



Kentucky Education and Workforce Collaborative Meeting

Meeting Minutes for 10.12.23

In-Person ONLY Meeting - 1:30-3:30 p.m. ET

Optional In-Person Networking - 1 p.m. ET

Website Link:

Call Meeting to Order – 1:30 p.m. ET

Beth Brinly, Chair and Deputy Secretary of Education and Labor Cabinet, welcomed everyone.

Entity Name	Contact in Attendance
Governor Andy Beshear – Secretary John Hicks	n/a
Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet	Deputy Secretary Beth Brinly (Chair)
Kentucky Cabinet of Economic Development – Deputy Commissioner Kristina Slattery	Proxy Kristina Slattery
Department of Workforce Development	Proxy Deputy Commissioner Michelle Dejohn
Kentucky Department of Education	n/a
Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services	Proxy Deputy Secretary Carrie Banahan
Kentucky Justice & Public Safety	n/a
Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board	Proxy Lori Ulrich
Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education	Proxy Dr. Lee Nimocks
Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education Conference of Presidents (representing the Presidents) - Dr. Bob Jackson	Proxy Chris Wooldridge
Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs - BG Steven Bullard / Dallas Kratzer	n/a
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce	Proxy LaKisha Miller
Kentucky Housing Corporation	Proxy Kaye McAfee
Chief Local Elected Official (representing the LEOs through KACo)	n/a
Local Board Director (representing the 10)	Proxy Correy Eimer
State Director of the Kentucky National Federation of Independent Business - Tom Underwood	n/a
Kentucky Human Development Institute (HDI) of University of KY	n/a
Job Corps Director (representing the 7)	n/a
Kentucky Community and Technical College Systems	Proxy Jessie Schook

Additional attendees: Billie Johnson (DLG), Gabe Nickell (DLG), Irene Yates (KOR), Andrea Day (DCBS/ DCC), Correy Eimer, Ashley Runyon (EEC), Todd Trapp (CHFS / DCBS/ DFS), Sarah Stoll (KLC), Cora McNabb (OVR), Kim Grasberger (OLLS), Jason Hutchinson, Regan Wann, Shelby Stratton (CDO), Logan Rupard (KYSTATs)

Staff: Alisher Burikhanov, Debbie Dennison, LaChrista Ellis, Elishah Taylor

Welcome and Introduction

Beth Brinly, Chair and Deputy Secretary of Education and Labor Cabinet (ELC) expressed her appreciation for each partner and explained the focus of the meeting, which is The WIOA 2024 State Plan. She walked through the agenda and discussion breakout goals for the meeting.

2024 State Plan Overview

Alisher Burikhanov, Executive Director of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board thanked everyone for coming. He reminded the group that this is the last meeting for the Collaborative for the year. He shared that every four (4) years, the Department of Labor, through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) requires each state's workforce development board to create a [State Plan](#). The WIOA State Plans outline what each State or Territory is doing to help Americans, including youth and those with significant barriers to employment, enter into high-quality jobs and careers and help employers hire and retain skilled workers. KWIB staff is collaborating with local areas to convene stakeholder and focus group meetings to build out themes and direction for the next four years.

State Plan Discussion

Overview: Beth Brinly, Deputy Secretary explained the planned activity of breaking into three different groups and focusing on one question per work group. They will discuss the question on hand based on the workgroup (Practice, Data, and Policy). They will discuss what the workforce is doing currently and transition on what to prioritize to make the workforce better. Each group will rotate to a new room to add to the discussion board. Each group will finish in the room they started in to go over what has been said and add to the discussion board if needed before returning to the main room for discussion.

Questions and the top discussion points that emerged:

- 1. What are the practices that transition your service population to better employment outcomes? (Practice Breakout Group)**
 - a. Track and Market Return on Investments through stakeholder communication and education (set and define expectations, stakeholders to put "skin in the game", elevate competency based-hiring)
 - b. Use of Technology, AI, Sector Innovation, Digital Equity, VR Training, to support development of citizens in development and success; include high impact and vigorous updating (need more funding; effective braiding of funds; maximum collaboration)
 - c. Re-evaluation of services / expectations - Non-Traditional is the norm.

Other: Proactive and consistent approaches between workforce and employer needed; intentional future-facing training / focus; Language used matters: intentional and accessible marketing and education needed for priority populations

- 2. What are the key metrics that your organization uses to measure outcomes related to employment? (Data Breakout Group)**
 - a. Data sharing / standardization across partners (of measurements and of definitions)
 - b. True and consistent analyzation of data received.
 - c. Employer data tied to Individual outcomes

Other: Tie Education and Training to Sustainable Employment; WBL / credential learning and outcomes (tracking other outcomes than just RAPs); Deeper data analysis for priority populations

- 3. What are the policy opportunities that would allow for mutually reinforcing employment outcomes? (Policy Breakout Group)**
 - a. Private – Public partnership policies

- b. Placement tracking and retention with job quality principles as measurements
- c. Licensure and interstate agreements (occupational) reciprocity from other states.

Other: Educating Employers on resources (finishing degrees); benefit cliff related policies that help with transition; gap assistance (“flat tire fund”) targeted to individuals in unique situations; additional support for untapped talent (ex: foster youth); rewarding employers with quality jobs; linkage – economic development (equitable development)

Next Steps

What are the major themes discussed that we can jointly collaborate on to better support Kentucky’s talent pipeline needs?

1. Practice

- a. Track and Market Return on Investments through stakeholder communication and education (set and define expectations, stakeholders to put “skin in the game”, elevate competency based-hiring

2. Data

- a. Data sharing / standardization across partners (of measurements and of definitions)

3. Policy

- a. Private – Public partnership policies

Closing Comments

Beth Brinly, Deputy Secretary pointed out that, outside of the Data Breakout Group, reaffirming with the local workforce areas came out of most of the discussions, and having that alignment is key. The KWIB will reflect the outcomes from this meeting and the listening session at the [KWIB Board Meeting on November 2nd](#). The KWIB Board will have a discussion about their four north stars and compare them with what they have heard out in the field to help strengthen the workforce in the next coming years through the State Plan.

The next meeting for the Kentucky Education and Workforce Collaborative Board Meeting will have a report on the Benefits Cliff which includes childcare and healthcare. They will provide recommendations from the study that was done.

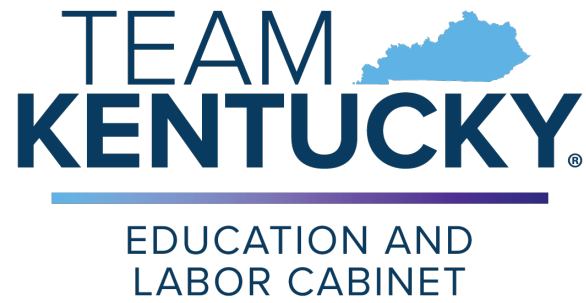
Kaye McAfee, Kentucky Housing Corporation thanked the group for having her. She went over how it is important to be at the table to collaborate. She also spoke about the affordable housing issue employees and employers are having in the workforce.

Debbie Dennison, Deputy Executive Director, KWIB, also lifted up Ashley Runyon from the Office of Energy Policy at the Kentucky Energy & Environment Cabinet as an excellent new partner in the workforce ecosystem. They have numerous grants that have a workforce component, and she will be reaching out to partners in the space.

Alisher Burikhanov shared a briefing booklet contents for participants to take, that include many of the organizations that are represented at the meeting. The one-pagers were passed out at the end of the Collaborative Meeting.

Beth Brinly, Deputy Secretary thanked the team for all they have done in setting up for this meeting. She mentioned that they will be sending out the meetings for the 2024 calendar year.

Adjournment – 3:00 p.m. ET



Kentucky Education & Workforce Collaborative Board
Meeting Briefing Book

October 12, 2023
1:30 – 3:30 pm EDT

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Kentucky Education and Workforce Collaborative Meeting

October 12, 2023, 1:30-3:30 pm EST

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Kentucky Education and Workforce Collaborative Meeting
AGENDA
Thursday, October 12, 2023
IN-PERSON
500 Mero Street, Frankfort KY; 4th floor Conference Room

1:30PM CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Welcome and Overview.....*Beth Brinly, Chair*
 Deputy Secretary, Education and Labor Cabinet

1:40pm 2024 State Plan Overview.....*Alisher Burikhanov, Executive Director, KWIB*

1:50pm State Plan Discussion

Overview..... *Deputy Secretary Brinly*

Questions for discussion:

- What are the practices that transition your service population to better employment outcomes? (Practice)
- What are the key metrics that your organization uses to measure outcomes related to employment? (Data)
- What are the policy opportunities that would allow for mutually reinforcing employment outcomes? (Policy)

Next Steps

What are the major themes discussed that we can jointly collaborate on to better support Kentucky’s talent pipeline needs?

3:45PM CLOSING COMMENTS

4:00PM ADJOURNMENT



Kentucky Education and Workforce Collaborative Meeting

Meeting Minutes for 06.29.23

Hybrid Meeting - 1:30-3:30 p.m. ET

Optional In-Person Networking - 1 p.m. ET

Website Link: https://kwib.ky.gov/PublishingImages/Collab_062923/Collab_062923.mp4

Call Meeting to Order – 1:32 p.m. ET

Beth Brinly, Chair and Deputy Secretary of Education and Labor Cabinet, welcomed everyone.

Entity Name	Contact in Attendance
Governor Andy Beshear – Secretary John Hicks	Secretary John Hicks
Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet	Deputy Secretary Beth Brinly (Chair)
Kentucky Cabinet of Economic Development – Deputy Commissioner Kristina Slattery	Proxy Kristina Slattery, representing Secretary Jeff Noel
Department of Workforce Development	Deputy Commissioner Michelle Dejohn
Kentucky Department of Education	Proxy Dr. Beth Hargis, Leslie Slaughter
Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services	
Kentucky Justice & Public Safety	Proxy Deputy Secretary Keith Jackson
Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board	Kim Menke, KWIB Chair
Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education	Proxy Dr. Lee Nimocks, Leslie Slaughter
Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education Conference of Presidents (representing the Presidents) - Dr. Bob Jackson	n/a
Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs - BG Steven Bullard / Dallas Kratzer	Proxy Dallas Kratzer
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce	Proxy LaKisha Miller
Kentucky Housing Corporation	n/a
Chief Local Elected Official (representing the LEOs through KACo)	n/a
Local Board Director (representing the 10)	Michael Gritton
State Director of the Kentucky National Federation of Independent Business - Tom Underwood	n/a
Kentucky Human Development Institute (HDI) of University of KY	n/a
Job Corps Director (representing the 7)	Amanda Curry
Kentucky Community and Technical College Systems	Dr. Larry Ferguson

Present Online: Aaron Poynter, Amanda Corry, Amy Luttrell, Beth Hargis, Bridget Back, Captioner Jenny Janes, Chris Wooldridge, Cindy Massie, Correy Eimer, Dallas Kratzer, Heidi Margulis, James Iacocca, James Link, Jared Roberts, Joe Paul, Johnny Collett, Judge Orbrey Gritton, Kathy Sheppard, Kim Humphrey, Kimberly Grasberger, Lance Mann, Larry Ferguson, Lee Nimocks, LTADD, Marnie Mountjoy, Marsha Wells, Mary Ann Medlock, Myra Wilson, Paula Payne, Renea Waggoner, Sarah Butler, Sarah Ortkiese, Sean Campbell, Steve Bullard, Tad Long, Tiffanie Reeves, Tim Campbell, Tina Brogli, Tom Thompson, Zach Morgan

Present In-Person: Secretary John Hicks, Deputy Secretary Beth Brinly, Deputy Commissioner Michelle DeJohn, Tom Sholar, Derek Poor, Claire Arnold, Brian Selmeski, Sarah Stoll, Deputy Secretary Keith Jackson, Commissioner Whitney Allen, Molly Bode, Bret Bemis, Michael Gritton, Kim Menke, Debbie Dennison, Elishah Taylor

Welcome and Introduction

Beth Brinly, Chair and Deputy Secretary of Education and Labor Cabinet (ELC) expressed her appreciation for each partner and explained the focus of the meeting, which is Transitioning Veterans and Families. She walked through the agenda and discussion goals for the meeting.

Deputy Secretary Brinly shared that she and **Debbie Dennison**, Deputy Executive Director, Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board (KWIB) will be sharing information regarding the Department of Labor, Education and Training Administration (DOL/ETA) Vision 2030 summit, held in Washington DC in May.

Vision 2030 Overview / Discussion

Deputy Secretary Brinly shared an overview of information received at the Vision 2030 Summit held in Washington DC in May. Four (4) pillars of focus per the DOL / ETA includes: 1. Focusing on the Future of Work; 2. Building and maintaining sectoral partnerships across the workforce ecosystem; 3. Working to provide a better care economy; and 4. Including an equity lens in building out community success, to ensure we are working to lift those left behind and underrepresented populations in good jobs and careers. She asked Debbie Dennison, Deputy Executive Director, KWIB, to speak to the strategies behind the initiatives.

Debbie Dennison shared strategies discussed to actualize the above pillars include: local areas braiding funding among grants and other fiduciary avenues available; scaling best practices; increasing work to identify and align support services for major disruptors of quality of life; we must all continue to reduce barriers; we must maintain a pulse on ever-changing sector strategies and growing economy and make sure career pathways are aligned and finally, but not least, we must all make sure we are working to introduce our youth to career and college pathways early and often in their childhood. We all must take ownership of these initiatives and collaborate with each other to make these focuses reality. Debbie turned it back to Deputy Secretary who asked for questions or comments. There were no additional questions or comments.

Education and Workforce Collaborative Updates

Deputy Secretary Brinly gave an update about *Jobs on Day One*. On July 12th a team will be visiting a corrections institution. Also participating are trade unions that are interested in hiring individuals that are immediately coming out of prisons or jails. The goal, also aligning with the *Jobs on Day One* initiative, is to strengthen prerelease training and programs, so they have the skills needed to perform job duties for available positions. The *Jobs on Day One* Initiative is anchored in the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and Office of Adult Education (OAE) where the pilot Putting Kentuckians First Initiative now lives. Putting Kentuckians First Initiative focuses on jail locations and justice-served populations leaving incarceration and providing them a team-based case management. Aaron Poynter, Director of Re-entry within the OAE, is leading this effort and he is also in the New Leadership Kentucky class.

Deputy Secretary Brinly asked Dr. Beth Hargis to give an update about the Work-based Learning ecosystem workgroup. Beth Hargis shared a recent survey that was sent to different businesses to explain what types of work-based learning they might have, and to whom they are providing these services. One goal is to create a definition for work-based learning that can be used among partners for understanding, and to piece resources and available information together for use by employers, students, educators and others in the ecosystem to make it easier to upskill, train, provide credentials for Kentucky's workforce. Debbie Dennison added that if anyone would like to be a part of the work group to reach out to her. LaKisha Miller asked that Laurie Mays and Dorian Moe be added to this initiative.

Discussion Topic: Supports and Resources for Veterans, Transitioning Military, and their Families in Kentucky

Deputy Secretary Brinly shared the importance of communities in Kentucky aligning resources and intentionally focusing on attracting and retaining the above populations.

She identified three (3) ways in which a community could prepare to be either Military Friendly, Military Ready or Military Engaged. Examples include: an employer attending a job fair for military personnel and their families; an employer providing a culture that fosters acceptance and affirming the skills military personnel bring; an employer intentionally focusing on retention efforts for military and veteran personnel to ensure they are thriving and have ample opportunities within policies, and diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. She pointed to the pre-read materials provided and began with identified questions.

She inquired to the participants: How would customers of current programs describe the services and supports for veterans, transitioning military, and their families?

Paula Payne is a manager at Fort Knox, and she explained the challenges of putting years of service into a two-page resumes. Currently, members are focusing on a skill and making that the theme of the resume. It is important for employers to have a conversation with service members about their past and current service (Guard activity, for example). **Deputy Secretary Brinly** commented that knowing this information should change how they interview veterans, military personnel and their spouses.

LaKisha Miller, Executive Director at Kentucky Chamber expressed that the Chamber is embracing this population. They are working to get information together to make it easier for businesses to hire from this talent pool. Zach Morgan from the Chamber is the lead on this work at the Chamber.

Dallas Kratzer, Sr. Fellow with the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), mentioned a veteran resource group called [Soldier for Life \(SFL\)](#) and added the link to their website in the chat. This group helps employers set up veteran resource group that can connect veterans in their work area. Deputy Secretary Brinly thanked Dallas Kratzer for providing this information. She noted that sometimes it is just the wording can be an obstacle. *Veteran resource group and employers resource groups are the same thing.*

Sarah Stoll from Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) had 15 years of service before her work with KLC. In her position she helps veterans build their resumes. She had a graduate school professor state that *"if the chief justice of the supreme court system can have a one-page resume so can you"*. In the military are services and skills and certifications are listed. When interviewing military, and veteran personnel, Sarah asks veterans to describe their skills in civilian "speak" like she does not know anything about the military. She added that our military is not used to wearing civilian clothes. They are used to putting on the same uniform each day. She just wanted the group to be aware of the things our military is not used to doing which can sometimes be an additional barrier.

Brian Selmeski, Associate Vice President for Academics at Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) hosted the Veterans Summit, co-hosted by KWIB and the OAE last year. He shared that he served fifteen (15) years as a civilian administrator. He shared an alternate perspective and thinks it would be best to reset our vision of veterans. All veterans have not served twenty plus (20+) years. The business model for the Marine Corps, for example is one and done. The majority of Marines have served four (4) years. It is not the same for all services, but employers need to stop thinking that all or most veterans are in their late 30s. These students are looking to receive a credential that their military counterparts already have. They can help these students achieve this by looking at what they have done in the military which is called their joint service transcript. A second group are students that want to change career paths. This career change can be done through credit for prior learning. Each higher education institutions can do this. This is something that KCTCS has highlighted in their strategic plan as a priority.

Deputy Secretary Brinly thanked Brian Selmeski for sharing. She noted that when it comes to attracting military personnel, their families are the greatest factor on where they settle down. **Michael Gritton** Executive Director of KentuckianaWorks lifted the need to coordinate resources for employers, to be able match jobs for the military personnel.

Deputy Secretary Brinly agreed that options can be overwhelming and we need to simplify the resources and services so each military person can choose the services based on their needs.

Kim Menke, Director for Toyota Manufacturing North America, provided an employer's perspective. He shared that it is not only how to point the military personnel but where can employers find them to hire them. He indicated that this is a key, and missing opportunity. He shared that Toyota has engaged and tried different programs to connect with them before they are discharged. From his perspective, if they have a military background they should go to the top of the list for the interview. Toyota has created a way to match their military skillsets to manufacturing activities. Toyota is a large corporation and can do this because they have so many military personnel in their Human Resources (HR) department.

Michel Gritton agreed that it is challenging to match service men and women to employers.

Commissioner Whitney Allen of the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs (KDVA) pointed out that every military base has a transition section on base. A key might be to engage with age groups starting at 21 years old. He also suggested to market intentionally to military personnel inside and outside of Kentucky. This comes down to a strategic plan: marketing, recruiting, business involvement, and incentives. Kentucky is a military state with multiple bases (Forts).

Molly Bode, Executive Director at Veterans Accelerated Licensure Occupational Recruitment (VALOR), explained that KY Valor is a grant funded program that is recruiting inside and outside of Kentucky. This is a new program to the state of Kentucky funded by the 2022 General Assembly. They are the liaison that connects folks to jobs, accelerated pathways, they work with employers directly and others like Derek (Derek Poor of West Kentucky Local Area Development District) that represent a particular region. Bret is a recruiter and he is at Fort Knox a minimum of once a week. They are both travelling and recruiting nationally. They want to provide the direct hand off to schools and employers. KY VALOR is brand-new, and they would like to partner and connect people.

Commissioner Whitney Allen recommended that KY VALOR program be introduced across State workforce entities and to employers / companies. KY Valor needs to be introduced to hiring managers, and management so they know their faces and build a relationship of trust to *build the pipeline of military personnel* to employers in need of talent.

Bret Bemis, Military Recruiter at KY VALOR. Was in the Army for 22 years and wanted to bring his family back home to Kentucky. He shared that veterans are all different ages. The groups of people he talks to each week are people that live near Fort Knox, people from Kentucky coming back home and people that did not have Kentucky on their radar. He noted that they start talking to veterans as early as, 24 months out from being discharged. Bret shared a personal example of how hard it is for military families to adjust when settling down in most areas in Kentucky, as they are small towns with long-standing relationships. It can be *difficult for a military family to move in and fit in*.

Molly Bode brought up that their website will be completed in the upcoming months. At this moment they are case managing each person by hand. They are building a custom portal free to employers and service members to sign up to see in real time each person that has been recruited. This will help people be able to apply for jobs around the state. Deputy Secretary Beth Brinly thanked Molly for the information and called on Tom next then Dallas.

Tom Sholar Business Liaison at West Kentucky Workforce Board pointed out that KY VALOR makes relationships. He explained how important it is to create relationships not just with veterans but also with their families. He praised the efforts of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). Derek Poor does the recruiting for them. The key is relationships and getting the information needed from the companies to veterans for job security. **Derek Pool**, Veterans Transition Liaison at West Kentucky Workforce Board suggested that they look at *healthcare packages* that jobs offer. He gave an example about his personal life and how he accepted or declined certain jobs due to healthcare packages. Derek believed that it would be a great idea to bring companies to the Forts to meet with the transitioning veterans. The key is to build the relationship and meet them where they are.

Commissioner Whitney Allen added that Derek and Molly recruit, coach, teach, and mentor both employers and the military personnel. When he was in the military, they had to coach each other and the companies. Tom Sholar added that it is not just coaching the military but coaching and educating their spouses and the employer / industry. In years

past if the military had one bad experience they would not return. So, they have worked to build that bridge back with the military.

Dallas Kratzer provided information on **Task Force WELCOME** helps transitioning members and employers through their transition time which is usually the last 12 months of service. The key is to use a program called DOD **SkillBridge** to gain that employment. He is encouraged that Secretary Link, Education and Labor Cabinet, is looking into this and will be providing next steps from Dallas Kratzer and Jason Hutchinson. **Deputy Secretary Brinly** explained that other states are doing career coaching in the last two (2) years of service.

Deputy Secretary asked the group, “what is the one thing we can move forward on and make an impact with for the veteran population?”

Steve Bullard, Brigadier General, Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs (KCMA) applauded the Kentucky Chamber for the work they are doing with educating employers. *He suggested tracking the efforts in the state.* He also applauded Dallas Kratzer and Secretary Link as they progress in their project. Brigadier General (BG) suggested that they need champions to get the message out to sell this information to our veterans and their families.

Deputy Secretary Brinly thanked BG Bullard for his perspective and echoed that the anchor for the Education and Workforce Collaborative (Collaborative) board is to centralizing efforts and maximize their resources. **Commissioner Allen** explained that they need to create a recruitment strategy that every company and business can use and go out to recruit veterans. **Deputy Secretary Brinly** shared that there has been some work done with the digital equity project to identify transitioning military. They use this information to pinpoint areas where veterans are for recruitment. She asked participants for their perspective.

Kim Menke thinks having a repository for job opportunities for veterans across Kentucky might be an important initiative. Making resources available to allow military personnel to return to civilian activity in a community is critical. **Deputy Secretary Brinly** shared the work of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) mandated Jobs for Veterans State Grant (JMSG), where individuals are working with employers. They receive a list each week of people separating from the military where they are engaging and, in some cases, relocating. This is data currently coming into the local Kentucky Career Center offices.

Commissioner Allen stated that the Department of Defense (DOD) is creating a system that will send an electronic notice where the veteran chooses where they want to relocate. If they use this list, they can use tourism to send marketing pieces out on why people should live in Kentucky and what benefits they might receive.

Sarah Stoll recommended that our engagement begin prior to the 12-24 month period and added that most retiring veterans know within 3-4 years when they are going to retire. Once they get into the Transition Assistance Program (TAPs) where they are focused on getting their medical and other appointments completed to complete the process, they are not worried about getting a job, but on getting *things done to get out of the military successfully.* **Deputy Secretary Brinly** added that their duties may not be in the United States and a virtual platform is important.

Deputy Secretary lifted that she would recommend someone that is familiar with this population convene further work group meetings to discuss ideas as far as the attraction and recruitment plan looking at the 24 months out strategy in. The convening partner would be asked to bring back updates and strategies to the Collaborative on how they would like to move forward. If anyone is interested in being apart of the strategy group that builds the concept to let Debbie Dennison know. The KWIB Staff will facilitate pulling together the workgroup ideas and lift for recommendation to the whole group in the coming weeks.

Commissioner Whitney Allen volunteered to be the convener for the strategic group. Deputy Secretary Brinly again stated that if anyone wanted to be in the group to put it in the chat in they were virtual or to give Debbie Dennison their card after the meeting.

She expressed her appreciation of the knowledge, expertise, personal experience, and passion on doing this work and doing it right. She thanked everyone. **Deputy Secretary Brinly** asked Debbie to give an update about the state plan. She expressed how critical it is to have all the partners involved. She expressed how they will have a working session on providing feedback on the plan.

Debbie Dennison shared one of the functions of the state workforce board is preparing a 4-year plan of aligning strategies of any of the partners in the workforce ecosystem. The KWIB Board is at the State level and working with local workforce areas to understand their needs and lift up their ideas as Kentucky moves forward to engage more people in participating in the workforce. Using the Governor-approved Strategic Plan as our north star, we will review our programs over the last four years and seek to innovate towards new initiatives in the State Plan. The KWIB committees have been reviewing the goals and objectives of the current plan to make sure all of the principles are sound and that they are still valid for our Commonwealth. She added that in the next three to four months they will be meeting with the local areas in their communities having discussions with their supporters and stakeholders. It is important to have everyone's voices involved. The State Plan is anticipated to be due in March 2024 to the Department of Labor (DOL).

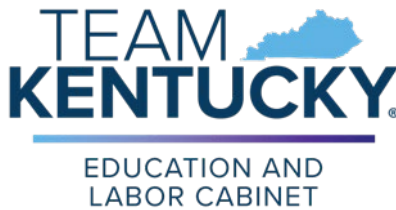
Deputy Secretary Brinly added that at the next meeting will be a working session where breakout groups will convene and share different perspectives of importance with the whole group. She thanked Debbie for the update. The next Collaborative meeting will be October 12th at 1:30pm EST.

Derek Pool asked to share one last piece of information and referred participants to a program called [EAGLEWERX](#). He asked everyone to review it and to look into the new program that can help veterans.

Deputy Secretary Brinly thanked everyone for the great discussion. She did not find the need to ask the other listed questions in the agenda because during the discussion they touched on them. Anyone that is interested in being a part of this work group initiative, please email [Debbie Dennison](#) or commit in the chat. Deputy Secretary Brinly thanked acting military and veterans for their service.

The recording of the Collaborative Meeting is available on the [Schedule of Meetings page](#) of KWIB's website.

Adjournment – 2:56 p.m. ET



Education and Labor Cabinet

Kentucky succeeds when her people succeed. The Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet (ELC) can give people the opportunity to succeed by starting them with a strong foundation during their early childhood years and providing world-class education and training throughout school and into adulthood for safe, meaningful careers.

They collaborative and provide employers an opportunity to succeed by creating a qualified and prepared workforce that meets their business needs without compromising safety and fairness for all employees.

They offer services for Kentucky workers when they need help because of job loss, illness and disability. Services promote the well-being of both business and employees, so all Kentuckians can prosper.

VISION

The Education and Labor Cabinet fosters opportunities for lifelong learning, training and career services while protecting the well-being of Kentucky's workforce.

MISSION

Educate – Promote early childhood through 12th grade, postsecondary education, adult education and credentialed training to provide lifelong opportunities for Kentuckians.

Encourage – Use of resources and data to improve the prosperity of Kentucky's workforce.

Employ – Actively engage employers to drive Kentucky's workforce system by creating opportunities for and removing employment barriers for Kentuckians.

Enforce – Create a culture of accountability to promote best practices, fairness, and compliance with Kentucky's wage and hour, employees' safety, health and worker's compensation requirements.

The Career Development Office

The Career Development Office is a significant partner housed in the Kentucky Career Centers statewide. The focus of the Career Development Office staff is to assist job seekers find sustainable employment and careers, connect individuals to education and training opportunities, and to assist employers meet their workforce needs by connecting them with skilled, qualified employees.

The Career Development Office encompasses five programs to include Wagner-Peyser (WP) services, Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA), Jobs for Veterans State Grant (JVSG), Trade Act programs (TAA) and the Temporary Agricultural Employment of Foreign Workers (H2A).

Wagner-Peyser (WP)

The Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 established a nationwide system of public employment offices known as the Employment Service. The Employment Service seeks to improve the functioning of the nation's labor markets by bringing together individuals seeking employment with employers seeking workers. The Wagner-Peyser Employment Service focuses on providing a variety of services including job search assistance, help getting a job referral, and placement assistance for job seekers.

Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessments (RESEA)

The Unemployment Insurance (UI) program is a required partner in the broader public workforce system and provides unemployment benefits to individuals who have lost their employment through no fault of their own and who otherwise meet initial and continuing UI eligibility requirements. Beginning in 2005, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration funded the voluntary UI Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) program to address individual reemployment needs of UI claimants, as well as prevent and detect improper benefit payments. In 2015, the Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA) program replaced the REA program providing greater access to reemployment services in addition to services previously provided under the REA program.

Jobs for Veterans State Grant (JVSG)

The Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) program provides federal funding, through a formula grant, to 54 State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) to hire dedicated staff to provide individualized career and training-related services to veterans and eligible persons with significant barriers to employment and to assist employers fill their workforce needs with job-seeking veterans.

The JVSG program supports the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialist position, Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) staff, and Consolidated Position staff. DVOP specialists provide individualized career services to veterans with significant barriers to employment, with the maximum emphasis directed toward serving veterans who

are economically or educationally disadvantaged. Veterans with barriers include homeless veterans and vocational rehabilitation clients. Local Veterans' Employment Representatives conduct outreach to employers and business associations and engage in advocacy efforts with hiring executives to increase employment opportunities for veterans and encourage the hiring of disabled veterans. Consolidated Position staff serve in a dual role as DVOP and LVER.

Trade Act programs (TAA)

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program is a federal program established under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2015 that provides aid to workers who lose their jobs or whose hours of work and wages are reduced as a result of increased imports.

The TAA program offers a variety of benefits and reemployment services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for training, job search and relocation allowances, income support, and other reemployment services.

A petition for TAA may be filed by a group of three or more workers, their union, or other duly authorized representative. Petition forms may be obtained from the local State Employment Security Agency or from any agency designated by the governor to provide reemployment services under the TAA program.

Temporary Agricultural Employment of Foreign Workers (H2A)

Section 218 of the Immigration and Nationality Act authorizes the lawful admission into the United States of temporary, nonimmigrant workers (H-2A workers) to perform agricultural labor or services of a temporary or seasonal nature. Before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) can approve an employer's petition for such workers, the employer must file an application with the Department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) stating, among other things, that there are not sufficient workers who are able, willing, qualified, and available, and that the employment of aliens will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers similarly employed in the U.S.. Any employer using H-2A workers must have initially attempted to find U.S. workers to fill these jobs. H-2A workers and domestic workers in corresponding employment must be paid special rates of pay that vary by locality, must be provided housing and transportation from that housing to the job site if their employment requires them to be away from their residence overnight, and must be guaranteed an offer of employment for a total number of hours equal to at least 75% of the work period specified in the contract.

Jobs for Veterans State Grants

The Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) program provides federal funding, through a formula grant, to 54 State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) to hire dedicated staff to provide individualized career and training-related services to veterans and eligible persons with significant barriers to employment and to assist employers fill their workforce needs with job-seeking veterans.

Program Staff: The JVSG program supports the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialist position, Local Veterans' Employment Representative (LVER) staff, and Consolidated Position staff. DVOP specialists provide individualized career services to veterans with significant barriers to employment, with the maximum emphasis directed toward serving veterans who are economically or educationally disadvantaged. Veterans with barriers include homeless veterans and vocational rehabilitation clients. Local Veterans' Employment Representatives conduct outreach to employers and business associations and engage in advocacy efforts with hiring executives to increase employment opportunities for veterans and encourage the hiring of disabled veterans. Consolidated Position staff serve in a dual role as DVOP and LVER.

Available Services

- Priority of Service
- Career assessments
- Job search assistance
- Interview preparation
- Labor market information
- Resume and cover letter assistance
- Access to computers and internet service
- Translating military experience to civilian responsibilities
- Specialized services for veterans with disabilities through our Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Connections to area Veteran Service Organizations

Visit <https://kcc.ky.gov/veterans/Pages/default.aspx> for more information.

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)

On July 1, 2022, the termination provision under Section 285(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, took effect. Until further notice, the Department may not issue any determinations and may not accept any new petitions or requests for reconsideration. Requests to amend current certifications may still be filed. Workers who were certified and separated from their job on or before June 30, 2022, may still be eligible for benefits and services and should contact their nearest Kentucky Career Center (KCC) for further assistance.

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Overview

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program is a federal program that assists workers who have lost their jobs as a result of increased imports or shifts in production out of the United States. This program provides adversely affected workers with opportunities to obtain the skills, credentials, resources and support necessary to become re-employed. If a Trade petition is certified by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), each adversely affected worker in the group must apply for individual benefits and services through his or her local KCC office to determine individual eligibility for re-employment services, training, unemployment benefits and other program specific benefits.

TAA and its benefits are provided at no cost to employers and allow adversely affected workers to access an even wider array of services than they would otherwise be eligible for. Ask your local KCC Trade contact for more information on TAA and the petition process.

TAA Program Benefits

Adversely affected workers must apply and be approved for TAA services and benefits through their local KCC. TAA is not a training reimbursement program. It is important to contact your local KCC to meet applicable deadlines, ensure proper understanding of the rules, and receive guidance on benefits and services.

Trade Act Programs Contact Information

U.S. Department of Labor

Employment and Training Administration - Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance, Room N-5428

200 Constitution Ave., N.W.

Washington, DC 20210

Phone: 202-693-3560 or 1-888-DOL-OTAA (1-888-365-6822),

Fax: 202-693-3584 or 3585

Website: www.doleta.gov/tradeact/

Kentucky State Trade Coordinators

Lisa Burton, Brandon Inman and Haley Thorp

Email: Tradeprogram@ky.gov

Phone: 502-782-3022

Kentucky Unemployment Insurance

The Federal-State (Kentucky) unemployment compensation (UC) program, (also referred to as the unemployment insurance [UI] program), created by the Social Security Act (SSA) of 1935, offers the first economic line of defense against the effects of unemployment. Through payments made directly to eligible, unemployed workers, it ensures that at least a significant proportion of the necessities of life—most notably food, shelter, and clothing—can be met on a week-to-week basis while a search for work takes place. As temporary, partial wage replacement to the unemployed, UC is of vital importance in maintaining purchasing power and in stabilizing the economy in times of economic downturn.

In addition to providing workers a much-needed safety net, the UC program provides employers the benefit of maintaining a trained workforce in the local labor market, available to return to work when needed. The UC program operates counter-cyclically, paying out higher levels of benefits during recessionary times and recouping those higher costs during recovery periods. Most workers are covered by UC under state or Federal UC laws. It is noted by the U.S. department of Labor-Employment and Training Administration. That states are responsible for administering their individual state UC programs, and they act as agents of the Federal government in administering certain Federal UC programs (discussed below) under agreements with the Secretary of Labor.

Each state has its own set of eligibility requirements based on federal law. Your benefit amount here in Kentucky is based on how much money you made during a specified period, as reported by your employer. Workers do not pay into the UI program. UI benefits come from employer taxes and are never deducted from a worker's paycheck. Employers are notified when you file a claim and are asked to provide information.

However, all eligibility decisions are made by the Office of Unemployment Insurance. Eligible individuals may receive between 16 and 24 weeks of UI benefits during one benefit year. The duration of benefits depends upon the State Average Unemployment Rate at the time of filing. Traditional UI benefits are paid every other week. The maximum benefit amount is \$665 per week.

To be eligible for benefits you must:

- (1) Be unemployed or working less than full-time
- (2) Have earned enough money to establish a valid claim
- (3) Be unemployed through no fault of your own
- (4) Be able to work, available for work, and looking for work

The 40-member [Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board](#) (KWIB) serves as an advisory board to the Governor on workforce training and development issues.

Kentucky's [Strategic Plan](#) provides the statewide vision for workforce training and development.



Other functions of the state workforce board include:

- Development, implementation and modification of the State Plan
- Review of statewide policies to align workforce development programs and activities
- The development and continuous improvement of the workforce development system:
 - Removal of barriers
 - Strategies to support the use of career pathways to enter or retain employment

- Strategies for providing effective outreach
- Strategies for meeting the needs of employers, workers and jobseekers
- Identification of regions, including planning regions
- Development and continuous improvement of the one-stop delivery system
- Development and strategies to support staff training and awareness across programs
- Development and updating of comprehensive state performance accountability measures
- Identification and dissemination of information and best practices
- The development and review of statewide policies affecting the coordinated provision of services through the one-stop delivery system
- The development of strategies for technological improvements to facilitate access to and improve the quality of services and activities provided through the one-stop delivery system
- The development of allocation formulas for the distribution of funds for employment and training activities for adults, and youth workforce investment activities to local areas
- Preparation of the annual reports
- The development of the statewide workforce and labor market information system
- The development of other policies that may promote statewide objectives for and enhance the performance of the workforce development system in the state.



Cabinet for Economic Development

As the primary state agency encouraging job creation, retention, and business investment in Kentucky, the [Cabinet for Economic Development](#) works to attract new industries and assists existing companies to grow and expand. The Cabinet also provides support and resources for entrepreneurs, startups, and small business owners. The cabinet helps prepare communities for economic development opportunities.

In addition to the Cabinet's central office in Frankfort, the Cabinet maintains international offices in Europe and Asia.

To best serve clients, they have created strategic partnerships with numerous like-minded organizations throughout the Commonwealth.

Our goal is to make it easy to invest and create jobs in Kentucky.

Contact information:



Call Us

(800) 626-2930
(502) 564-7670
Fax: (502) 564-3256



Address

300 West Broadway
Frankfort, KY 40601



Appearance Request

[Request Form](#)

To contact the Cabinet by email, send inquiries to econdev@ky.gov.

Website: <https://ced.ky.gov/>



Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS)

The [Cabinet for Health and Family Services](#) is home to most of the state's human services and health care programs including Medicaid, the Department for Community Based Services, and the Department for Public Health.

CHFS is one of the largest agencies in state government with nearly 8,000 full- and part-time employees. For more information on specific programs, to find agencies within CHFS or for regulatory information, please visit the following Web pages:

- [Programs and Services](#)
- [Agencies and Departments](#)
- [Licenses, Permits and Certifications](#)

Hotline Information:

- General Information: 800-372-2973
- Child/Adult Abuse: 1-877-KYSAFE1 (597-2331)
- Kynect: 855-306-8959
- Adoption / Foster Care: 800-232-KIDS (5437)
- Child Support: 800-248-1163
- Drug /Alcohol Use: 800-221-0446
- Quit NOW (Tobacco Products): 800-784-8669
- Vital Statistics: 502-564-4212
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233 or text: LOVEIS to 866-331-9475
- Nations Sexual Assault Hotline RAINN (Rape, abuse and Incest National Network): 800-656-HOPE (4673)



About the Council: Who We Are

The [Council on Postsecondary Education](#) is a coordinating board overseeing Kentucky's state universities and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. The Council also licenses non-profit and for-profit higher education institutions to operate in Kentucky.

Role in Government

As higher education coordinating board, the Council facilitates a positive return on investment of public funds supporting higher education by monitoring academic quality, affordability and student success through policy and accountability measures. CPE's board and attached agency are not involved in a public college's day-to-day operations, board appointments, personnel matters, budget-setting or extracurricular activities.

Board Membership

The Governor appoints the Council members, which include 13 citizens, one faculty member and one student member; the Commissioner of Education is an ex-officio member.

[List of Council members](#)

To become a member of the CPE board, citizens may apply to the Governor's Office. For more information, visit the Governor's [Application for Boards and Commission webpage](#).

State Agency

A non-merit state agency supports the Council's members. Organizationally, it is attached to the Governor's Office and run by a president, who is appointed by Council membership.

- [President](#)
- [Executive leadership](#)
- [Staff directory](#)

Role with Public Higher Education

Established as part of the education reforms set forth in the *Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997*, the Council has responsibilities to ensure a well-coordinated and efficient public postsecondary education system. Duties include, but are limited to:

- Serves as the state's chief higher education thought leader and policy advisor to the Governor and General Assembly.
- Sets an [educational attainment goal](#) for the state.
- Develops and implements a [statewide strategic agenda](#) and [diversity policy](#) aligned with state goals.
- Creates a biennial budget request and [performance funding model](#) for adequate funding.
- Monitors and approves [tuition rates](#), [admission criteria](#) and [academic programs](#).
- Collects, analyzes and reports comprehensive performance [data](#).
- Ensures the coordination and connectivity of technology.
- Provides [orientation and training](#) for college and university board members or regents.
- Works with campuses on [transferability](#) of credits among public two-year and four-year institutions.

For a full list of duties to the Commonwealth, view the [Council's Roles and Responsibilities document](#).

Guiding Legislation

- [Establishment - House Bill 1](#)
- [Powers and duties - KRS 164.020](#)
- [Membership and meetings - KRS 164.011](#)
- [Selection, power, duties of the president - KRS 164.013](#)
- [Strategic agenda - KRS 164.0203](#)
- [Annual progress report - KRS 164.095](#)

Role with Other Higher Education Institutions

In addition to its role overseeing public higher education, the Council licenses non-profit and for-profit colleges that offer four-year bachelor's degrees to operate in Kentucky. These include

- [Licensed in-state schools](#)
- [Licensed out-of-state schools with locations in Kentucky or online programs](#)

For an [institution to be licensed](#), the Council thoroughly reviews the academic programs offered, including, the quality of faculty teaching those programs, the rigor of the curriculum and the course requirements for degrees.

In addition to licensure, Council staff mediates and investigates [consumer complaints](#) against higher education institutions that violate either Council policies or Kentucky law. In this role, the Council serves as an informal advisor or facilitator; it cannot provide legal advice or act as an attorney.

(For oversight of specialty schools offering only credentials less than a bachelor's degree, refer to the [Kentucky Commission on Proprietary Education](#).)

Council Programs and Initiatives

In addition to its role coordinating public higher education, the Council also houses/coordinates several entities tied to legislative mandate or federal programs.

- [Kentucky Virtual Library](#)
- [GEAR UP Kentucky](#)
- [Commonwealth Education Continuum](#)
- [Kentucky Student Success Collaborative](#)

Background of the Council

The Council was originally established in 1934 as the Council on Public Higher Education and was renamed the Council on Higher Education in 1977. *The Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997*, commonly referred to as [House Bill 1 \(HB1\)](#), established the framework for the Council as it operates today.

Department for Aging and Independent Living Programs (DAIL)

Hart Supported Living (HSL)

This program provides funds for supports to help Kentuckians with disabilities live in their homes and communities and avoid institutionalization.

Personal Care Attendant Program (PCAP)

The program helps severely, physically disabled adults at risk of being institutionalized to live in their own homes and communities by subsidizing costs of personal attendant services.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

The TBI Trust Fund was established to help individuals with a brain injury maintain the highest quality of life possible through its services and supports.

Home and Community Based Waiver

The Home and Community Based (HCB) Waiver is part of Kentucky's 1915(c) HCBS Medicaid Waiver program. HCB provides assistance to the elderly or to adults and children with physical disabilities to help them live in the community as independently as possible.

Homecare

The Homecare Program provides in-home services and supports for individuals 60 and older with functional disabilities who are at risk for long term institutionalization.

Title IIIB

The Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III B Supportive Services Program provides a variety of services for seniors, age 60 and older to address functional limitations, maintain health and independence, promote access to services, and more.

Title III C1 – Congregate Meal

This program serves meals in a group (congregate) setting to individuals aged 60 and older. Sites may also provide nutrition education, nutrition risk screening and nutrition counseling.

Title III C2 – Home Delivered Meal

This program provides Home Delivered meals and related nutrition services for older adults.

Title III E

Federally funded program that helps caregivers improve the health and well-being of the elderly in their care and to provide caregivers with information, training, and assistance.

Title III D

Provides evidence-based disease prevention and health promotion services to seniors.

KY Caregiver

State funded program whose purpose is to support grandparents who are providing primary care for a grandchild under the age of 18 years of age. Services may include financial and supportive services.

Ombudsman

The Kentucky Long-Term Care Ombudsman program advocates for residents of nursing homes, personal care homes and family care homes, as well as, improving care and encouraging positive change at all levels.

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)

State Health Insurance Assistance Program is a national program that offers one-on-one counseling and assistance to individuals with Medicare and their families.

Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC)

Kentucky has 15 Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) throughout the state that provide a single point of entry for consumers to access aging and disability information, referrals, programs and services. The Barren River, Pennyriple, Green River and Lake Cumberland AAA's, offer the Veteran Directed Home and Community Based Services Program in their areas. The KY Regional Planning and Development Agency (KIPDA), the University of Louisville, and the Veterans Administration, formed a coalition to help veterans needing assistance in accessing VA services.

Adult Guardianship Program

This program currently serves 90 veterans and 37 dependents of veterans, whereby CHFS has been appointed by district courts as guardian, limited guardian, conservator or limited conservator, per KRS 210.290.



The Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) is dedicated to serving as the unified voice and advocate for county governments in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Our mission is to provide the resources and support that our members need to foster the growth and prosperity of Kentucky's counties. Together, we are focused on making counties stronger for a stronger Kentucky.

KACo is committed to:

Advocacy

Serving as a strong and influential advocate for county governments at the state and national levels, ensuring that the interests and concerns of Kentucky counties are represented and heard in the legislative and policy-making processes.

Leadership

Providing visionary leadership by offering guidance, expertise, and innovative solutions to county officials, empowering them to effectively address the challenges and opportunities facing their communities.

Education and Training

Promoting continuous learning and professional development among county officials and employees through comprehensive educational programs, training opportunities, and resources, enabling them to enhance their skills, knowledge, and best practices.

Collaboration and Networking

Facilitating collaboration and networking among county officials, fostering the exchange of ideas, experiences, and best practices, and encouraging partnerships and alliances to tackle common issues and achieve shared goals.

Services and Resources

Delivering high-quality services, products, resources, and technical assistance to assist counties in matters of finance, risk management, insurance, technology, governance, and other critical areas, enabling them to operate efficiently, transparently, and in compliance with legal requirements.

Preservation of Local Control

Safeguarding the principle of local control and the autonomy of county governments, advocating for policies that empower counties to make decisions that best meet the needs of their citizens.

Our Membership

KACo represents more than 1,500 county elected officials, including:

- County Judge/Executives
- Magistrates and Commissioners
- Sheriffs
- Jailers
- County Clerks
- Circuit Court Clerks
- County Attorneys
- Commonwealth's Attorneys
- Property Valuation Administrators
- Coroners



Vision

The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce provides bold leadership as the major catalyst, consensus builder and advocate for economic growth and for expanding the business community of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Mission

The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce supports a dynamic business climate in the Commonwealth, works to advance Kentucky, and provides substantial value to its members by articulating a vision for Kentucky and providing advocacy, information, program management, and customer service in order to accelerate business creation, recruitment, expansion, and retention.

From its beginnings more than 75 years ago, the [Kentucky Chamber of Commerce](#) has evolved into the premier business association in the state. Today, the Kentucky Chamber represents 3,800 member businesses. The Kentucky Chamber's powerful grassroots network, through a partnership with more than 80 local chambers in the state, consists of 25,000 professionals.

The Kentucky Chamber's 501(c)(3) foundation works to bring economic, education, and workforce initiatives to our state that provides impact beyond the business community's normal reach.

The Leadership Institute for School Principals provides executive level leadership training to Kentucky's school principals that you won't find anywhere else. Likewise, The Kentucky Chamber Workforce Center provides a much needed alignment between the needs of businesses and the Commonwealth's workforce, and policymakers. The Foundation also serves as a resource for data and research to aid the development of new solutions to the Commonwealth's challenges as they arise. I'm proud that my Kentucky Chamber membership extends beyond employer needs."



The [Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs](#) (KCMA) is an independent agency attached to the office of the governor. It was formed upon the passage of KRS 154.12-203 in 1996 and is the lead advocate for military installations and the related defense economy in Kentucky. For more than two decades, the KCMA has directly managed Base Re-alignment and Closure (BRAC), set conditions for economic growth near Kentucky military installations and provided insight to all levels of government regarding the military and veterans.

KCMA's purpose:

- Address matters of military significance to Kentucky.
- Maintain a cooperative and constructive relationship between state agencies and the military entities in Kentucky.
- Advise the Governor, the General Assembly, the Kentucky congressional delegation, and other appropriate government officials on military matters.
- Take action to increase the military value of Kentucky's National Guard, active, and reserve military force structure and installations, and improve the quality of life for military personnel residing in the Commonwealth.
- Coordinate the state's interest in future Base Re-alignment and Closure (BRAC) activities.
- Recommend state, federal, and local military-related economic development projects.
- Promote and assist the private sector in partnering with Kentucky's military installations.
- Recommend to the Kentucky Economic Development Partnership the long-range options and potential for the defense facilities located in Kentucky;
- Develop strategies to encourage military personnel to retire and relocate in Kentucky and promote those leaving the military as a viable quality workforce.
- Allocate available grant money to qualified applicants to further the purposes of the KCMA.



Kentucky Community and Technical College System

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System is much more than colleges and programs: we're a community where you'll find confidence, collaboration, compassion, and success.

KCTCS Mission Statement

The mission of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System is to enhance the quality of life and economic vitality of the Commonwealth by serving as the primary provider of:

- College and Career Readiness
- Transfer Education
- Workforce Education and Employment Training

Vision

KCTCS will be the primary provider of skilled talent to grow Kentucky.

Our Colleges

Our colleges are focused on your unique needs and aspirations. Plus, we offer programs and courses that are relevant to you, your world and are respected by companies in your area. With 16 colleges and more than 70 campuses, we're practically in your backyard.

Safety & Security

At KCTCS, we want to provide the safest environment possible for everyone.

Title IX

Title IX ensures that no person can be discriminated against on the basis of their sex in the education field.

System Office

Providing leadership, service, and support in our commitment to making life better for our students, communities, and the citizens of Kentucky.



The [Kentucky Department of Education](#) is a service agency of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The department provides resources and guidance to Kentucky's public schools and districts as they implement the state's K-12 education requirements.

Vision

Kentucky's [United We Learn](#) Vision for education in Kentucky consists of three big ideas

- Vibrant learning experiences for every student.
- Encouraging innovation, especially around assessment.
- Creating a bold new future for Kentucky's schools through collaboration with our communities.

Mission Statement

Create broad partnerships to provide leadership and support so that every student is equipped for the future.

[Assessment/Accountability](#) ▾ [Career and Technical Education](#) ▾ [Commissioner of Education](#) ▾ [Communications](#) ▾ [District/School Support](#) ▾
[Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging](#) ▾ [Educational Programs](#) ▾ [Educator Development and Equity](#) ▾ [Exceptional Children and Early Learning](#) ▾ [Federal Programs](#) ▾
[Kentucky Board of Education](#) ▾ [School Improvement](#) ▾ [Standards/Content Areas](#) ▾ [Kentucky School for the Blind](#) [Kentucky School for the Deaf](#) [United We Learn](#) ▾
[Awards and Recognition Programs](#) ▾



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[State Testing](#)
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[Kentucky Housing Corporation](#) (KHC) invests in affordable housing solutions by offering programs and services designed to develop, preserve, and sustain affordable housing throughout the state.

Created by the 1972 General Assembly, KHC is a self-supporting, public corporation of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and is governed by a 15-member Board of Directors. KHC is a quasi-government agency, which is administratively attached to the [Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet](#), and a portion of KHC's funds are derived from the interest earned through the sale of tax-exempt mortgage revenue bonds. From these proceeds, KHC has made homeownership possible for more than 76,000 Kentucky families.

KHC also receives fee income for administering federal programs, including rental assistance that makes quality housing available to more than 27,500 low-income Kentuckians. Other programs offered by KHC include rental housing financing, including administering Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, homeownership education/counseling, housing rehabilitation, homeless programs, home energy and repair initiatives, as well as loan servicing.

KHC works with many partners across the state to invest in and create affordable housing opportunities.

To learn more about KHC, please view our [Corporate History](#).

If you plan to visit KHC, please visit our [Guest Experience](#) for more information about our campus.

Mission

We invest in quality housing solutions for families and communities across Kentucky.

Vision

We envision all Kentucky families and individuals living in quality housing they can afford.

KHC Board of Directors

KHC is governed by a 15-member [Board of Directors](#), consisting of 10 private members appointed by the governor who represent designated interests in affordable housing, and five public members who are state government officials whose participation on the Board is part of the responsibilities of their positions.

Overview

Who we are.

As Kentucky’s housing finance agency, Kentucky Housing Corporation (KHC) is a self-supporting, quasi-governmental entity that invests in affordable housing solutions for Kentuckians.

<p>Housing Finance Agency Government-created entity established to meet a state’s unique affordable housing needs through the use of housing bonds, housing credits, and other federal resources.</p>	<p>Self-Supporting KHC receives no state general funds. Our corporate expenses are paid through income from the tax-exempt mortgage bond program and fee income from federal program administration.</p>	<p>Quasi-Governmental Created in 1972 by the Kentucky legislature as an independent, municipal corporation, KHC operates under a Board of Directors appointed by the governor.</p>
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What we do.

KHC offers an array of programs designed to create, preserve, and sustain affordable housing by financing affordable home buyer mortgages and developing affordable rental homes. In partnership with state and federal agencies, KHC administers programs that assist low- and moderate-income households, homeless persons, and people in need of housing with supportive services. KHC also administers eviction and foreclosure prevention and weatherization programs to support sustainable homeownership.

 <p>Affordable Mortgages, Foreclosure Prevention and Energy Efficiency</p>	 <p>Affordable Apartments and Rental Assistance</p>	 <p>Short-Term Housing to Meet Special Needs</p>
--	---	--

Why we matter.

Housing is part of the foundation that enables families and communities to thrive.

 <p>Family Stability and Success</p>	 <p>Job Creation and Economic Multiplier</p>	 <p>Thriving Communities</p>
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The [Human Development Institute Consumer Advisory Council](#) (HDI) is composed in the majority of individuals with disabilities and family members, and also includes the heads of key state agencies with whom the staff of the Institute works.

The mission of the Consumer Advisory Council is to strengthen the work of the Human Development Institute by giving advisement and direction to the HDI, advocating for systems change, assisting with evaluation of HDI effectiveness, reviewing and assisting in the development of HDI proposals, and sharing information about the HDI with others. The Consumer Advisory Council officers are individuals with disabilities and/or family members. The Council is strongly committed to developing the leadership capacity of individuals and families.

Mission

HDI's mission is to advance efforts that build inclusive communities, address inequities, and improve the lives of all people who experience disability across the lifespan. We achieve our mission through leadership and community partnerships across Kentucky and the Nation.

Vision

HDI's vision is the full participation and contribution of *all* people with disabilities in *all* aspects of society.

Core Values

- We are committed to people with disabilities and their lived experience being at the center of all our work.
- We value the unique role and perspective of families and networks of support in our work.
- We work for full access to education, work, health, housing, community, recreation, and relationships for all people with disabilities.
- We strive for diversity and inclusion in all our efforts and value all identities that shape the experiences of people with disabilities.
- We demonstrate respect for all individuals.
- We promote self-determination.
- We foster creativity, innovation, and collaboration.
- We support individual and organizational learning.
- We engage in open and responsive communication.



The [Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet](#) is the second largest cabinet in state government with more than 7,000 employees. The cabinet oversees five departments: the Kentucky State Police, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Criminal Justice Training, and the Department of Public Advocacy. The cabinet also administers the Office of the State Medical Examiner and the Office of Drug Control Policy.

The Cabinet's mission is to ensure the safety and security of Kentucky communities through a fair and impartial administration of taxpayer resources. The Cabinet's approach centers on protecting citizens, restoring victims, and reforming wrongdoers – all in a focused environment where everything is measured for accountability and performance. The Cabinet also seeks the best possible return from our public safety investment by using evidence-based programs, fiscal discipline, and data-driven strategies. Likewise, the Cabinet is committed to holding offenders to the highest standards of personal accountability and responsibility.

[Department of Corrections](#)

Provides a safe, secure and humane environment for staff and offenders in carrying out the mandates of the legislative and judicial processes and provides opportunities for offenders to acquire skills which facilitate non-criminal behavior.

[Department of Criminal Justice Training](#)

Provides entry-level and professional-development training for law enforcement officers in Kentucky, including city, county, airport and state university police officers, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, coroners and law enforcement telecommunicators.

[Department of Juvenile Justice](#)

Responsible for prevention programs for at-risk youth, court intake, pre-trial detention, residential placement/treatment services, probation, community aftercare/reintegration programs and youth awaiting adult placement or court.

[Department of Public Advocacy](#)

Provides each eligible client with high quality services through an effective trial and post-trial delivery system, including a defender staff dedicated to the interests of their clients and the improvement of criminal justice system.

[Grants Management Division](#)

Administers approximately \$100 million annually from various state and federal grant programs, which are disbursed to state and local criminal justice agencies and not-for-profit service providers.

[Internal Investigations Branch](#)

Receives and investigates certain limited allegations involving abuse of juveniles committed to, or in the custody of, the Department of Juvenile Justice and investigates administrative violations within the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet as determined by the Cabinet Secretary.

[Kentucky State Police](#)

Promotes public safety through service, integrity, and professionalism utilizing partnerships to prevent, reduce, and deter crime and the fear of crime; enhance highway safety through education and enforcement; and safeguard property and protect individual rights.

[Office of Drug Control Policy](#)

Ensures a united effort among prevention, treatment, education, and law enforcement initiatives to address drug abuse in Kentucky.

[Office of Legal Services](#)

Provides legal assistance to the Cabinet's officers, employees, and departments on a myriad of issues, and provides representation before administrative bodies and in state and federal court in any matters that involve the Cabinet.

[Office of the State Medical Examiner](#)

Assists Kentucky coroners and law enforcement agencies in all aspects of death investigation. Central to the role of the office is the performance of the forensic autopsy, to aid in the determination of cause and manner of death of individuals, and identification of the deceased



WHO WE ARE

[Kentucky National Federation of Independent Business](#) (NFIB) is the voice of small business, advocating on behalf of America’s small and independent business owners, both in Washington, D.C., and in all 50 state capitals. NFIB is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and member driven. Since our founding in 1943, NFIB has been exclusively dedicated to small and independent businesses and remains so today.

WHAT WE DO

WE ADVOCATE

When a big issue affects small and independent businesses, NFIB is there. We have been for over 75 years, and we will continue to be. We represent our members’ interests—our one member, one vote balloting process guides our work.

NFIB has an ear to the ground on what’s happening in Washington, D.C., and the state capitals. That puts NFIB at the forefront of advocating on today’s most pressing small business issues, such as taxes, healthcare, and regulations.

WE INFLUENCE

When NFIB speaks, legislators listen. They know that we bring them the voice of small business.

That voice, hundreds of thousands strong, comes directly from NFIB’s members and our research—combined, they make a powerful and influential case for our advocacy.

Because of NFIB’s credibility, we are asked to bring the small business perspective to Congress, state capitals, the courts, and the media.

WE OFFER BENEFITS

NFIB works with trusted providers to offer you quality products and services that can save your business time and money.



The Kentucky Office for Refugees (KOR) is a department of Catholic Charities of Louisville designated by the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to administer the state refugee resettlement program and serve as the State Refugee Coordinator’s office. KOR’s mission is to coordinate refugee resettlement services in Kentucky, manage ORR grants that fund those services, and provide policy and program development guidance. **Our goal through statewide partnerships with direct service providers is to promote refugee self-sufficiency, self-determination, and community integration.**

Kentucky’s Refugee Workforce

- **Kentucky ranks #4 nationally in refugee arrivals.**
- Refugee resettlement agencies in Kentucky served **12,354 eligible clients in FY2022.**
- Agencies reported **1,095 job placements in FY2022** and **1,330 job placements in FY2023** (year to date.)
- Since 2020, **at least 1,779 refugees have arrived in Kentucky with a college degree.** Of those, **at least 146 have a graduate degree or PhD.**

Refugee resettlement agencies in **Bowling Green, Covington, Lexington, Louisville, and Owensboro** provide **work readiness training and job placement services** for eligible individuals in partnership with local employers. Other KOR-funded services that address common barriers to workforce participation include:

- work readiness English language training
- cultural orientation classes
- school placement and childcare assistance
- youth mentoring (ages 15-24)
- housing assistance
- medical case management
- public benefit application assistance
- short-term cash assistance

In addition to promoting workforce participation, **KOR is committed to empowering refugees to access career pathways and enter in-demand professions.** Partner organizations in Louisville, Lexington, and Bowling Green have implemented **specialized refugee career laddering programs** to address refugees’ barriers to career advancement. A key component of this work is **helping internationally trained professionals receive recognition for their previous experience and education.**

Key Contacts

Becky Jordan, *State Refugee Coordinator* – bjordan@archlou.org - 502-873-2562

Rylan Truman, *KOR Programs Director* – rtruman@archlou.org - 502-637-9738

Irene Yates, *Adult Learning and Career Advancement Coordinator* – iyates@archlou.org - 502-873-2566 x152

Kentucky Unemployment Insurance

The Federal-State (Kentucky) unemployment compensation (UC) program, (also referred to as the unemployment insurance [UI] program), created by the Social Security Act (SSA) of 1935, offers the first economic line of defense against the effects of unemployment. Through payments made directly to eligible, unemployed workers, it ensures that at least a significant proportion of the necessities of life—most notably food, shelter, and clothing—can be met on a week-to-week basis while a search for work takes place. As temporary, partial wage replacement to the unemployed, UC is of vital importance in maintaining purchasing power and in stabilizing the economy in times of economic downturn.

In addition to providing workers a much-needed safety net, the UC program provides employers the benefit of maintaining a trained workforce in the local labor market, available to return to work when needed. The UC program operates counter-cyclically, paying out higher levels of benefits during recessionary times and recouping those higher costs during recovery periods. Most workers are covered by UC under state or Federal UC laws. It is noted by the U.S. department of Labor-Employment and Training Administration. That states are responsible for administering their individual state UC programs, and they act as agents of the Federal government in administering certain Federal UC programs (discussed below) under agreements with the Secretary of Labor.

Each state has its own set of eligibility requirements based on federal law. Your benefit amount here in Kentucky is based on how much money you made during a specified period, as reported by your employer. Workers do not pay into the UI program. UI benefits come from employer taxes and are never deducted from a worker's paycheck. Employers are notified when you file a claim and are asked to provide information.

However, all eligibility decisions are made by the Office of Unemployment Insurance. Eligible individuals may receive between 16 and 24 weeks of UI benefits during one benefit year. The duration of benefits depends upon the State Average Unemployment Rate at the time of filing. Traditional UI benefits are paid every other week. The maximum benefit amount is \$665 per week.

To be eligible for benefits you must:

- (1) Be unemployed or working less than full-time
- (2) Have earned enough money to establish a valid claim
- (3) Be unemployed through no fault of your own
- (4) Be able to work, available for work, and looking for work

Office of Federal Grants

The Department for Local Government (DLG) administers approximately \$26 million annually from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The CDBG program provides assistance to communities for use in revitalizing neighborhoods, expanding affordable housing and economic opportunities, providing infrastructure and/or improving community facilities and services. With the participation of their citizens, communities can devote these funds to a wide range of activities that best serve their own particular development priorities.

All project activities must meet at least one of three national objectives:

- benefit to low and moderate income persons
- prevention or elimination of slums or blight
- meeting particularly urgent community development needs.

For the 2023 funding cycle, DLG will receive \$25,726,812 for distribution. Funds are designated for various program areas including Community Projects, Community Emergency Relief Fund, Economic Development, Housing, Public Facilities Public Services (Recovery Kentucky).

Who Can Apply: All cities and counties are eligible to apply for the funds with the exception of Ashland, Bowling Green, Covington, Elizabethtown, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Lexington-Fayette County, Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government, and Owensboro. These entitlement communities receive CDBG funds directly from HUD.

Project Review Criteria: For a project to be funded, a determination must be made regarding project need, reasonability of costs, and overall effectiveness.

Special Requirements: CDBG funds are federal funds allocated by HUD and must comply with numerous federal regulations such as Davis-Bacon wage rates, procurement standards and environmental review procedures, fair housing/equal opportunity, financial management and acquisition requirements. All requirements are set forth in the CDBG Handbook.

For more information see the Community Development Block Grant Program Guidelines or contact [Department of Federal Grants](#).