**2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR A BIG BOLD FUTURE**

The Prichard Committee has adopted the following legislative priorities to help reverse recent declines in Kentucky education outcomes. When combined with a groundswell of community mobilization, these policy and investment steps can put us on the path to a Big Bold Future where every Kentuckian can thrive, contribute to, and benefit from our shared progress as a state.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

We support legislation and funding to raise participation and quality in early childhood programs, including:

- Promoting partnerships between public preschool and private childcare to expand early learning
- Raising CCAP and public preschool eligibility to at least 200% of the federal poverty level, while increasing per child funding/reimbursement (Big Bold Ask)
- Expanding HANDS, Kentucky’s home visiting program to support families with children under age 3

### K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

We support legislation and funding to strengthen student learning in public schools, including:

- Supporting effective literacy instruction, including full implementation of 2022’s Read to Succeed initiative
- Providing similar support for effective math instruction
- Creating a Fund for Teaching Excellence
- Fully funding school transportation
- Fully funding full-day kindergarten

### POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

We support legislation and funding to improve participation and attainment in higher education, including:

- Providing high-quality dual credit options for high school students
- Continuing and enhancing Performance-Based Funding for Kentucky’s public universities and community and technical colleges.
- Fully funding College Access Program needs-based financial aid and restoring affordability for all students

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*Prichardcommittee.org | January 3, 2023*
Since the 2020 launch of the Big Bold Ask, Kentucky has made important steps up in annual learning investments. Completing the Big Bold Ask will require added investments in the FY 2025 and FY 2026 budgets, with early childhood needing special attention.

**Early Childhood Big Bold Ask**

- **$251 million** to provide child care assistance to 23,000 more young children with family incomes below 200% of poverty each year. Temporary federal dollars used raise rates will run out early in FY 2024.
- **$80 million** to provide preschool to 10,000 additional 4-year-olds with family incomes below 200% of poverty each year.

**K-12 Big Bold Ask**

- **$140 million** to fund all-day kindergarten each year. FY 2024 adds $140 million.
- **$162 million** to fund school transportation fully each year. FY 2024 adds $60 million.
- **$58 million** to create a Fund for Teaching Excellence each year. FY 2024 adds $12 million.

**Excellence**
- Deeper support for educators and local funds freed up to reach Kentucky’s high standards, including steps like expanded access to counselors, expert reading teachers, art teachers, and collaboration time.

**Equity**
- Reduced funding gaps between districts with more and less property wealth and implementation of practices that raise results for all learners and especially for historically underserved student groups.

**Postsecondary Big Bold Ask**

- **$311 million** to implement full Performance-Based Funding for public universities and community and technical colleges each year. FY 2024 adds $17 million.
- **$30 million** to expand needs-based aid, offering 18,000 more College Access Program (CAP) grants to low-income students each year. FY 2024 adds $43 million.

**New Investments for Coming Years**

- **Requested Increases over FY 2024 Budget** (In Millions of Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>FY 2025 Proposed</th>
<th>FY 2026 Proposed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)</td>
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<td>Preschool</td>
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<td>Fund for Teaching Excellence</td>
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<td>Public 4-year and 2-year Institutions</td>
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<td>College Access Program (CAP)</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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