The annual Accountability Report produced by the Council on Postsecondary Education highlights the system’s performance on the state-level metrics included in “Stronger by Degrees: A Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary and Adult Education.” For each metric, we outline steps taken to improve performance, as well as activities planned for the coming year.

The 2014 targets were negotiated with each public university, the KCTCS system office, and the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities (AIKCU) when the strategic agenda was adopted in 2011. The Council staff will revisit some of these goals with institutions in cases where the target has been achieved ahead of schedule or where the metric has been revised.

Highlights

- Kentucky made impressive gains in the area of college readiness thanks to an aggressive statewide effort to establish a common definition of readiness and improve the delivery of developmental and bridge programming before and during college. Kentucky is on track to reach the college readiness target established by Senate Bill 1 (2009).
- GED attainment declined from the previous year, but Kentucky is on track to increase GED® graduates next year. There were 6,700 GED® graduates in the first half of the 2013 fiscal year, compared to 3,700 during the same period in 2012.
- Kentucky continues to experience strong growth in degrees and credentials conferred. The system has achieved its targets for total degrees and credentials and graduate degrees, and is on track to meet bachelor’s and associate degree targets.
- While graduation rates increased for bachelor’s and associate degree students, more must be done to raise graduation rates for low-income, underprepared and underrepresented minority students.
- Financial support for higher education continued to decrease at the state level, with declines in state appropriations and in the availability of need-based financial aid.
- Kentucky is steadily improving the educational attainment of younger workers (25-44), an important indicator of the state’s economic competitiveness.
- Instruction at Kentucky’s postsecondary institutions continues to innovate, as seen in the strong growth in online learning. The statewide target in this area has been achieved ahead of schedule.

Campus leaders, guided by institutional strategic plans that complement this agenda, are working to fulfill their commitment to meeting our common goals. I commend them for their efforts and look forward to continued progress in the year ahead.

Robert L. King, President
Council on Postsecondary Education
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

State Performance Scorecard .............................................................................................................. 4  
How to Read this Report ....................................................................................................................... 6  

College Readiness  
- College readiness of college entrants .............................................................................................. 7  
- College readiness of all high school graduates .................................................................................. 8  
- College-going rate of high school graduates ..................................................................................... 9  
- GED® graduates in Kentucky ............................................................................................................... 10  
- New teacher excellence (top 25% nationally) .................................................................................. 11  

Student Success  
- Total degrees and credentials conferred .......................................................................................... 12  
- Associate degrees conferred ............................................................................................................ 13  
- Bachelor’s degrees conferred ............................................................................................................ 14  
- Graduate degrees conferred .............................................................................................................. 15  
- Transfer from KCTCS to four-year colleges and universities .......................................................... 16  
- Graduation rate (bachelor’s) .............................................................................................................. 17  
- Bachelor’s graduation rate for low-income students ....................................................................... 18  
- Bachelor’s graduation rate for underprepared students .................................................................... 19  
- Bachelor’s graduation rate for underrepresented minority students ............................................... 20  
- Graduation rate (associate) ............................................................................................................... 21  
- Associate graduation rate for low-income students .......................................................................... 22  
- Associate graduation rate for underprepared students ..................................................................... 23  
- Associate graduation rate for underrepresented minority students .............................................. 24  
- State appropriations for public higher education .......................................................................... 25  
- Grants to low-income students in excess of direct costs .................................................................. 26  
- Low-income students without grants ............................................................................................... 27  

Research, Economic & Community Development  
- Externally-funded research and development .................................................................................. 28  
- Degrees and credentials in STEM+H fields ...................................................................................... 29  
- Educational attainment of adults (ages 25-44) .............................................................................. 30  

Efficiency & Innovation  
- Online learning .................................................................................................................................. 31  
- Credits earned by degree graduates .................................................................................................. 32  
- Degree productivity relative to education and related expenditures ............................................... 33
## STATE PERFORMANCE SCORECARD

### College Readiness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Most Recent</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Progress to Target</th>
<th>Trend Icon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College readiness of college entrants</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>68.3%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College readiness of all high school graduates</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
<td>54.1%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College-going rate of high school graduates</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GED® graduates in Kentucky</td>
<td>9,357</td>
<td>8,890</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New teacher excellence</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Student Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Degrees &amp; credentials</th>
<th>Associate degrees conferred</th>
<th>Bachelor’s degrees conferred</th>
<th>Graduate degrees conferred</th>
<th>Transfer from KCTCS to 4-year colleges &amp; universities</th>
<th>Graduation rate (bachelor’s)</th>
<th>Bachelor’s graduation rate for low-income students</th>
<th>Bachelor’s graduation rate for underprepared students</th>
<th>Bachelor’s graduation rate for underrepresented minority students</th>
<th>Graduation rate (associate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>55,107</td>
<td>7,270</td>
<td>19,693</td>
<td>8,855</td>
<td>8,376</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>33.2%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>62,415</td>
<td>8,875</td>
<td>21,163</td>
<td>10,593</td>
<td>10,644</td>
<td>48.9%</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22,900</td>
<td>10,250</td>
<td>9,580</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>49.7%</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
<td>37.4%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>32%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Icons:**
- 🌟 = Met Target
- 🔺 = On Track
- 🔷 = Some Progress
- 🔴 = Holding Steady
- 🔴 = Losing Ground
## State Performance Scorecard

### Student Success

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Most Recent</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Progress to Target</th>
<th>Trend Icon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate graduation rate for low-income students</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate graduation rate for underprepared students</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate graduation rate for underrepresented minority students</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State appropriations for public higher education</td>
<td>$1,029</td>
<td>$916</td>
<td>$1,069</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants to low-income students in excess of direct costs</td>
<td>$1,470</td>
<td>$1,022</td>
<td>$1,470</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-income students without grants</td>
<td>68,259</td>
<td>107,552</td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

###Research, Economic & Community Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Most Recent</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Progress to Target</th>
<th>Trend Icon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Externally-funded research &amp; development (in thousands)</td>
<td>$375,326</td>
<td>$364,545</td>
<td>$455,000</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degrees &amp; credentials in STEM+H fields</td>
<td>17,306</td>
<td>20,132</td>
<td>19,350</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational attainment of adults (associate and above, ages 25-44)</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Efficiency and Innovation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Most Recent</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Progress to Target</th>
<th>Trend Icon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online learning</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits earned by degree graduates</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>139.7</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree productivity relative to education and related expenditures</td>
<td>2.54</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

☆ = Met Target  🔺 = On Track  🔶 = Some Progress  🔄 = Holding Steady  🚫 = Losing Ground
HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

TREND ICONS
The trend icons (the various arrows and the star) reflect the current year’s progress in relation to the 2014 target. More technically, the trend icon is assigned based on the current year value as it relates to a straight-line trajectory drawn from the baseline year to the 2014 target. The blue bar corresponding to the current year value must be at or above the straight-line trajectory to be considered “on track” to meet the target. Of course, change rarely happens in a straight line. This visualization merely provides a means of quickly understanding progress toward reaching 2014 targets.

PROGRESS TO TARGET FROM BASELINE
The horizontal gold bar in the upper-right corner of each page represents progress from the baseline year (either 2008-09 or 2009-10, depending on the metric) to the 2014 target. For clarity’s sake, declines from the baseline are shown as 0% instead of a negative percentage.

Each page includes a legend that briefly describes and highlights the trend icon assigned to that metric. In the example below, the trend icon is “some progress,” because the blue bar that corresponds to the current year value falls within the light green area.
College readiness of college entrants
Percent of Kentucky high school graduates enrolling in a Kentucky college who met statewide readiness standards in English, math, and reading (defined by ACT subject scores of 18, 19, and 20, respectively, or other approved placement exams)

Progress Trajectory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>2010-11</th>
<th>2011-12</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
<th>2013-14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>52.0%</td>
<td>58.2%</td>
<td>68.3%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>76.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)

Legend
- **MET GOAL**: Performance meets or exceeds target
- **ON TRACK**: On track to meet target by 2014
- **SOME PROGRESS**: Progressing but not on track to meet target
- **HOLDING STEADY**: Little or no improvement over baseline
- **LOSING GROUND**: Decline from baseline

**What We’ve Done**
- A 2014 Southern Regional Education Board report, *State Implementation of the Common Core Standards*, recognized Kentucky as a national leader in the implementation of the Common Core standards.
- CPE conducted campus visits to gather information on specific developmental education program models, course designs, placement procedures and academic support systems in place to serve underprepared students. This information was used—along with data on student outcomes—to develop an assessment tool to review the effectiveness of program model designs and identify potential program modifications.
- The CPE issued a Request for Proposals to support the implementation of accelerated developmental education program models, such as co-requisite course designs, where students are placed directly into credit-bearing courses with additional academic supports. Five mini-grants ranging from $7,500 to $20,000 were awarded to Eastern Kentucky University, Western Kentucky University, Jefferson Community and Technical College, Gateway Community and Technical College and Owensboro Community and Technical College.
- Core to College funds totaling $90,300 were used to support additional accelerated developmental education program models. Kentucky State University, Somerset Community and Technical College, Morehead State University, Murray State University, and Maysville Community and Technical College were awarded funding.
- The CPE has supported the development of KYOTE placement exams for mathematics, writing and reading. These exams act as one of the readiness indicators used by all Kentucky public postsecondary institutions. The KYOTE exams are available at no cost to any Kentucky K-12 or postsecondary institution. In one year, over 20,000 college readiness mathematics exams, 1,800 college algebra exams, 6,500 reading exams, and 1,700 writing exams were administered.

**What’s Ahead**
- New course modules are being developed to provide professional development to K-12 and postsecondary educators working with underprepared students. These will be available on www.kycorestandards.org.
- Additional research on the impact of developmental education program models on student learning outcomes will be conducted. Outcomes to be considered include the completion of developmental and gatekeeper courses, year-to-year retention, and degree or credential completion.
What We’ve Done

- In 2013, over 6,000 high school graduates met readiness benchmarks as a result of Kentucky’s intervention programming, which has become a national model. Kentucky was a key player in the Southern Regional Education Board’s (SREB’s) effort to develop high school senior year transitional courses with related curricula and assessments, which can be used in Kentucky and across states to boost college readiness.
- Students are encouraged to take advantage of Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, dual credit and early college opportunities in high school.
- CPE continued its support for Advance Kentucky, a KSTC initiative to expand AP programs at 79 low-performing high schools. This investment in students and teachers has boosted student achievement on AP exams.
- Full implementation of Operation Preparation, an eighth- and tenth-grade college and career readiness advising program, continues. This advising program enjoys support from the business community, local government officials, educators and community members at large.
- Close the Deal, a program originating in Jefferson County, is expanding to support students making college and career choices. The program educates students about career pathways and postsecondary education requirements.

What’s Ahead

- Middle and high school transitional programming for students not meeting ACT EXPLORE readiness benchmarks in eighth grade is under revision.
- Postsecondary faculty continues to work with eight educational leadership networks that support the Kentucky Academic Content Standards. Each network includes two full-time faculty members who work with KDE and school leaders to provide professional development on the standards and related assessments. Next year’s focus will be the implementation of new science standards.
- A work group of CPE, KDE, and KHEAA staff will be meeting in 2014 to address issues about cost, access, and transferability of dual credit for possible legislative action in 2015.
- Science and college readiness professional development modules are being developed that will be available to K-12, adult and postsecondary educators through www.kycorestandards.org.
College-going rate of high school graduates
Percent of recent graduates who enter any public, private or proprietary college in Kentucky the following fall

What We’ve Done
- CPE continues to administer the GEAR UP Kentucky 3.0 federal grant, which serves 48 middle and high schools in 21 counties through 2017. Participating schools have a high percentage of students from low-income households. The program serves more than 12,000 students beginning in 7th grade.
- GEAR UP Kentucky is implementing a customized college readiness curriculum and a comprehensive advising model in participating schools. The college readiness curriculum focuses on goal setting, problem solving, time management, financial literacy and other evidence-based practices leading to increased college going. The advising model uses an early warning system and provides individualized advising and targeted interventions when students are not on track to be college ready by graduation.
- GEAR UP Kentucky and its partners are implementing a series of individualized school improvement activities to provide support, technical assistance, training, professional development and resources to build and sustain a college-going culture. These services use data to make proactive decisions about student readiness, improve school practices and policy, and measure progress.
- GEAR UP supports a college access media campaign to promote college-going messages statewide including broadcast and print media. TV and radio PSAs are distributed in partnership with the Kentucky Broadcasters’ Association. Print media includes the GEAR UP Gazette monthly insert in the Lexington Herald-Leader, in partnership with their Newspapers in Education program.
- The CPE continues its support of the Kentucky College Coaches Program, which assigns recent college graduates to mentor high school students in low-income schools. Preliminary program evaluations show that KCCP seniors exhibited a college-going rate 15% above non-participants.

What’s Ahead
- GEAR UP Kentucky is partnering with UK and WKU to provide a three-week summer residential academy for rising 10th graders. More than 100 students will participate on the two campuses.
- CPE, GEAR UP, KHEAA and KDE are meeting through the Kentucky College Access and Readiness Outreach Coalition, which will align and reinforce college-going messages statewide through increased collaboration and outreach.
- GEAR UP Kentucky will launch a family and community outreach initiative that seeks to develop parents/guardians as education advocates equipped with tools to guide their children’s college and career aspirations.
GED® graduates in Kentucky
Annual number of GED® graduates in Kentucky from July 1 through June 30

What We’ve Done
• In anticipation of the new GED® exam, KYAE developed a multi-tiered (TV, radio, print and online) outreach campaign in all 120 counties aimed at the 16,000 Kentuckians who had started but not completed GED® testing. KYAE’s third segment of the campaign, “Time is running out,” was deployed during the last quarter of the calendar year. With the introduction of the newly-normed, computer-based test, scores from the previous edition expired at the end of 2013.
• KYAE is on track to increase GED® graduates next year. There were 6,700 GED® graduates in the first half of the 2013 fiscal year, compared to 3,700 during the same period in 2012.
• KYAE continued its GED® transition efforts, including expanding its computer-based testing center footprint. Twenty-seven GED® Pearson VUE testing centers are now operational across the state. Another ten have advanced into the installation phase while others are in the application and approval phase.
• KYAE partnered with McDonald’s of Central and Southeastern Kentucky for the eighth year to print GED® promotions on tray liners.
• KYAE is developing Integrated Education and Training (IET) models to meet student and employer needs. IET models respond to business and industry by delivering adult education in tandem with employability skills. KYAE launched its 18-month Employability Pilot in January 2014; it features a six-month plan to prepare programs for delivering academic instruction in the context of employability and soft skills.

What’s Ahead
• KYAE will approach Kentucky Career Centers, college satellite sites and other appropriate providers to become Pearson VUE GED® testing centers in underserved areas of the state.
• KYAE will use federal Workforce Investment Act funding to purchase GED® testing vouchers to help defray the cost of individual modules, bringing the price down from $30 per module to $10 per module.
• KYAE has assembled a work group to develop an expedited GED® curriculum for students functioning at higher academic levels. This will move students more swiftly on to postsecondary and career pursuits.
• KYAE will provide professional development to implement Standards-in-Action for more seamless, standards-based instruction. Professional growth electives for instructors will focus on standards-based curricula, mathematics, differentiated instruction, GED® preparation and instructional technology.
• KYAE will explore ways to sustain Kentucky’s Accelerating Opportunity program, which offers dual credit to GED® students interested in enrolling at KCTCS institutions.
New teacher excellence (top 25% nationally)

**Percent of teaching program graduates scoring in the top 25 percent nationally on Praxis II licensure exams**

**What We’ve Done**
- With assistance from CPE, Western Kentucky University, Eastern Kentucky University and the University of Louisville have implemented new clinical models for teacher preparation that move pedagogy training for pre-service teachers out of universities and into K-12 settings. CPE is monitoring these projects through site visits.
- Campbellsville University, Western Kentucky University and a consortium of Eastern Kentucky postsecondary institutions (EKU, UPike, Morehead and University of the Cumberlands) applied to participate in the Vanguard Project, a joint initiative of CPE and the National Center on Education and the Economy. The Vanguard Project calls for more selective admissions standards for schools of education, increasing teacher candidates’ mastery of the subjects they will teach, better opportunities to master the craft of teaching, more rigorous licensure requirements, and improvements in new teacher mentoring and support systems.
- CPE is participating in a work team developing criteria for Kentucky’s new Professional Growth and Effectiveness System that will evaluate Kentucky’s current teacher corps.
- The CPE is administering a Core to College grant that supports three Partnership Academies (at Northern Kentucky University, Morehead State University and Western Kentucky University) and one early college program at St. Catharine College. The academies assist school districts with Common Core Standards implementation. Sites are developing sustainability plans to continue work after grant funds are expended.

**What’s Ahead**
- Kentucky is one of seven states participating in the Network for Transforming Educator Preparation (NTEP), a two-year project sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers. The CPE will work with educators, postsecondary institutions, non-profit and for-profit education providers, districts and schools to improve the way we prepare our educator workforce.
- A cohort of postsecondary faculty will be trained to deliver professional development to high school principals using a research-based curriculum developed by the National Institute for School Leaders.
STUDENT SUCCESS

Total degrees and credentials conferred

Total number of diplomas, certificates and degrees awarded during an academic year in Kentucky by public and independent institutions

Legend

SOME PROGRESS:
Progressing but not on track to meet target

HOLDING STEADY:
Little or no improvement over baseline

LOSING GROUND:
Decline from baseline

What We’ve Done

• CPE participates in Complete College America’s Alliance of States, a group of 30 states committed to making college completion a top priority by setting completion goals through 2020 and collecting and reporting on common measures of progress.

• CPE distributed mini-grants to public institutions to address the persistence and graduation of students close to completion by focusing on the root causes of student attrition.

• The Committee on Persistence and Graduation meets quarterly to discuss best practices and issues relating to student success. The Committee on Academic Quality meets quarterly and focuses on standards of educational quality and academic engagement.

• The Kentucky Student Success Network brings together participating campuses to focus on degree completion and closing achievement gaps.

• The annual Kentucky Student Success Summit provides faculty, staff and administrators an opportunity to learn from student success experts and to engage in stimulating discussions with colleagues from across the state. The summit features nationally-recognized experts who share evidence-based best practices to promote student learning and retention.

What’s Ahead

• Institutions, through participation in the Committee on Academic Quality and the Committee on Persistence and Graduation, will share best practices and discuss important topics, such as effective advising systems, first-year experiences and other high-impact practices.

• Kentucky’s public institutions will launch campus-based 15 to Finish campaigns and integrate completion messaging into student orientations, recruitment materials, and various communications platforms, such as e-newsletters, e-mail, TV, radio, TV, social media and digital signage.

• Kentucky’s public institutions will hold an online college fair in fall 2014 for former students as part of the Project Graduate 2.0 campaign. The event will provide advising and information to former students interested in completing their degree. The fair will feature booths where students can engage in real-time text and video chats at their convenience with Project Graduate, transfer, and career services staff, as well as financial aid advisors.
STUDENT SUCCESS

**Associate degrees conferred**

_Total number of associate degrees awarded during an academic year in Kentucky by public and independent institutions_

**Legend**

- **MET GOAL:** Performance meets or exceeds target
- **ON TRACK:** On track to meet target by 2014
- **SOME PROGRESS:** Progressing but not on track to meet target
- **HOLDING STEADY:** Little or no improvement over baseline
- **LOSING GROUND:** Decline from baseline

**Data Source:** CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)

### What We’ve Done

- CPE awarded an additional round of mini-grants to some campuses to implement strategies to increase persistence and graduation for near completers (students who have accumulated 75% of the credit hours needed for graduation).
- KCTCS leadership is working to develop additional career pathways in select fields that educate students on the value of moving from nondegree-seeking workforce training, to obtaining a short-term credential, to pursuing an associate degree.
- KCTCS, KDE, and the Kentucky Office of Career and Technical Education entered into an agreement concerning dual credit/enrollment that outlines eligible courses, academic quality, student eligibility, and faculty credentialing. CPE subsequently worked with public postsecondary institutions to create a statewide dual credit/enrollment policy.
- The Kentucky Student Success Network brings together participating campuses to focus on degree completion and closing achievement gaps.

### What’s Ahead

- A newly-formed work group of CPE, KDE, and KHEAA staff will study issues related to the transferability, cost, and access of dual and articulated credit for possible legislative action in 2015.
- The Committee on Persistence and Graduation will focus on best practices that help students persist from semester to semester and ultimately graduate by focusing on the root causes of student attrition.
- The Committee on Academic Quality will focus on the continuous improvement of student learning, the creation of an evidence-based assessment culture, and the assessment of core academic competencies.
STUDENT SUCCESS

Bachelor’s degrees conferred
*Total number of bachelor’s degrees awarded during an academic year in Kentucky by public and independent institutions*

**Progress Trajectory**

**Legend**
- **MET GOAL:** Performance meets or exceeds target
- **ON TRACK:** On track to meet target by 2014
- **SOME PROGRESS:** Progressing but not on track to meet target
- **HOLDING STEADY:** Little or no improvement over baseline
- **LOSING GROUND:** Decline from baseline

![Graph showing bachelor's degrees conferred from 2009-10 to 2013-14 with 2013-14 Target set at 22,900 degrees.](image)

**Data Source:** CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)

**What We’ve Done**
- CPE worked with universities to recruit, retain and graduate former bachelor’s-seeking students who dropped out with 80 or more credit hours through Project Graduate. More than 1,000 students have graduated from Kentucky campuses through this program.
- CPE distributed mini-grants to public institutions to address the persistence and graduation of students close to completion by focusing on the root causes of student attrition.
- The Committee on Persistence and Graduation meets quarterly to discuss best practices and issues relating to student success. The Committee on Academic Quality meets quarterly and focuses on standards of educational quality and academic engagement.
- The annual Kentucky Student Success Network brings together participating campuses to focus on degree completion and closing achievement gaps.
- CPE launched 15 to Finish, a campaign that encourages Kentucky college students to graduate on time by completing at least 15 credit hours a semester, or 30 credits a year.

**What’s Ahead**
- CPE participates in Complete College America’s Alliance of States, a group of 30 states committed to making college completion a top priority by setting completion goals through 2020 and collecting and reporting on common measures of progress.
- Institutions, through participation in the Committee on Academic Quality and the Committee on Persistence and Graduation, will share best practices and discuss important topics, such as effective advising systems, first-year experiences and other high-impact practices.
**Student Success**

Graduate degrees conferred

*Master’s, doctoral and professional degrees awarded during an academic year in Kentucky by public and independent institutions*

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**Progress Trajectory**

*Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)*

**Legend**

- **MET GOAL:** Performance meets or exceeds target
- **ON TRACK:** On track to meet target by 2014
- **SOME PROGRESS:** Progressing but not on track to meet target
- **HOLDING STEADY:** Little or no improvement over baseline
- **LOSING GROUND:** Decline from baseline

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**What We’ve Done**

- CPE staff worked with the Legislative Research Commission to promulgate an administrative regulation, 13 KAR 2:110, outlining the criteria for the approval of new advanced practice doctorates.
- CPE staff worked closely with the Education Professional Standards Board to revise requirements for master’s degrees for teachers to emphasize teacher leadership. Several programs have been approved and more are under consideration. Among other criteria, programs must collaborate with districts in the design of programs; focus on student achievement; maintain a differentiated program based on candidate interests and needs; and provide opportunities for candidates to increase content knowledge and emphasize reflections that inform practice and leadership development.
- The Southern Regional Education Board’s Doctoral Scholars Program is part of a nationwide initiative to produce more minority Ph.D.s and encourage them to seek faculty positions. Currently, 33 Doctoral Scholars are enrolled at Kentucky institutions.

**What’s Ahead**

- CPE will work with campuses to promote the creation of new graduate programs and the redesign of existing graduate programs, especially those that are most important to Kentucky’s research and economic development goals.
- CPE will work with campuses to revise institutional and statewide goals for graduate degrees awarded.
- CPE will be meeting with the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services and postsecondary institutions to discuss how Kentucky can address looming workforce shortages in nursing, primary care, and mental health. Kentucky won a National Governors’ Association grant to work with six other states to develop strategies to address these shortages.
STUDENT SUCCESS

Transfer from KCTCS to four-year colleges and universities

Students transferring from KCTCS to a 4-year Kentucky public or independent institution within the academic year

What We’ve Done

• Degree Pathways work groups have been creating semester-by-semester sample progression academic plans for numerous majors. Approximately 80 degree pathways will be posted on KnowHow2Transfer.org by summer 2014.

• CPE, in partnership with the state’s colleges and universities, sponsored Transfer Madness on March 5, 2014. More than 1,500 students registered for the 12-hour event designed to connect them with transfer advisors, scholarship information, financial aid, and more. Sixty-eight percent of participants were from Kentucky and 50 percent were current college students. The event also drew more than 400 high school students.

• CPE and KCTCS partnered with CollegeWeekLive to create a first of its kind virtual event to help community college students successfully transfer to four-year institutions. Over 1,600 potential transfer students attended the event, where they were able to chat live with representatives from 27 different colleges and universities.

• The Quality Collaboratives project, sponsored by AAC&U, focuses on the use of the Degree Qualifications Profile to align transfer policies and practice around the authentic assessment of student learning outcomes. Faculty and staff from Elizabethtown Community and Technical College and the University of Louisville have assessed student learning outcomes in biology and the natural sciences in accordance with the General Education Transfer Policy and Implementation Guidelines.

• The CPE reorganized the Statewide Transfer Committee to better facilitate communication between CPE and institutions.

What’s Ahead

• College credit earned during active military service will be cross-walked to KCTCS credit on KnowHow2Transfer to ease the transfer of military credit into select degree programs.

• CPE will collaborate with the Kentucky Center for Education and the Workforce to track Kentucky students who transfer to out-of-state institutions.

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)
**STUDENT SUCCESS**

Graduation rate (bachelor’s)

**Graduation rate of first-time, full-time bachelor’s-seeking students who earn a bachelor’s degree within four, five or six years from their institution of entry**

What We’ve Done

- The Kentucky Student Success Summit in 2014 brought nationally renowned experts to the state to work with faculty, staff and administrators on ways to build partnerships between academic and student affairs, create high-quality, first-year experience programs and implement learning communities to increase retention and graduation rates.
- The newly-formed Committee on Persistence and Graduation focuses on best practices and issues related to student success. The newly-formed Committee on Academic Quality focuses on maintaining standards of educational quality.

What’s Ahead

- CPE staff will continue to partner with the Association of American Colleges and Universities in their Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) initiative. Kentucky colleges and universities will be provided LEAP resources focusing on student learning outcomes assessment, high-impact educational practices, diversity and equity.
- CPE will host free workshops led by national experts on the first-year experience. Each public college and university will be invited to send a team of professionals from their campus to learn about implementing a quality first-year experience program.
- CPE, in consultation with the campuses, will explore new ways of measuring college completion that capture more than just first-time, full-time freshmen enrolling in the fall semester.

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**Progress Trajectory**

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Graduation Rate</th>
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**Legend**

- **MET GOAL:** Performance meets or exceeds target
- **ON TRACK:** On track to meet target by 2014
- **SOME PROGRESS:** Progressing but not on track to meet target
- **HOLDING STEADY:** Little or no improvement over baseline
- **LOSING GROUND:** Decline from baseline

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)
STUDENT SUCCESS

Bachelor’s graduation rate for low-income students

*For greater simplicity, targets are now expressed as a rate instead of a gap between low-income and moderate to high-income students.*

What We’ve Done

- The 2014 Kentucky Student Success Summit focused on evidence-based, high-impact educational practices that have been shown to successfully close graduation rate gaps for low-income students.
- The Kentucky Student Success Network brings together participating campuses to focus on their primary strategies for closing achievement gaps.
- The Council participates in the national Access2Success initiative, which requires member systems to track the progress of low-income and underrepresented minority students and provides ideas and assistance for improvement strategies.
- CPE hosted a workshop for public universities on designing and implementing a high-quality, first-year experience program, a strategy aimed at improving retention and graduation rates and closing achievement gaps.
- The CPE collaborated with the Provost at Florida State University to provide Kentucky provosts with three-year trend data for college retention and completion. These data focused on low-income students, underrepresented minorities, and underprepared students.

What’s Ahead

- CPE will work with participating campuses to continue highlighting the needs of low-income students through the work of the Kentucky Student Success Network.
- CPE will advocate for additional financial aid resources for low-income students to increase their likelihood of persisting to degree completion.
- CPE will host targeted workshops that focus on closing achievement gaps.

SOME PROGRESS: Progressing but not on track to meet target

ON TRACK: On track to meet target by 2014

MET GOAL: Performance meets or exceeds target

HOLDING STEADY: Little or no improvement over baseline

LOSSING GROUND: Decline from baseline

*Data Sources: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS), KHEAA ISIR (FAFSA) records for Pell eligibility. Data is missing for 2008-09 and 2009-10.*
STUDENT SUCCESS

Bachelor’s graduation rate for underprepared students

For greater simplicity, targets are now expressed as a rate instead of a gap between underprepared and prepared students.

What We’ve Done

- CPE hosted a workshop on designing and implementing a high-quality first-year experience program, a strategy aimed at improving retention and graduation rates and closing achievement gaps.
- CPE worked with its postsecondary partners to fully implement campus bridge programming for successful student transitions, as well as developmental education and supplemental coursework based on the newly aligned standards and assessments.
- The 2014 Kentucky Student Success Summit focused on evidence-based, high-impact educational practices that have been shown to successfully close graduation rate gaps for low-income students.
- Through the work of the Kentucky Student Success Network, participating campuses have focused on implementing high-impact strategies to help close achievement gaps.
- CPE staff met individually with representatives from each public university to discuss innovations in developmental education delivery.
- CPE has convened a College Readiness Work Team to share practices and information to improve academic and student support programming for underprepared students.

- The CPE collaborated with the Provost at Florida State University to provide Kentucky provosts with three-year trend data for college retention and completion. These data focused on low-income students, underrepresented minorities, and underprepared students.
- The CPE used Complete College America and Core to College funds to award mini-grants to institutions to implement accelerated developmental education models. Eastern Kentucky University, Western Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University and Murray State University received awards.

What’s Ahead

- The Committee on Persistence and Graduation will focus on best practices that help students persist from semester to semester, and the Committee on Academic Quality will focus on the continuous improvement of student learning, the creation of an evidence-based assessment culture, and the assessment of core academic competencies.
- CPE will host the Kentucky Developmental Education Institute in October 2014. National speakers will showcase co-requisite developmental education program designs that maximize student success and minimize time and expenses for students.

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)
STUDENT SUCCESS

Bachelor’s graduation rate for underrepresented minority students

For greater simplicity, targets are now expressed as a rate instead of a gap between underrepresented minority and non-underrepresented minority students.

What We’ve Done

• Institutional diversity plan assessment reports were presented to the Committee on Equal Opportunities in March and May of 2013. A review team of CPE staff evaluated progress reported by the institutions and provided suggestions on further opportunities to enact best practices.

• The annual Kentucky Student Success Summit focuses on evidence-based educational practices that have been shown to successfully close graduation rate gaps for underrepresented minority students.

• Through the work of the Kentucky Student Success Network, participating campuses have focused on implementing high-impact strategies to help close achievement gaps.

• CPE administers the Governor’s Minority Student College Preparation Program (GMSCPP) to improve the college readiness of underrepresented minority students while in middle and junior high school. The program introduces students to the value of postsecondary education by encouraging them to enroll in rigorous coursework and prepare for college success.

What’s Ahead

• CPE facilitates the annual Academically Proficient High School Junior and Senior Diversity Conference, which educates students about college options and college admission procedures. The conference format includes concurrent workshops that offer students advice on selecting a college, understanding financial aid, improving communication and coping skills and identifying possible majors or careers.

• CPE will continue to highlight the needs of underrepresented minority students through the work of the Kentucky Student Success Network and participation in national initiatives such as Access2Success, which requires member systems to track the progress of low-income and underrepresented minority students.

• The 2014 Academically Proficient High School Jr/Sr Diversity Conference will be hosted by Murray State University, June 13-14, 2014.

• The 2014 Governor’s Minority Student College Preparation Program will be held at Eastern Kentucky University, June 2014.
STUDENT SUCCESS

Graduation rate (associate)

Graduation rate of first-time, full-time associate-seeking students who earn an associate degree within two or three years from their institution of entry

What We’ve Done

• CPE participates in Complete College America’s Alliance of States, a group of 30 states committed to making college completion a top priority by setting completion goals through 2020 and collecting and reporting on common measures of progress.
• The Kentucky Student Success Network brings together participating campuses to focus on degree completion and closing achievement gaps.
• The annual Kentucky Student Success Summit provides faculty, staff and administrators an opportunity to learn from student success experts and to engage in stimulating discussions with colleagues from across the state. The summit features nationally-recognized experts who share evidence-based best practices to promote student learning and retention.
• CPE hosted a workshop for KCTCS representatives on designing and implementing a high-quality first-year experience program, a strategy aimed at improving retention and graduation and closing achievement gaps.

What’s Ahead

• The Committee on Persistence and Graduation will focus on best practices that help students persist from semester to semester and ultimately graduate by focusing on the root causes of student attrition.
• The Committee on Academic Quality will focus on the continuous improvement of student learning, the creation of an evidence-based assessment culture, and the assessment of core academic competencies.
• CPE, in consultation with the campuses, will explore new ways of measuring college completion that capture more than just first-time, full-time freshmen enrolling in the fall semester.

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS), KCTCS data only

Legend

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LOSING GROUND: Decline from baseline
Associate graduation rate for low-income students

For greater simplicity, targets are now expressed as a rate instead of a gap between low-income and moderate to high-income students.

What We’ve Done

- The annual Kentucky Student Success Summit focuses on evidence-based, high-impact educational practices that have been shown to successfully close graduation rate gaps for low-income students.
- The Kentucky Student Success Network brings together participating campuses to focus on their primary strategies to close achievement gaps.
- The Council participates in the national Access2Success initiative, which requires member systems to track the progress of low-income and underrepresented minority students and provides ideas and assistance for improvement strategies.
- CPE hosted a workshop for KCTCS representatives on designing and implementing a high-quality first-year experience program, a strategy aimed at improving retention and graduation and closing achievement gaps.
- The CPE collaborated with the Provost at Florida State University to provide Kentucky provosts with three-year trend data for college retention and completion. These data focused on low-income students, underrepresented minorities, and underprepared students.

What’s Ahead

- CPE will host targeted workshops that focus on closing achievement gaps.
- The Committee on Persistence and Graduation will focus on best practices that help students persist from semester to semester and ultimately graduate by focusing on the root causes of student attrition.
- The Committee on Academic Quality will focus on the continuous improvement of student learning, the creation of an evidence-based assessment culture, and the assessment of core academic competencies.
STUDENT SUCCESS

Associate graduation rate for underprepared students

For greater simplicity, targets are now expressed as a rate instead of a gap between underprepared and prepared students.

Progress Trajectory

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS), KCTCS data only

What We’ve Done

- The annual Kentucky Student Success Summit focuses on evidence-based, high-impact educational practices that have been shown to successfully close graduation rate gaps for low-income students.
- Through the work of the Kentucky Student Success Network, participating campuses have focused on implementing high-impact strategies to help close achievement gaps.
- CPE hosted a workshop for KCTCS representatives on designing and implementing a high-quality first-year experience program, a strategy aimed at improving retention and graduation and closing achievement gaps.
- CPE convened representatives from each KCTCS institution to discuss innovations in developmental education delivery.
- CPE has convened a College Readiness Work Team to share practices and information related to improving academic and student support programming for underprepared students.
- The CPE collaborated with the Provost at Florida State University to provide Kentucky provosts with three-year trend data for college retention and completion. These data focused on low-income students, underrepresented minorities, and underprepared students.

What’s Ahead

- The CPE used Complete College America and Core to College funds to award mini-grants to institutions to implement accelerated developmental education models. Jefferson, Gateway, Owensboro, Maysville and Somerset Community and Technical Colleges received awards.
- CPE will continue to focus on developmental education models that have proven to increase success in course completion.
- The Committee on Persistence and Graduation will focus on best practices that help students persist from semester to semester and ultimately graduate by focusing on the root causes of student attrition.
- The Committee on Academic Quality will focus on the continuous improvement of student learning, the creation of an evidence-based assessment culture, and the assessment of core academic competencies.
- CPE will host the Kentucky Developmental Education Institute in October 2014. National speakers will showcase co-requisite developmental education program designs that maximize student success and minimize time and expenses for students. The goal is to start a dialogue about implementing similar models in Kentucky.
Associate graduation rate for underrepresented minority students

For greater simplicity, targets are now expressed as a rate instead of a gap between underrepresented minority and non-underrepresented minority students.

What We’ve Done

- Institutional diversity plan assessment reports were presented to the Committee on Equal Opportunities in March and May of 2013. A review team of CPE staff evaluated progress reported by the institutions and provided suggestions on further opportunities to enact best practices.
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- CPE hosted a workshop for KCTCS representatives on designing and implementing a high-quality first-year experience program, a strategy aimed at improving retention and graduation and closing achievement gaps.

What’s Ahead

- CPE will continue to highlight the needs of underrepresented minority students through the work of the Kentucky Student Success Network and participation in national initiatives such as Access2Success, which requires member systems to track the progress of low-income and underrepresented minority students.
- The 2014 Academically Proficient High School Jr/Sr Diversity Conference will be hosted by Murray State University, June 13-14, 2014.
- The 2014 Governor’s Minority Student College Preparation Program will be held at Eastern Kentucky University, June 2014.
State appropriations for public higher education

Total net general fund appropriations for public postsecondary institutions (adjusted for inflation). Does not include state financial aid. (Dollars in millions.)

What We’ve Done

- The CPE approved an institutional operating funds recommendation that contained increased funding requests of $50.6 million for 2014-15 and $51.9 million for 2015-16 for strategic investments that, had they been authorized, would have facilitated progress toward HB 1 and Strategic Agenda goals and objectives.
- The CPE’s 2014-16 budget recommendation for postsecondary institutions’ operating funds included a request for initiatives related to college and career readiness, research and economic development, performance funding, UK/KSU land grant mission funds, and a Kentucky Adult Learner Initiative.
- In addition to the operating funds request, the CPE recommended that the Governor and General Assembly appropriate $95 million in new funding for two Strategic Investment and Incentive Trust Fund programs. Specifically, the CPE recommended an appropriation of $8.4 million in recurring debt service to support a $90 million bond issue for a fifth round of Bucks for Brains and an appropriation of $468,000 in debt service for a $5 million bond issue to support a new Workforce Development Match program.
- Like the requested operating funds, no appropriations were authorized for either the Endowment Match program or the Workforce Development Match program. Had these been authorized, Bucks for Brains funding would have been matched dollar for dollar with private donations to support research at the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville and to strengthen key programs at comprehensive universities. The Workforce Development program funds would have been matched with private giving and endowed to support ongoing KCTCS workforce education and training programs that stimulate business development, create jobs, and lead to a higher standard of living for Kentuckians.

What’s Ahead

- The CPE will provide reports, presentations and testimony to state and local leadership to demonstrate the vital role public higher education plays in Kentucky’s economic competitiveness and quality of life.
- CPE will seek grant funding to advance initiatives and programs that will improve college readiness and completion.
Grants to low-income students in excess of direct costs

Average grant and scholarship aid received by full-time, in-state Pell grant recipients in excess of tuition, mandatory fees and book costs. Amounts reflect money to help pay indirect costs like room and board and transportation.

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS); NCES IPEDS

Legend
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- LOSING GROUND: Decline from baseline

What We’ve Done

- Support for adequate need-based aid continues to be a high priority for the CPE. Kentucky experienced an increase in student eligibility for College Access Program (CAP) grants, driven in part by the number of students qualifying under relaxed federal Pell grant eligibility regulations. Nonetheless, state grant programs continue to be substantially underfunded relative to the demonstrated need of Kentuckians.
- The CPE approved a 3 percent ceiling for tuition increases for in-state undergraduate students at Kentucky’s public colleges and universities. This represents the smallest average tuition increase in 15 years.
- Kentucky’s colleges and universities continue to increase institutional funding for student aid to help offset increases in the cost of college. For the average low-income Kentucky student, state, federal and institutional grants and scholarships fully covered the cost of tuition, mandatory fees and books and contributed another $1,000 toward other educational expenses.
- CPE staff continues to facilitate state-level discussions regarding college textbooks to determine state and institutional strategies to lower costs for students. CPE is coordinating the participation of several Kentucky institutions in a project called Mindspring, which uses Open Education Resources across the curriculum to reduce textbook costs to essentially zero.
- CPE President Bob King participated in the federal American Dream 2.0 Coalition, a Gates Foundation sponsored project, which was created to educate individuals on the role financial aid plays in advancing college access and success. The coalition advocates making aid programs simpler and more transparent, as well as finding innovations and efficiencies that can lower the cost of higher education.

What’s Ahead

- Campus representatives will continue to refine net price calculators that enable students to compare the out-of-pocket costs between colleges and find better ways to communicate the true cost of attending college.
**STUDENT SUCCESS**

Low-income students without grants

Annual number of qualified students who applied for a state need-based grant but were denied access because program funds (CAP and KTG) were exhausted

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**What We’ve Done**

- Support for adequate need-based aid continues to be a high priority for the CPE. Kentucky experienced an increase in student eligibility for College Access Program (CAP) grants, driven in part by the number of students qualifying under relaxed federal Pell grant eligibility regulations. Nonetheless, state grant programs continue to be substantially underfunded relative to the demonstrated need of Kentuckians.
- Kentucky’s colleges and universities continue to increase institutional funding for student aid to help offset increases in the cost of college.
- The CPE approved a 3 percent ceiling for tuition increases for in-state undergraduate students at Kentucky’s public colleges and universities. This represents the smallest average tuition increase in 15 years.
- During the past seven years (FY07-FY13), there has been a 51 percent increase in the number of Kentucky resident undergraduate students filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the primary instrument used to apply for state financial aid. This is in part due to awareness activities administered by KHEAA and the CPE.
- The GEAR UP Kentucky 3.0 program provides a college and career readiness curriculum for middle and high school students, which includes comprehensive information about financial aid options and strategies to pay for college, as well as financial literacy training.
- Kentucky received another round of federal funding through the College Access Challenge grant program to increase the number of low-income students prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. It is a matching program administered by KHEAA.

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**What’s Ahead**

- Campus representatives will continue to refine net price calculators that enable students to compare the out-of-pocket costs between colleges and find better ways to communicate the true cost of attending college.
Externally-funded research and development

**Amount of R&D expenditures in science and engineering from federal, state, local, corporate and foundation funding, excluding institutionally-funded research**

**Legend**

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### What We’ve Done

- CPE recommended $8.4 million in recurring debt service to support a $90 million bond issue for a fifth round of Bucks for Brains. Had it been authorized, Bucks for Brains funding would have been matched dollar for dollar with private donations to support research at UK and UofL and to strengthen key programs at comprehensive universities.
- Graduate research officers at the eight public universities meet quarterly to discuss ways to secure more funding, manage the expectations of key stakeholders about research activities, and raise the academic and research profiles of each institution.
- Leadership provided by the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) has boosted Kentucky’s research, technology, commercialization, entrepreneurial, and economic development efforts. Investments in regional stewardship and Small Business Innovation Research-Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR-STTR) have been very effective.
- CPE partners with the Kentucky Science and Engineering Fund (KSEF) to build science and engineering capacity by investing in advanced and application-oriented R&D to strengthen innovative ideas and shape them for commercialization. KSEF offers peer review and other consulting services to help realize the commercial potential of R&D.
- The Governor’s School for Entrepreneurs was created in 2013. Students take an idea for a product or service and utilize science, technology, engineering, art, math and business skills to design a product and develop a business model for it.
- A Kentucky Consortium of Undergraduate Research (KCUR) partners with the K-12 system and groups like Advance Kentucky to increase postsecondary recruitment, retention, student satisfaction, student learning, and graduation rates.

### What’s Ahead

- CPE is working with campuses to develop a communications plan to raise the profile of researchers and their accomplishments.
- CPE is working with campuses and industries to expand opportunities for student internships that will foster innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship in the Commonwealth.

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**Data Source:** National Science Foundation (NSF) Survey of Research and Development Expenditures at Universities and Colleges
Degrees and credentials in STEM+H fields

Number of degrees and credentials conferred in science, technology, engineering and health-related fields during the academic year at the two-year and four-year level

What We’ve Done

- CPE has been meeting with university engineering educators to review the engineering pipeline and discuss whether Kentucky’s programs are producing enough engineers in the right fields to meet state workforce needs. The discussions have been driven in part by BEAM (Bluegrass Economic Advancement Movement), a partnership led by Louisville’s and Lexington’s mayors to grow economic development along the I-64 corridor.
- CPE funds the Kentucky Center for Mathematics, which provides coaches and other professional development opportunities for K-12 mathematics teachers statewide.
- Project Lead the Way®, a national program to increase STEM degrees, continues to gain momentum with Advanced Manufacturing endorsements from the corporate sector contributing to its success.
- CPE continues to co-sponsor a cohort of students and faculty to attend the annual Idea Festival to celebrate and recognize entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Code.org is being introduced into the K-12 system to prepare 21st century learners for expanded career pathways in computer science.

What’s Ahead

- CPE and health educators from across the Commonwealth are responding to a healthcare capacity shortage as reported in a commissioned study by Deloitte Consultants. Kentucky won a National Governors’ Association grant to work with six other states to develop strategies to address the shortage.

Legend

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Progress Trajectory

Data Source: CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)

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CPE and health educators from across the Commonwealth are responding to a healthcare capacity shortage as reported in a commissioned study by Deloitte Consultants. Kentucky won a National Governors’ Association grant to work with six other states to develop strategies to address the shortage.
What We’ve Done

- CPE and institutional staff have been meeting to more fully develop an adult-friendly, competency-based program called Commonwealth College. Led by university provosts, teams have been meeting to develop the delivery model, which incorporates various practices that research has proven to be effective with adults: online or hybrid learning, convenient student support services, career counseling tailored to individual needs, credit for prior learning, flexible payment plans and modular instruction. Despite the budget request for Commonwealth College not being funded, work is continuing with WKU and UofL to implement this program.

- Project Graduate is a collaborative effort between the CPE and campuses to recruit and graduate former students who have earned 80 or more credit hours from a Kentucky institution. Since beginning in 2007, over 1,000 students have earned their degrees and nearly 2,000 have pursued or are pursuing coursework through Project Graduate.

- Kentucky Adult Education, KCTCS and the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet were awarded a $1.6 million Accelerating Opportunity grant to support efforts to ensure more Kentuckians have the workforce skills they need. The Accelerating Opportunity pilot seeks to put adult students on track to earn a postsecondary credential by integrating the delivery of academic and technical skills. The initiative is funded by a strategic collaboration of diverse philanthropies including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Kresge Foundation and the Open Society Foundations.

- KCTCS continues to be a leader in addressing Kentucky’s workforce needs through its Workforce Solutions Program, a one-stop shop for Kentucky business and industry that addresses a full spectrum of industry needs, including customized training and support services, community education, regulatory training, team leadership training and certification and workforce assessments.

What’s Ahead

- Kentucky’s public institutions will hold an online college fair for former students as part of the Project Graduate 2.0 campaign. The event will provide advising and information to former students interested in completing their degree. The fair will feature “booths” where students can engage in real-time text and video chats with Project Graduate, transfer, and career services staff, as well as financial aid advisors.
Online learning
Percent of total earned credits at public and independent colleges and universities taken online or through other distance learning technologies

Legend
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**Data Source:** CPE Comprehensive Database (KPEDS)

**What We’ve Done**
- The Kentucky Virtual Campus (KYVC) manages a statewide contract for software used by all public institutions for online courses, providing a high quality, consistent virtual classroom experience for students and instructors while saving over $5 million.
- KYVC funds faculty and staff professional development in support of course redesign and other course delivery innovations as part of the National Center for Academic Transformation, the Sloan Consortium and the Quality Matters Project.
- The Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL) provides electronic materials to 400 member libraries at one-tenth the cost of individual purchases. KYVL manages the contracts for software and hosting used by libraries for their operations, as well as the delivery service for statewide interlibrary loan items.
- KYVC is working as a member of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation’s Personalized Learning Network to discover leading-edge technologies to individualize a student’s learning experience and reduce time-to-degree.

**What’s Ahead**
- CPE is working with several regional and national groups to define and implement a reciprocal agreement whereby institutions can more easily be authorized to enroll online students in other states.
- CPE is participating in the Mindspring Project along with institutions from California, Arizona, Florida, North Carolina and Massachusetts. Mindspring is a collaborative process based on the highly successful Kaleidoscope initiative that reduces student textbook costs to essentially zero.
- As a result of recommendations of the Rural Access Work Group, conversations are underway with Kentucky’s Office of Broadband Outreach and Development and university regional stewardship programs to develop strategies to expand broadband access into more rural areas of the state.
What We’ve Done

- Kentucky students are encouraged to take advantage of AP, IB, dual credit and early college opportunities in high school to get a head start on college and shorten time-to-degree.
- Numerous policies and initiatives have focused on smoothing pathways to degree completion and reducing credits to degree, including the efficient transfer of general education credit between institutions and efforts to minimize developmental education courses by increasing college readiness at entry, improving student placement into appropriate courses, and accelerating the delivery of developmental education by placing students in credit-bearing coursework with additional academic supports.
- Degree Pathways work groups have been creating semester-by-semester sample progression academic plans for numerous majors. Approximately 80 degree pathways will be posted on KnowHow2Transfer.org by summer 2014.
- The Council launched Kentucky’s 15 to Finish campaign in January 2014 to promote the benefits of on-time graduation.

By completing a full course load of 15 credits a semester, or 30 a year, students save time and money and get into the workforce sooner with higher earnings. The effort is funded in part by Complete College America, an organization whose mission is to increase the number of Americans with career certificates or college degrees. Public service TV and radio ads began airing in July 2014. The website is located at http://15tofinishky.org/.

What’s Ahead

- Kentucky’s public institutions will launch campus-based 15 to Finish campaigns and integrate completion messaging into student orientations, recruitment materials, and various communications platforms, such as e-newsletters, e-mail, TV, radio, TV, social media and digital signage.
Degree productivity relative to education and related expenditures

Number of degrees and credentials conferred for every $100,000 in education and related expenditures at public institutions

What We've Done
- Institutions continue to implement cost containment practices to improve the efficiency of business operations. Examples include new electronic and online processes, staffing, benefits, and purchasing cooperatives.
- All Kentucky institutions currently outsource select, non-core functions on campus and/or operate non-core functions as self-supporting enterprises. These cost-saving opportunities help institutions fully utilize existing space and staff resources in order to reduce costs, respond to increased student enrollment and/or staffing, and provide increased access to existing programs or services.
- EKU, Morehead, Murray, UK, UofL and WKU have recently implemented ESCOs (third-party financing agreements) or institutionally-funded energy savings projects to secure immediate and long-term savings and upgrades in buildings.
- KSU is reviewing alternatives that will allow for the construction of a new boiler plant and an upgrade of distribution systems with a third party (ESCO).

What's Ahead
- Several institutions will review alternatives that will allow for the construction of privatized student housing.
- All institutions are currently evaluating the economics of converting plants from coal to natural gas to facilitate cost savings and create clean energy.

NOTE: NGA is no longer calculating this metric, so CPE is now using the Delta Cost Project methodology (education and related expenditures divided by total degrees and credentials, with no weighting based on median annual earnings by degree type). The baseline, target and trend data have been adjusted accordingly. 2012-13 education and related expenditures data from IPEDS are preliminary.

Legend
- **MET GOAL:** Performance meets or exceeds target
- **ON TRACK:** On track to meet target by 2014
- **SOME PROGRESS:** Progressing but not on track to meet target
- **HOLDING STEADY:** Little or no improvement over baseline
- **LOSING GROUND:** Decline from baseline