

# KENTUCKY POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FUNDING

COMPARING THE FY 2026 ENACTED BUDGET TO THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATION OF JANUARY 7, 2026, AVAILABLE AT OSBD.KY.GOV  
SHOWING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

## POSTSECONDARY GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION

CPE General Fund	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Governor	FY 2028 Governor	2026 to 2027 Change	Additional 2027 to 2028 Change
Council on Postsecondary Education	\$18	\$14	\$18	-\$4	\$4
Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority	\$393	\$393	\$393	\$0	\$0
Eastern	\$85	\$81	\$81	-\$4	\$0
Kentucky State	\$35	\$30	\$30	-\$5	\$0
Morehead	\$56	\$46	\$46	-\$10	\$0
Murray	\$56	\$55	\$55	-\$1	\$0
Northern	\$66	\$68	\$68	\$2	\$0
University of Kentucky	\$321	\$340	\$340	\$18	\$0
University of Louisville	\$162	\$160	\$160	-\$3	\$0
Western	\$100	\$87	\$87	-\$14	\$0
KCTCS	\$197	\$206	\$206	\$9	\$0
Postsecondary Education Performance Fund	\$115	\$0	\$0	-\$115	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,605</b>	<b>\$1,479</b>	<b>\$1,483</b>	<b>-\$126</b>	<b>\$4</b>

### KCTCS Operating Budget Note

KCTCS (the Kentucky Community and Technical College System) has requested General Fund appropriations of \$238 million for FY 2027 and \$272 million for FY 2028. The Prichard Committee actively supports that request, which can add investments of \$41 million in FY 2027 and \$78 million in FY 2028 above the FY 2026 KCTCS General Fund Budget. The Governor's proposal adds \$9 million to KCTCS general fund revenue.

### KCTCS Performance Funding Note

KCTCS has also asked for Performance Funding of \$145 million for FY 2027 and \$160 million for FY 2028. The Prichard Committee actively supports that request. The Governor's proposal provides no performance funding, reducing KCTCS general fund revenue by around \$25 million a year.

### KCTCS Capital Budget Note

As a third part of its funding request, KCTCS has asked for \$662 million in capital funding for 67 projects across the two fiscal years, and the Prichard Committee supports that request. The Capital Projects Budget section of the Governor's proposal provides \$281 million combining bond funds, restricted funds, federal funds, and Asset Preservation Pool - 2022-2024 Reauthorization dollars. That is the same amount provided in the current budget, with no increase.

## GENERAL FUND DETAIL ON FINANCIAL AID THROUGH THE KENTUCKY HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Governor	FY 2028 Governor	2026 to 2027 Change	Additional 2027 to 2028 Change
College Access Program	\$179.3	\$187.4	\$187.4	\$8.1	\$0.0
Kentucky Tuition Grant Program	\$46.0	\$37.9	\$37.9	-\$8.1	\$0.0
Kentucky National Guard Tuition Award Program	\$7.4	\$7.4	\$7.4	\$0.0	\$0.0
Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarships (KEES)	\$90.6	\$90.6	\$90.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship Program	\$20.0	\$12.0	\$12.0	-\$8.0	\$0.0
Dual Credit Scholarship Program	\$13.2	\$21.2	\$21.2	\$8.0	\$0.0
Veterinary Medicine Contract Spaces:	\$5.8	\$5.8	\$5.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
Optometry Scholarship Program:	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
Teacher Scholarship Program	\$2.0	\$2.0	\$2.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Student Teacher Stipend Program	\$7.3	\$7.3	\$7.3	\$0.0	\$0.0
Teacher Recruitment Student Loan Forgiveness Pilot Program	\$10.0	\$10.0	\$10.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Innovative Scholarship Pilot Project	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Kentucky Rural Veterinarian Loan Repayment Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
General Administration and Support	\$6.0	\$5.8	\$5.8	-\$0.2	\$0.0
Other KHEAA	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$393.4</b>	<b>\$393.2</b>	<b>\$393.2</b>	<b>-\$0.2</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>

### Dual Credit Expansion Note

To increase high school students' access to advanced coursework, the Prichard Committee has called for a \$33 million annual increase in dual credit and work ready scholarships, doubling that pair of investments. The Governor's proposal provides no net increase in general fund dollars for those scholarships, increasing dual credit by \$8 million per year and reducing work ready by a matching amount. The Governor's proposal does add a restricted fund appropriation of \$6.3 million to support further dual credit scholarships and be paid from previous years' excess lottery funds.