentucky. He added that the State of the Workforce Funding was provided to the Collaborative Board and additional review is forthcoming. He added that the Self-Sufficiency Report, required in the Executive Order is due in the summer. More information on that meeting can be found on the [KWIB website](#).

He shared recent success of the Governor's Council on Second Chance Employers, in partnership with engaged employers and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), to focus on building a reentry facility focused on preparing those leaving incarceration for good-paying, sustainable jobs. Removing barriers for this and other populations continues to be paramount in the work of the KWIB.

He shared that DOL shared guidance for the State Plan modification. The plan submitted in 2024 can be found online [here](#). The modification is due April 30, 2026 and public comment will open with KWIB review and approval happening prior to submitting to DOL.

#### **KWIB QUARTERLY MEETING PREPARATION**

Alisher shared plans for topics of discussion at the upcoming quarterly board meeting in Frankfort. The meeting start time is 1:30pm ET, with networking beginning at 1:00pm. A briefing packet is forthcoming that includes consent agenda items and other materials useful for the discussions of the day.

Chair Ulrich pointed to the additional information in the packet including the upcoming virtual job fair and a white paper around EKCEP workforce initiatives. She thanked everyone for their participation and asked for any new business or other discussion. As there was none, she asked for a motion to adjourn. A *motion* by Kim Menke was made and LaKisha Miller seconded.

**10:36AM      ADJOURNMENT**

# Kentucky Career Center (KCC) One-Stop Application



## Kentucky Career Center (KCC) One-Stop Recertification

### KCC Access Point

#### Recommendation

The following Kentucky Career Centers have been reviewed and certified by their respective Local Workforce Development Boards.

DWD staff have received and reviewed all required documentation, and the following are presented to the Executive Committee for consideration and recommendation of KCC One-Stop recertification.

LWDA	Center Location	Center Type	Previous Type
NKY	Boone County Public Library – Florence Branch 7425 US HWY 42, Florence, KY 41042	Access Point	Access Point

**Kentucky Career Center Access Points** provide basic information for workers, job seekers, employers, and youth and young adults, guidance and counseling for employment, and referrals to other resources and partner services.

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/114-VG1SwrU4i0Cl4KnkK9U-q0bhQfooh?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/114-VG1SwrU4i0Cl4KnkK9U-q0bhQfooh?usp=drive_link)

# CTE Certifications / Applications



**Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certification**

**Recommendation**

The Business and Education Alignment Taskforce (BEAT) reviewed and recommended the certifications, which were approved by the CTE Certification Review Workgroup on April 2, 2026, and were confirmed by the KWIB Education Attainment Committee for consideration, as outlined in the following certifications:

<b>Industry Certification Name</b>	<b>Industry Certification Program Area</b>	<b>Recommended Industry Certification List?</b>
Adobe Certified Professional: Illustrator	Computer Science	The BEAT recommends expanding the Adobe Certified Professional: Illustrator certification to the Digital Design and Game Development pathway.
AMCA Mental Health Technician	Healthcare	The Beat recommends adopting the AMCA Mental Health Technician Certification
Lean Six Sigma	Multi	Pending BEAT recommendation
SFMA Turfgrass Science	Agriculture	The BEAT recommends the Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) Turfgrass Science Certification as a standalone credential for the Plant Science Systems pathway.
Unity Certified User: VR	Computer Science/Media Arts	The BEAT recommends the Unity Certified User: VR Credential.
Unreal Engine 3D Fundamentals	Computer Science/Media Arts	The BEAT recommends the Unreal Engine #D Fundamentals as a standalone credential

**Certification Information**

**Adobe Certified Professional: Illustrator**

- **Description:** Description of the Certification and Cost, if applicable - Adobe Certified Professional certifications are the official, industry-recognized credentials that validate proficiency in Adobe Creative Cloud applications and foundational knowledge for digital media careers. The 50-minute Graphic Design & Illustration Using Adobe Illustrator exam is comprised of two sections—selected-response items followed by Live-in-the-App tasks in Illustrator—and is designed at the level appropriate for the following Target Candidate: The Target Candidate has approximately 150 hours of instruction and hands-on experience with Illustrator. \$66 or Site License \$4,624

- **Website:** <https://certiport.filecamp.com/s/i/YD7zIWBVNiC2XrJN>
- **Recognized by:** Fayette County Public Schools
- **Workforce Areas:** Bluegrass|KentuckianaWorks - Greater Louisville|Northern Kentucky|West Kentucky
- **Previous Program Status:** Yes

### **AMCA Mental Health Technician**

- **Description:** Description of the Certification and Cost, if applicable - 119.00 A Mental Health Technician cares for individuals with mental or emotional conditions or disabilities, following the instructions of physicians or other health practitioners. A Mental Health Technician may monitor patients' physical and emotional well-being and report to medical staff, or participate in rehabilitation and treatment programs, help with personal hygiene, and administer oral or injectable medications.
- **Website:** <https://www.amcaexams.com/exam-candidates/mental-health-technician-certification/>
- **Recognized by:** Three Rivers Medical Center
- **Workforce Areas:** Statewide
- **Previous Program Status:** N/A

### **Pending / Under Review**

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

### **SFMA Turfgrass Science Certification**

- **Description:** The certification assesses industry-valued and industry-recognized standards produced by the Sports Field Management Association. Comprised of sports field managers from across the country, SFMA serves as an official voice for green-industry professionals. The certification validates individuals have acquired knowledge and skills in turfgrass development, turfgrass environment, preparation, practices and benefits. Those who earn the certification are more qualified and prepared to pursue a meaningful career in the turfgrass or sports field management industries. Additionally, the certification allows employers to identify and connect with more skilled candidates, filling gaps in the labor market and jumpstarting individuals' careers. The certification exam consists of 100 questions and assesses knowledge and skills from the following weighted industry standards: Benefits of Turfgrass 5%; Turfgrass Anatomy, Identification & Adaptations 20%; Turfgrass Environment 25%; Turfgrass Cultural Practices 30%; Playing Surface Preparation 20%. Cost: There are three different pricing options to sit for an industry certification. iCEV offers a certification subscription to iCEV subscribers for \$35/year, sold in bundles of 25 for \$875. Certification vouchers allow for one attempt at the exam and cost \$50 for iCEV subscribers & \$75 for non-iCEV subscribers. An iCEV subscription, which provides optional curriculum for the certification, is a per-student cost and can be quoted here: <https://www.icevonline.com/request-quote>
- **Website:** <https://www.sportsfieldmanagement.org/turfgrass-science-certification/>
- **Recognized by:** Georgetown
- **Workforce Areas:** Bluegrass
- **Previous Program Status:** Yes

## **Unity Certified User: VR**

- **Description:** Description of the Certification and Cost, if applicable - The Unity Certified User VR certification exam will test the candidate's ability to create VR experiences and programs within Unity software. The exam objectives are aligned with current industry standards set by professionals and educators. Individuals will be expected to have at least 150 hours of Unity software use and training to obtain this certification. Also, while not required, familiarity with C# programming and VR software and hardware (including tethered and standalone headsets) can help candidates learn Unity VR Development more easily. \$68 or Site License 100 exams \$2,185
- **Website:** [https://certipoint.filecamp.com/s/i/UCU\\_VR\\_Developer\\_0823](https://certipoint.filecamp.com/s/i/UCU_VR_Developer_0823)
- **Recognized by:** Fayette County Public Schools
- **Workforce Areas:** Bluegrass|KentuckianaWorks - Greater Louisville|Northern Kentucky|West Kentucky
- **Previous Program Status:** Yes

## **Unreal Engine 3D Fundamentals**

- **Description:** Description of the Certification and Cost, if applicable - This certification serves as a powerful capstone for any student building foundational skills in interactive 3D with Unreal Engine. The certification is an ideal credential for courses in game design, animation, virtual production, and digital art. It covers building interactive 3D experiences, designing levels and creating player immersion using the tool behind some of the world's most popular games. The Unreal Engine 3D Fundamentals Certification aligns with CTE, STEM, and workforce development priorities in most states, making it eligible for Carl D. Perkins Funds and other career-readiness funding. \$50 per student or we can get district/school pricing discount.
- **Website:** <https://gameplan.com/certifications/unreal-engine-3d-fundamentals>
- **Recognized by:** Fayette County Schools
- **Workforce Areas:** Bluegrass|KentuckianaWorks - Greater Louisville|Northern Kentucky|West Kentucky
- **Previous Program Status:** No

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/1M7atN765M\\_sskMO4\\_W5B0oGHUrm\\_y-r0](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1M7atN765M_sskMO4_W5B0oGHUrm_y-r0)

# High Demand Certifications

# 2026–2027 High-Demand Industry Certifications

## Process and High-Demand Designation

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### Background

In accordance with [KRS 158.6455 \(1\)\(e\)](#), local workforce development boards, in partnership with regional economic development organizations, annually identify and rank industry-recognized certifications, licensures, and credentials based on workforce demand. These recommendations are submitted to the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board for review, with final lists disseminated to school districts as postsecondary readiness indicators.

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### 2026 Data Collection Process

- Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs) identified high-demand certifications using regional employer feedback
  - Submissions were collected via standardized Excel templates
- 

### Integration Method

- All LWDB submissions were compiled into a single, centralized master spreadsheet
  - This created a comprehensive statewide view, reflecting both statewide and regional workforce needs
- 

### LWDB Variability

- Submission details varied by region, with some including extensive employer input and tiered demand levels
  - For consistency, all entries were streamlined into a binary classification: High-Demand (HD) or Non-High-Demand
- 

### KDE Review Process

- The Kentucky Department of Education is reviewing all submitted data
- 

### Additional Information

The full list of proposed **2026–2027 High-Demand Certifications** and [The 2026-2027 listing of proposed High-Demand Certifications can be found here.](#)

# Workforce Pell Grant

## **Workforce Pell – Proposed Governance Structure**

### **Background:**

Workforce Pell was included in the federal tax and spending legislation passed by Congress and requires every state to implement Workforce Pell by 7/1/26, a very rapid timeline as the US Education Department is yet to provide final ruling. In the Kentucky General Assembly’s Regular 2026 Session, Senate Bill 249 was passed and signed into law by the Governor to give authority to the KWIB to complete this work.

Workforce Pell allows Pell eligible students to pursue short term credentials, 8-15 week programs. Eligible programs are:

- High-skill, high-wage, and in-demand (*definitions for all three identified by each state*)
- Stackable and portable credentials (*stackable = credit bearing or credit for prior learning; portable = accepted by more than one employer*)
- Have 70% completion rate, and 70% employment rate with wages premiums higher than the cost of tuition and fees

The Governor, with the consultation of their state workforce board (KWIB), will review and approve programs that meet those thresholds to submit to the Secretary of the US Education Department.

### **Proposed Governance Structure:**

1. Institutions submit potential programs to the “Workforce Pell Program Review Workgroup”
2. Workgroup reviews quarterly and submits to the KWIB Education Attainment Committee for review (this structure mirrors the approach currently done with CTE certifications, Perkins Leadership Funds, and In-Demand Certification)
3. Education Attainment submits to KWIB for business approval sought in Workforce Pell
4. Approved recommendations are sent to DWD Commissioner
5. The Governor receives recommended programs via DWD Commissioner or ELC Secretary

### **Workforce Pell Program Review Workgroup Members:**

Voting Stakeholders:

- Kentucky Department of Education
- Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (business member)
- Local Workforce Development Board (business member)
- Council on Postsecondary Education
- Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges & Universities
- Department of Workforce Development - Office of Industry and Apprenticeship Services
- Department of Workforce Development - Office of Adult Education

Non-Voting Observers:

- Kentucky Community and Technical College System
- Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority
- Cabinet for Economic Development
- Kentucky Center for Statistics

## Workforce Pell - Occupation Eligibility Criteria Definitions

Training programs eligible for Workforce Pell must prepare learners for occupations that are **In-Demand, High-Wage, and High-Skill**. The Team Kentucky Workforce Pell Workgroup proposes the following plain language and operationalized definitions for these criteria as follows.

### Plain Language Definitions:

- 1) **In-Demand:** An In-Demand occupation is growing faster than the overall growth rate, makes up a substantial share of job openings, or has been identified to be strategically critical to economic growth in the Commonwealth.
- 2) **High-Wage:** A High-Wage occupation has a median wage higher the overall median wage.
- 3) **High Skill:** A High-Skill occupation requires technical or vocational training, related on-the-job experience, completion of an apprenticeship, or an associate's degree or higher.

### Operationalized Definitions:

- 1) **In-Demand Operationalized:** An occupation is considered in-demand if, according to the most recent set of published ten-year occupational employment projections from the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS), it is:
  - a) One whose projected annualized employment growth rate is at least as large as the annualized projected growth rate for all occupations within its relative area (either at the LWA or state level), OR
  - b) One that is projected to account for at least 0.4% of the total demand for all occupations within its relative area (either at the LWA or state level), where demand is defined as the projected job openings expected to be produced by economic growth and exits of workers from the labor force, OR
  - c) One that has been identified by the Governor to be emerging or critical to the state's economic growth as a result of investment in the commonwealth, with public documentation of the rationale.
- 2) **High-Wage Operationalized:** A High-Wage occupation is one whose median wage meets or exceeds the overall median wages for all occupations within its relative area (either at the LWA or state level) according to the most recent set of published occupational wage estimates from the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) and/or the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).
  - a) Statewide median wage: \$22.99
  - a) Local median wage range: \$18.31 (EKCEP) - \$23.20 (KentuckianaWorks)
- 3) **High Skill Operationalized:** A High-Skill occupation has an [O\\*NET Job Zone](#) score equal to or greater than 3.

1 AN ACT relating to workforce development and declaring an emergency.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 151B IS CREATED TO  
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) As used in this section, "eligible workforce training programs" means programs  
6 that meet applicable requirements in section 83002 of Pub. L. No. 119-21.

7 (2) The Governor, in consultation with the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board,  
8 shall:

9 (a) Approve all eligible workforce training programs for purposes of federal  
10 Workforce Pell Grants; and

11 (b) Coordinate approval of eligible workforce training programs with other  
12 state and federal workforce programs to avoid duplicative payments for the  
13 same student costs that are covered by federal Workforce Pell Grants.

14 (3) The Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board shall establish an internal procedure  
15 to:

16 (a) Determine if a program meets the applicable federal requirements to be an  
17 eligible workforce training program; and

18 (b) Ensure that the implementation of this section does not impose  
19 requirements more restrictive than, or inconsistent with, any applicable  
20 federal rules or regulations governing Workforce Pell Grants.

21 ➔Section 2. Whereas the Commonwealth of Kentucky has a paramount interest  
22 in creating educational opportunities for all citizens, an emergency is declared to exist,  
23 and this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval by the Governor or upon its  
24 otherwise becoming a law.

HB5



## Gov. Beshear Recognizes Second Chance Month, Ceremonially Signs Legislation To Establish Game-Changing Reentry Center

Office of the Governor - Scottie Ellis 502-564-2611 <https://governor.ky.gov/>

*Kentucky Community and Technical College System facility to provide vital job skills training to 400 inmates annually*

**BURGIN, Ky. (April 27, 2026)** – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear recognized Second Chance Month in the commonwealth by ceremonially signing [House Bill 5](#), which provides the framework to create Kentucky’s first reentry campus, focused on increasing public safety and boosting the state’s workforce.

Second Chance Month brings communities and organizations together throughout the nation to raise awareness of barriers that inmates face upon reentering society. Kentucky is committed to increasing public safety and reducing crime, which is why the commonwealth has seen recidivism rates decrease for two years in a row. Today’s event symbolizes Team Kentucky’s commitment to moving the commonwealth forward.

“In Kentucky, we believe in the importance of second chances, and that’s evident in the legislation we’re signing today which will establish our commonwealth as a national model for public safety,” **Gov. Beshear** said. “Together we’re building a safer New Kentucky Home by improving reentry outcomes and helping people get good-paying jobs – because it’s the right thing to do.”

The reentry campus will be operated by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) on the grounds of Northpoint Training Center in Burgin. Once constructed, it will provide up to 400 inmates each year with targeted vocational technical education programs and intensive reentry services.

“KCTCS is the commonwealth’s affordable entry point to higher education and leading workforce provider. Through HB 5, we’ll be able to accelerate our work in providing training that leads to a job for our fair-chance population,” said **Dr. Ryan Quarles, president of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System**. “I want to thank Gov. Beshear and Secretary Jackson for their partnership, and Rep. Decker, Sen. Storm and their co-sponsors for their leadership in the General Assembly. One of the best predictors for decreasing recidivism is providing access to gainful employment. Economic development is our guide star, and this is one more way we’re helping Kentucky meet its workforce needs.”

The program will require inmates from across Kentucky’s state prisons to qualify and apply for participation and to maintain good behavior and success to remain in the program. Participating inmates will be enrolled as students in KCTCS and will receive vocational training in industries that support Kentucky’s booming economy. The facility’s intensive reentry services will prepare inmates for success in their jobs and communities upon release.

“Kentucky is safer when we work together to provide inmates with the skills and tools needed to get a good-paying job once their sentences are complete,” **Department of Corrections Commissioner Cookie Crews** said. “We’re excited to partner with our friends at KCTCS to make sure all our communities are made safer and generational cycles of crime are ended.”

House Bill 5, sponsored by Rep. Jennifer Decker of Waddy, received bipartisan support at each stage of the legislative process, passing out of the House of Representatives and the Senate unanimously.

“Because we have authorized the new school doors to be open here at Northpoint, I’m confident fewer prison doors will close behind Kentuckians in the years ahead,” said **Rep. Decker**. “Thank you again for this signing today, and may God richly use this bill and all our efforts to improve the commonwealth.”

This reentry campus builds on recent work the Beshear administration has done to improve second chance opportunities and further reduce recidivism rates, which have [decreased for two years in a row](#). Since the Governor took office, Team Kentucky has taken several steps to prepare inmates for success upon release and enhance public safety by:

- Launching [different technical education courses](#) in prisons across the commonwealth for a current total of 35, including a pre-apprenticeship welding program in partnership with Ironworkers Local Union #70, for inmates to prepare for employment upon release. So far, 1,779 inmates have completed at least one course.
- Providing eligible inmates leaving state custody with [continued access to physical and mental health care and addiction services](#) for up to a year after release.
- Partnering with [Simmons College of Kentucky](#), the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and Kentucky State University.
- [Restoring voting rights](#) to more than 200,000 Kentuckians who have completed their sentences for nonviolent, nonsexual offenses.
- Establishing [reentry centers](#) inside each of Kentucky’s 14 state prisons to deliver focused life-skills training.
- Creating the [Team Kentucky Office of Reentry Services](#) to continue the important work of supporting second chances and to help maximize, concentrate and better coordinate services and resources across state government.
- Establishing the [Governor’s Council of Second Chance Employers](#), comprising 15 business and community leaders, including Amazon, UPS, DV8 Kitchen and KCTCS. The council meets quarterly to promote second chance hiring, improve outcomes for individuals released from incarceration and reduce recidivism rates in the state.

- Maintaining the website [secondchance.ky.gov](https://secondchance.ky.gov), which connects Kentuckians overcoming addiction or leaving prison to resources that can help them find a job, get an education and support their continued recovery.
- Joining members of the Kentucky State Building and Construction Trades Council [to launch the Jobs on Day One initiative](#), which helps inmates prepare for Kentucky's fast-paced labor market through targeted pre-apprenticeship training.
- Removing barriers to housing and employment for inmates upon release by issuing state identification and offering transportation at no cost to medical appointments, job interviews, educational courses and probation and parole meetings.
- Recording a [nearly 8% decrease](#) in reports of serious crime in Kentucky in 2024.
- Reducing overdose deaths in the commonwealth for [three straight years](#).

###

# Work-Ready Communities – Next Generation

## Work Ready Communities (WRC) – Next Generation

**History:** Work Ready Communities (WRC) Kentucky was launched by Governor Steve Beshear in 2012. WRC was focused on education attainment as the primary indicator of workforce readiness.

**WRC-Next Generation:** Because of feedback from Kentucky communities, KWIB conducted an analysis on what needs to be improved or if the program needs to be eliminated. Overwhelmingly, communities wanted to maintain WRC with a request to update goals and metrics. Through listening sessions with economic developers, businesses, local elected officials, and community stakeholders, updated goals were identified and approved by the KWIB.

### Strategic Goals

1. **Supply and Demand of Regional Skills** – understanding regional skill demanded by employer. Understanding the supply through labor market information, training, and education in the regional community.
2. **Widening Talent Pools** – providing employment services to all talent pools, including formerly incarcerated, veterans, people with disabilities, youth, etc.
3. **Work-Based Learning** – expanding jobs with embedded training opportunities. Examples include registered apprenticeships, paid internships, mentorships, job-shadowing, on-the-job training, etc.

### Talent-Ready Goals

1. **Childcare Access** – ensuring affordable and accessible options.
2. **Affordable Housing** – promoting affordable housing options in the community.
3. **Transportation** – assessing public transportation infrastructure for commuting to work.
4. **Digital Access** – ensuring internet availability, digital skills training, and comfort with technology in employment.
5. **Talent Attraction** – retaining and attracting new residents to the region.

**Opportunity:** to match the economic development momentum, communities can ensure the workforce development in their region is understood and marketed to site selectors and businesses in a format that complements the traditional technical labor market analysis conducted in site selection. These goals provide a full picture of workforce readiness in Kentucky communities.

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

The Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics use a scoring system to assess regional workforce readiness. Each category is worth up to three points: **1 = Not Work Ready, 2 = In Progress, 3 = Work Ready.**

### General Considerations

- Regions must score 8-15 to be rated In Progress and 16-24 to be rated Work Ready.
- Regions scoring 21 and below will be eligible to receive technical assistance and coaching.
- In Progress: Requires at least one letter of partnership, MOU, or other agreement showing collaboration.
- Work Ready: Requires multiple agreements across sectors (employer, education, nonprofit).
- To maintain certification, regions must show progress on at least one quantitative metric such as participation, completions, or housing units added.

Goals	Description	Quantitative Metrics	Qualitative /Narrative Questions	Scoring Recommendations + Notes
<b>Strategic Goal 1 Supply and Demand of Regional Skills</b>	How are communities addressing local talent supply and employment demands? What strategic efforts are being made to meet the needs/goals of the industry through an aligned education vision? What are the strategies to meet the local in-demand industries as defined by Local Workforce Development Boards?	<p><b>Core Demand</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Top 3 industries (by number of jobs)</li> <li>• Top 5 occupations (by number of jobs) in your workforce area</li> </ul> <p><b>Supply</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of residents earning CTE Pathways or Credentials in key industries</li> <li>• Number of training/ education programs + Number of graduates annually related to top industries and occupations.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Core</b></p> <p>How does your Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) work with employers, job seekers, and partners to meet the needs of local in-demand industries? Is there a formalized public-private partnership to address industry-specific workforce needs? How does your region ensure educators are responsive to industry needs? Explain strategies in place to address mismatches where supply does not meet demand. Identify the top 5 skills employers are looking for.</p>	<p><b>Not Work Ready:</b> No evidence of strategic alignment between workforce, education, and industry. Residents are not earning relevant credentials or enrolling in relevant pathways.</p> <p><b>In Progress:</b> Workforce Board and education providers have engaged industry, and relevant training programs are in place or under development. Credentialed talent is growing yet supply lags employer demand.</p> <p><b>Work Ready:</b> One or more sector partnerships (or similar public-private collaboratives) exist in top industries. Region has strategies addressing industry alignment and demand for skilled talent. Metrics indicate residents are upskilling/reskilling as industry demands.</p>
<p><b>Evidence:</b> Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Advisory Council Minutes, Strategic Plan, Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment, Local &amp; Regional Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) plan</p> <p><b>Potential Data Source:</b> Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS)</p>				

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

<p><b>Strategic Goal 2 Growing Talent Pools</b></p>	<p>Does the community have awareness and engagement of all the non-profit organizations targeting untapped talent pools (individuals with disabilities, veterans, immigrants/refugees, ex-offenders and those in recovery seeking second chances, foster youth, those who are hungry, etc.)? What are the strategic coordination efforts being made to create pipelines into employment? Kentucky's Workforce Pipeline can be used as a guide to potential talent.</p>	<p><b>Core</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall labor force participation rate</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of non-profit organizations serving [untapped population] and providing training/employment related services (e.g., KY Valor)</li> </ul>	<p>Describe your region's collaborative efforts to grow the talent pool by engaging untapped populations and the organizations that serve them. What measurable outcomes is your region tracking and what are the results? Describe how local employers are being engaged/educated to expand willingness to hire untapped populations. Describe which untapped populations are being prioritized and qualitatively assess progress in employment outcomes, barriers addressed, and partnerships developed.</p>	<p><b>Not Work Ready:</b> Region does not have a strategy to create pipelines into employment. Non-profit organizations serving untapped talent populations are not active in the region.</p> <p><b>In Progress:</b> Region is able to describe collaborative efforts or strategies in place to increase labor force participation in at least one key population, but results are not available or measured to date.</p> <p><b>Work Ready:</b> Overall labor force participation is at or above 60%. Region has clear, collaborative strategy for increasing labor force participation in at least two key populations and measurable results of pipeline development are available.</p>
<p><b>Evidence:</b> MOU, hiring policy updates, public investments, grant reporting documents</p> <p><b>Potential Data Source:</b> KYSTATS, training program enrollment and completion data, LWDB, Kentucky Community Technical College System (KCTCS)</p>				

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

<b>Strategic Goal 3: Work-Based Learning</b>	What strategies are used to grow skills and fill employment needs through the various work-based learning opportunities, such as career exploration, internships, co-ops, registered apprenticeships, on-the-job training, etc.?	<b>Core</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of Work Based Learning (WBL) programs with enrollees</li> <li>• Number of employers participating in WBL programs</li> <li>• Number of registered apprentices plus number of registered apprenticeships completed annually</li> </ul> <b>Optional:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average number of WBL hours HS graduates or CTE students complete annually</li> <li>• Number of WBL enrollees</li> </ul>	What is your region's approach to work-based learning at the high school, post-secondary, and adult/workforce development levels? What partners are involved in promoting, coordinating, and/or delivering WBL? What support is available to employers that are interested in creating or expanding WBL programs? Does the region have a system to track WBL opportunities, participation, and outcomes?	<b>Not Work Ready:</b> Region does not have a WBL strategy in place; WBL that is available is not coordinated or measured reliably.  <b>In Progress:</b> Region has at least one coordinated WBL initiative (e.g., expanding registered apprenticeship, required high school internships, etc.)  <b>Work Ready:</b> Region has WBL options available for adults and students at all levels; significant coordination between workforce system and employers is evident. 80% or more WBL participants earn an industry-recognized credential or certificate.
<b>Evidence:</b> MOU, Employer participation list <b>Potential Data Source:</b> KYSTATS, KCTCS				

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

<b>Talent Ready Goal 1: Childcare</b>	<p>What is the existing landscape of access and affordability, and what strategies are being taken to address the needs of the community? Data and strategy can include utilizing KYSTATs (<a href="http://kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Reports">kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Reports</a>) capacity data and services offered by the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Education.</p>	<p><b>Core</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of licensed childcare settings in the county</li> <li>• Number of Early Childhood workers in the region</li> <li>• Average cost of childcare (as compared to average income in the region)</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of early childhood registered apprentices</li> </ul>	<p>How does your region ensure the availability and affordability of childcare for working parents? Are there strategies in place (such as apprenticeships and credential pathways) to grow and retain the early childhood workforce? What strategies are in place or in development to address the barriers to affordable childcare? How do local employers contribute to the solution? Describe the transportation services available for childcare, including morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up (e.g., buses, vans, car riders).</p>	<p><b>Not Work Ready:</b> Metrics indicate insufficient childcare providers (business and/or individual workers) and unclear plans to address the shortage.</p> <p><b>In Progress:</b> Metrics indicate gaps in childcare availability or affordability, but one or more collaborative strategies are in place/in development to address the gap.</p> <p><b>Work Ready:</b> Metrics indicate adequate availability of providers/workers, or the region has a coordinated strategy to recruit and retain providers. At least 60% of childcare workers remain in the field year-over-year. Region shows evidence of employer support (e.g., on-site childcare, financial support).</p>
<p><b>Evidence:</b> ECCAP agreements, Retention and recruitment strategy, Collaborative Agreements, Apprenticeship enrollment and completion data</p> <p><b>Potential Data Source:</b> KYSTATS, Childcare Aware Market Report</p>				

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

<p><b>Talent Ready Goal 2: Affordable Housing</b></p>	<p>What kind of housing trends are seen in the community (for example, the number of units being added annually) and what strategies are utilized to meet the demand? How are communities addressing affordable housing? Data gathering could incorporate the local energy companies to gauge growth by understanding new meters added.</p>	<p><b>Core</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percent change in housing stock year-over-year [Percent change = Previous Year Units - Current Year Units / Previous Year Units) × 100]</li> <li>• Median housing costs for renters/owners</li> <li>• Percent of residents who are cost burdened (&gt;30% of gross income; significant cost burden defined as &gt;50% of gross income)</li> <li>• Housing vacancy rates</li> </ul>	<p>Describe your region's efforts to ensure affordable housing is available for all residents. What strategies are in place or in development to encourage home ownership (e.g., home repair or preservation funds, home maintenance courses)? Does the community offer rental assistance or other transitional/ supportive services for low-income residents, through a housing authority or other partners? If housing availability is a concern, are there incentives available for developers? Are zoning laws/planning rules friendly to new unit development (e.g., reduced parking requirements, flexible lot sizes)? How is the community addressing the quality of available housing stock (rehabilitation programs, inspections, code enforcement)? (Optional) Provide an evaluation of housing quality (e.g., age of stock, code compliance, rehabilitation needs)</p>	<p><b>Not Work Ready:</b> Metrics indicate insufficient housing availability, or a majority of residents experience significant cost burdens (≥50% of gross income). Housing quality concerns are widespread or unaddressed.</p> <p><b>In Progress:</b> Metrics indicate gaps in housing availability, affordability (30–50% cost burden), or quality, but programs are in development to address those gaps.</p> <p><b>Work Ready:</b> Metrics indicate housing is widely available, affordable (significant portion of residents spend &lt;30% of gross income on housing), and of acceptable quality. The region has a strategic plan to maintain adequate stock for population and employer growth.</p>
<p><b>Evidence:</b> Developer agreements, nonprofit or community development reports</p>				
<p><b>Potential Data Source:</b> KYSTATS, American Community Survey (ACS)</p>				

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

<b>Talent Ready Goal 3: Transportation</b>	What are the strategies used to grow transportation access and infrastructure to meet community and business needs? Can communities quantify the demand for transportation?	<b>Core</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average cost of commuting relative to household income</li> <li>• Average commuting distance/time</li> <li>• Number of residents commuting in/out of region for work</li> </ul> <b>Optional:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of individuals using public transportation daily/weekly</li> <li>• Percentage of households with a vehicle available</li> <li>• Number of bus stops/transit stops</li> <li>• Number of micro-transit or community-based transportation programs available</li> </ul>	Describe how your region is addressing/planning to address transportation demand and barriers? How do key employers in your region support workers' transportation needs? If public transportation is available, how does coverage compare to workers' needs (e.g., do buses run for 3 <sup>rd</sup> shift workers? How far do individuals have to travel to reach a bus stop)? Are there non-profit or private companies offering micro-transit options? What transportation supports are available for workers with disabilities?	<b>Not Work Ready:</b> Metrics indicate that residents are spending significant time and/or money on their daily commute (as compared to household income), and no plans are in place to address the disparity.  <b>In Progress:</b> Metrics indicate gaps in transportation availability or affordability, but the region has plans in place or in development to improve infrastructure, availability, or assistance.  <b>Work Ready:</b> Metrics indicate transportation is adequate and affordable in the region and/or strategies and initiatives are in place to improve infrastructure, availability, or assistance. Public-private partnerships and employer assistance are evident. Average cost of commuting is less than 20% of household income.
<b>Evidence:</b> Employer and Transportation MOU, Survey data <b>Potential Data Source:</b> KYSTATS, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KTC) Datamart, ACS				

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

<p><b>Talent Ready Goal 4: Digital Access &amp; Broadband Infrastructure</b></p>	<p>What is the internet availability across their rural and urban centers? Does a community have a digital access plan or strategy to ensure access for all?</p>	<p><b>Core</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percent of residents with access to broadband at home</li> <li>• Percent of region covered by broadband access</li> <li>• Speed of broadband access (percent of residents who can access top speed)</li> <li>• Number digital literacy programs offered annually</li> </ul> <p><b>Optional</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of public facilities with free Wi-Fi available to residents</li> </ul>	<p>Describe your region's digital access plan or strategy to ensure broadband access for all. Describe opportunities available to learn digital literacy skills (in person, virtual, hybrid, instructor led, or student led)</p>	<p><b>Not Work Ready:</b> Significant portion of region does not have broadband access or public Wi-Fi available. No digital equity plan in place. No structured digital literacy programs are in place.</p> <p><b>In Progress:</b> Coverage is available in most areas, but gaps remain in speed, affordability, or rural access. Public Wi-Fi is accessible for residents without reliable home service. A digital access plan is in development or has only recently been adopted. Digital literacy programs are available but not yet widely accessible.</p> <p><b>Work Ready:</b> Broadband access and high-speed coverage are widely available across the region (90% of households or more have broadband access, 50% or more at top speeds), with affordability and rural access barriers being actively addressed. A comprehensive digital access plan is in place and being implemented. Residents of all working ages have access to coordinated in-person digital literacy programs.</p>
<p><b>Evidence:</b> Digital Access Plan, Provider service map, Broadband coverage maps, MOU or partnership agreements, Digital Literacy program completion</p>				
<p><b>Data Source:</b> KYSTATS, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Map</p>				

## Work Ready Communities: Next Generation Metrics and Scoring

<b>Talent Ready Goal 5: Talent Attraction</b>	What strategies are being used to actively attract talent locally or regionally? Are these strategies aligning with business demand?	<b>Core</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percent population growth (working age)</li> <li>• Cost of living (as compared to nearest MSA)</li> <li>• Labor force participation by age</li> </ul> <b>Optional</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Web and social media traffic related to talent attraction campaigns</li> <li>• Number of inquiries, relocations, or event participation linked to campaigns.</li> </ul>	Describe your region's efforts to attract new residents. Is there an individual or organization dedicated to talent attraction and community development? Does the region have a marketing or social media strategy, and if so, how is it measured? Do strategies align with business needs? How do local business needs inform strategies?	<b>Not Work Ready:</b> Region does not have a strategy for attracting new talent. Population growth is stagnant or decreasing.  <b>In Progress:</b> Region is developing a strategy for attracting new talent or has recently launched a strategy, but results are not evident to date. Population growth is stagnant or decreasing.  <b>Work Ready:</b> Region has coordinated talent attraction strategy with demonstrated results such as increase in working-age labor force participation and tax revenue.
<b>Evidence:</b> Cost of living index, website analytics (heat map), marketing and branding materials, surveys <b>Data Source:</b> KYSTATS, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Cost of Living Calculations				

**Input was provided from the following stakeholders:** KWIB Taskforce, Workforce Boards, Economic Developers, Industry – Employers, KY Chamber of Commerce, KDE/CTE, KY Association of School Superintendents, KY Community and Technical Colleges, KY Council of Economic Developers, KY League of Cities, KY Transportation Cabinet, KY Housing Corporation, former Executive Director of the KY Housing Corporation, KY Office of Early Childhood, and KY Office of Broadband Development

# Appendix

BEAT Employer Affiliations  
SWATT Graphic  
2026 Quarterly Board Meetings

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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### #

**21c Museum Hotels:** Business & Marketing

### A

**AE Solutions:** Agriculture

**Aerotek:** Agriculture

**Aesop Studios:** Agriculture

**Affinity Farms:** Agriculture

**Alltech:** Business & Marketing

**Altec Industries:** Agriculture

**Amazon:** Agriculture, Business & Marketing

**American Electric Power:** Agriculture

**American Engineers, Inc.:** Agriculture

**Amteck Electrical:** Agriculture

**Amteck, LLC:** Agriculture

**Anchorage/Middletown Fire & Emergency Services:** Agriculture

**Arcadia Communities & Kentucky Bourbon Chefs:** Agriculture

**Associated Builders & Contractors:** Construction

**Associated General Contractors of Kentucky:** Construction

**Associated General Contractors of Western Kentucky:** Construction

**Automotive Service Excellence (ASE):** Transportation

### B

**BAC Local 4 Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers:** Construction

**Baptist Health:** Healthcare

**Bardstown–Nelson County Tourist & Convention Commission:** Business & Marketing

**Berea Fire Department:** Law & Public Safety

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**Big I Kentucky:** Business & Marketing

**Blue Leaf Digital Marketing:** Business & Marketing

**Bluebird Embroidery:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**Bluegrass Harley:** Transportation

**BMW:** Transportation

**Boyd CAT:** Manufacturing

**Boyd County Schools:** Education & Training

**Brown-Foreman:** Computer Science

**Bullitt County Public Schools:** Education & Training

### C

**C G Bank / Citizens Guaranty Bank:** Business & Marketing

**Catalent Winchester:** Business & Marketing

**Cecilian Bank:** Business & Marketing

**CHI Saint Joseph Health:** Healthcare

**Child Care Aware:** Education & Training

**Child Care Aware / Human Development Institute:** Education & Training

**Chubb Insured:** Business & Marketing

**Churchill Downs / Levy Restaurants:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**Churchill Downs, Inc.:** Business & Marketing

**City of Henderson:** Engineering

**Clark County Public Schools:** Education & Training

**Clark Material Handling Company:** Business & Marketing

**ClassAct Credit Union:** Business & Marketing

**Cleary Construction:** Construction

**Commerce Lexington:** Business & Marketing

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**Corvette Museum:** Business & Marketing

**Council on Postsecondary Education:** Education & Training

**Courage Media:** Media Arts

**Creative Stitches:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**Creekstone Farms:** Agriculture

**Crocus Academy:** Education & Training

### D

**Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control:** Law & Public Safety

**Department of Criminal Justice Training:** Law & Public Safety

**Dept. for Behavioral Health, Development & Intellectual Disability:** Healthcare

**Duke Energy:** Engineering

**Duo County Telephone Cooperative:** Computer Science

### E

**East Kentucky Power:** Business & Marketing

**Eastern State Hospital:** Healthcare

**Education Professional Standards Board:** Education & Training

**Element Design:** Engineering

**Embry Body Shop:** Transportation

**Epic Games:** Computer Science, Media Arts

**Ethan Allen:** Family & Consumer Sciences

### F

**Farm Credit Mid America:** Agriculture

**Fayette County Public Schools:** Education & Training

**Frankfort Fire & EMS:** Law & Public Safety

**Frankfort Police Department:** Law & Public Safety

**Future Tek:** Computer Science

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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### G

**GE Appliances (Haier):** Business & Marketing

**GEAR UP:** Education & Training

**Georgetown Police Department:** Law & Public Safety

**Glowtouch:** Computer Science

**Graves County High School:** Education & Training

**Gray Construction / Gray Architects & Engineers:** Construction, Engineering

**Grayson County High School:** Education & Training

**Greater Louisville, Inc.:** Business & Marketing

**Green River Regional Education Co-op:** Education & Training

### H

**H.W. Lochner, Inc.:** Engineering

**Hall Contracting of Kentucky:** Construction

**Halloway Feeds:** Agriculture

**HDR Engineering, Inc.:** Engineering

**Health Systems Informatics, Inc.:** Business & Marketing

**Hearst Media Group:** Media Arts

**Henderson County Schools:** Education & Training

**HJI Supply Chain Solutions:** Business & Marketing

**HMB Engineers:** Engineering

**Hofbrauhaus Newport, LLC:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**Homebuilders Association of Kentucky:** Construction

**Hometown24:** Media Arts

**Humana:** Business & Marketing

### I

**IBEW - Louisville:** Engineering

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**Ignite Academy:** Education & Training

**IKORCC Carpenters Union:** Construction

**IKORCC Training Facility:** Construction

**Innovation2Creation:** Media Arts

**IonApex Electrical:** Engineering

### J

**J.B. Hunt:** Business & Marketing

**Jackson Energy Cooperative:** Engineering

**Jackson Welding & Consulting:** Manufacturing

**Jefferson County Public Schools:** Education & Training, Media Arts

**Jessamine County Schools:** Education & Training

**Jo Ross Fashion:** Family & Consumer Sciences

### K

**Kavanaugh Complete Car Care:** Transportation

**Keeneland:** Business & Marketing

**Keeneland Association:** Business & Marketing

**Keeneland Hospitality, LLC:** Business & Marketing, Family & Consumer Sciences

**Kenton County Schools:** Education & Training

**Kentuckiana Works:** Business & Marketing

**Kentucky 9-1-1 Services Board:** Law & Public Safety

**Kentucky ABC:** Law & Public Safety

**Kentucky Association for Economic Development:** Business & Marketing

**Kentucky Association of Manufacturers:** Manufacturing

**Kentucky Bankers Association:** Business & Marketing

**Kentucky Bar Association:** Business & Marketing

**Kentucky BHDID:** Healthcare

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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- Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services:** Healthcare
- Kentucky Career & Technical College System:** Education & Training
- Kentucky Cattlemen's Association:** Agriculture
- Kentucky Chamber of Commerce:** Business & Marketing
- Kentucky Corn Growers:** Agriculture
- Kentucky Department for Public Health:** Healthcare
- Kentucky Department of Agriculture:** Agriculture
- Kentucky Dept. Financial Institutions:** Business & Marketing
- Kentucky Dept. Travel & Tourism:** Business & Marketing
- Kentucky Education & Workforce Cabinet:** Education & Training
- Kentucky Educational Television (KET):** Media Arts
- Kentucky Educators Association – Aspiring Educators:** Education & Training
- Kentucky Energy & Environment Cabinet:** Engineering
- Kentucky Engineering Center:** Engineering
- Kentucky Farm Bureau:** Agriculture
- Kentucky Fire Commission:** Law & Public Safety
- Kentucky Firefighters Association:** Law & Public Safety
- Kentucky Highway Contractors:** Construction
- Kentucky Hospital Association:** Healthcare
- Kentucky Humane Society:** Family & Consumer Sciences, Healthcare
- Kentucky Pork Producers:** Agriculture
- Kentucky Poultry Federation:** Agriculture, Manufacturing
- Kentucky ProStart:** Family & Consumer Sciences
- Kentucky Psychiatric Correctional:** Healthcare
- Kentucky Restaurant Association:** Family & Consumer Sciences

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**Kentucky Retail Institute:** Business & Marketing

**Kentucky Sheep and Goat:** Agriculture

**Kentucky Small Grains:** Agriculture

**Kentucky Society of CPAs:** Business & Marketing

**Kentucky Sound Stage:** Media Arts

**Kentucky State Police:** Law & Public Safety

**Kentucky State University:** Agriculture, Education & Training

**Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC):** Transportation

**Kentucky Travel Industry Association:** Business & Marketing

**Kentucky Welding Institute:** Manufacturing

**Kenwood Country Club:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**KLH Engineers:** Engineering

**KPFF Engineering Consultants:** Engineering

**KY Dept. Public Health—Maternal & Child Health:** Healthcare

**KYTC Division of Materials:** Engineering

### L

**Level Up 911 Training:** Law & Public Safety

**Lexington Fire Department:** Law & Public Safety

**Lexington Metro Police Department:** Law & Public Safety

**Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government:** Law & Public Safety

**Lexmark:** Manufacturing

**LG&E-KU:** Engineering

**LightSpeed PM:** Business & Marketing

**Link-Belt Cranes:** Manufacturing, Engineering

**Local 502 Plumber Pipefitter HVAC:** Construction

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**Local 502 Plumbers Pipefitters Service Technicians:** Construction, Manufacturing

**Local 502 School Education & Training:** Education & Training

**Local 70 Iron Workers:** Construction

**Local Chambers of Commerce:** Business & Marketing

**Logan Aluminum:** Manufacturing

**Louisville Convention & Visitors Bureau:** Business & Marketing

**Louisville Metro Police Department:** Law & Public Safety

**Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport:** Transportation

**Louisville Water Company:** Manufacturing

### M

**Magna:** Manufacturing

**Manion Stigger, LLP:** Business & Marketing

**Marathon Petroleum:** Manufacturing

**Marion C. Moore High School:** Education & Training

**Mason & Hanger:** Engineering

**Mercy Health:** Healthcare

**Messer Construction:** Construction

**Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD):** Engineering

**Michael Baker International:** Engineering

**Middough:** Engineering

**Miller Electric:** Engineering

**Morehead State University:** Education & Training

**Mortimer Bibb's Public House:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**Murray State University:** Agriculture, Education & Training

### N

**Nelson County Government:** Law & Public Safety

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**New Vista:** Healthcare

**Next Generation in Trucking:** Transportation

**Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services (NKCES):** Education & Training

**Northern Kentucky University:** Education & Training

**Northern Kentucky University – College of Education:** Education & Training

**Northern Kentucky Youth Development Center:** Law & Public Safety

**Norton Healthcare:** Healthcare

### P

**Pegasus Industries & Packaging:** Manufacturing

**Pine Branch Mining, LLC:** Manufacturing

**Poultry Industry:** Agriculture

**Prichard Committee:** Education & Training

**Procter & Gamble:** Manufacturing

### R

**Raytheon:** Manufacturing

**Reborn Studios:** Media Arts

**Rocky Mountain ATV/MC:** Transportation

**RossTarrant Architects:** Engineering

**Russell County Schools:** Education & Training

**Russell Independent Schools:** Education & Training

### S

**Senneger Plumbing:** Construction

**Shelby County Schools:** Education & Training

**Sherwin Williams:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**South Central Rural Telecommunications:** Computer Science

**SRC of Lexington, Inc.:** Manufacturing

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**Staggs & Fisher Consulting Engineers:** Engineering

**Stantec Consulting Services Inc.:** Engineering

**Stober Drives, Inc.:** Manufacturing

**Stored Value Solutions:** Business & Marketing

**Strand Associates, Inc.:** Engineering

**Super Soul:** Media Arts

**Swope Design Group, Inc.:** Engineering

### T

**Team Modern:** Business & Marketing

**Ted Lolley and Associates:** Business & Marketing

**Texas Roadhouse, Inc.:** Family & Consumer Sciences

**Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky:** Manufacturing, Engineering

**Toyota Tsusho America, Inc.:** Business & Marketing

### U

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:** Engineering

**Union Commonwealth University:** Education & Training

**United American Energy, LLC:** Engineering

**United States Air Force:** JROTC

**United States Army Cadet Command:** JROTC

**United States Marine Corps:** JROTC, Law & Public Safety

**United States Navy:** JROTC

**University of Kentucky:** Education & Training

**University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension:** Agriculture

**University of Kentucky Dietetics & Human Nutrition:** Family & Consumer Sciences, Healthcare

**University of Kentucky Police Department:** Law & Public Safety

**University of Louisville:** Education & Training

# KDE - Office of Career Technical Education

## 2025-2026 BEAT Affiliations

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**University of Louisville Health:** Healthcare

**UPS:** Transportation

### V

**Valvoline Global:** Transportation

**Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers:** Engineering

**Versailles Fire Department:** Law & Public Safety

**Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS):** Healthcare, Education & Training

**Visum Healthcare Solutions:** Healthcare

### W

**Wacom:** Computer Science, Media Arts, Business & Marketing

**Walmart Supply Chain:** Transportation

**Wehr Constructors:** Construction

**Western Kentucky University:** Media Arts, Education & Training

**Williamsburg Independent:** Education & Training

**WKU Professional Educator Services:** Education & Training

**Woodford County Sheriff's Office:** Law & Public Safety

**Wright Implement:** Agriculture

**WSGS 101.1 FM:** Media Arts

**WYMT-TV:** Media Arts

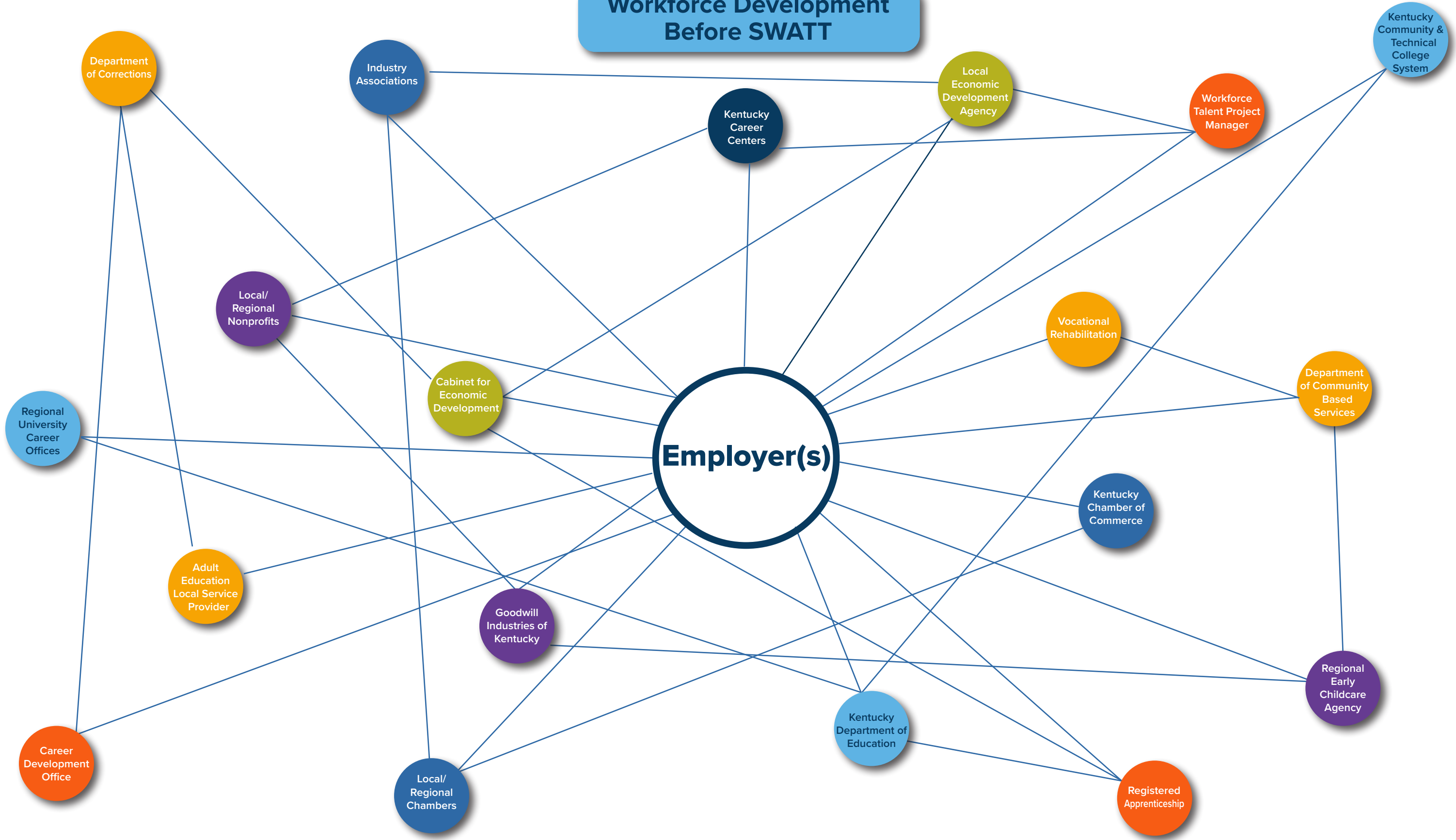
### X

**XR Terra:** Computer Science

### Y

**Yum!:** Business & Marketing

### Workforce Development Before SWATT





## 2026 Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board Quarterly Board Meetings

April 16 - Kentucky Department of Education  
300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40601; Conference Room A & B on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

May 21 - Kentucky Community and Technical College System  
300 North Main Street, Versailles, KY, 40383

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

November 19 - The CentreWorks Building at Centre College  
236 W. Main Street, Danville, KY 40422

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.