



March 2, 2026

Representative James Tipton
Chair, House Education Committee
Kentucky State Capitol, Room 316
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Representative Tipton,

On behalf of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, I am writing to express our support for House Bill 307, which would establish a statewide proactive postsecondary admissions program in Kentucky. This legislation represents a meaningful step toward addressing Kentucky's college-going challenges and advancing our state's goal of 60% postsecondary attainment by 2030.

Kentucky's college-going rate has struggled significantly over the past decade, declining from 54% in 2015 to just 50.5% in 2019. While the rate has since rebounded to 53.3% - the most recent data available - it remains well below the national average and far short of where Kentucky needs to be. This challenge is made more urgent by the scale of our workforce preparation gap: Kentucky ranks 4th in the nation in high school graduation rate, yet only 12% of Kentucky employers report high confidence in high school graduates' readiness for the workforce according to a recent survey of over [600 Kentucky employers and workforce leaders](#). That disconnect underscores why postsecondary education and training is essential to upward economic mobility for Kentuckians.

Lumina Foundation's 2024 data shows that 42.5% of Kentuckians ages 25–64 in the labor force hold a credential of value - a measure that includes short-term credentials, associate degrees, bachelor's degrees, and graduate or professional degrees - against a national goal of 75%. When looking specifically at associate degrees or higher, the figure is lower still. Regardless of how the measure is defined, Kentucky faces a significant attainment gap, and innovative approaches like proactive admissions are precisely what the state needs to close it. Proactive admissions is especially timely given that 39% of key workplace skills are projected to change by 2030 (World Economic Forum), making postsecondary credentials increasingly essential for economic participation.

Thank you for your leadership on this important initiative. The Prichard Committee remains committed to supporting policies that expand postsecondary access for all Kentucky students.

Respectfully,

Brigitte Blom
President and CEO
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence