

KENTUCKY POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FUNDING

COMPARING THE FY 2024 ENACTED BUDGET TO THE CONFERENCE REPORT RELEASED MARCH 27, 2024, AVAILABLE AT LEGISLATURE.KY.GOV

POSTSECONDARY GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION | MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 House Bill 6 Conference	FY 2026 House Bill 6 Conference	2024 to 2025 Change	Additional 2025 to 2026 Change
Council on Postsecondary Education	\$18	\$18	\$17	\$0	-\$1
Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority	\$346	\$380	\$396	\$34	\$15
Eastern	\$82	\$81	\$85	-\$1	\$4
Kentucky State	\$29	\$33	\$36	\$4	\$3
Morehead	\$50	\$51	\$56	\$2	\$5
Murray	\$52	\$53	\$56	\$1	\$3
Northern	\$58	\$80	\$64	\$22	-\$15
University of Kentucky	\$304	\$309	\$321	\$6	\$12
University of Louisville	\$134	\$151	\$162	\$17	\$11
Western	\$84	\$91	\$100	\$7	\$9
KCTCS	\$188	\$189	\$200	\$1	\$11
Postsecondary Education Performance Fund	\$97	\$200	\$200	\$103	\$0
Postsecondary Total	\$1,441	\$1,637	\$1,693	\$196	\$57

Higher Education Funding Note

In the Big Bold Ask, the Prichard Committee calls for increasing Kentucky's investment in public universities, KCTCS, and performance funding to \$1,171 million per year by 2026. The Conference version of HB 6 provides \$1,121 million for FY 2025 and \$1,194 million for 2026, exceeding the 2026 Ask.

GENERAL FUND DETAIL ON FINANCIAL AID | IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 House Bill 6 Conference	FY 2026 House Bill 6 Conference	2024 to 2025 Change	Additional 2025 to 2026 Change
College Access Program (CAP)	\$139.0	\$163.8	\$188.7	\$24.8	\$24.9
Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarships (KEES)	\$116.1	\$86.8	\$90.6	-\$29.4	\$3.8
Kentucky Tuition Grants (KTG)	\$46.0	\$46.0	\$46.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Dual Credit Scholarships	\$13.2	\$13.2	\$13.2	\$0.0	\$0.0
Work Ready Scholarships:	\$10.8	\$15.7	\$15.7	\$4.9	\$0.0
Kentucky National Guard Tuition Award	\$7.4	\$7.4	\$7.4	\$0.0	\$0.0
Veterinary Contract Spaces	\$5.7	\$5.7	\$5.8	\$0.0	\$0.1
Teacher Scholarships	\$1.0	\$2.0	\$2.0	\$1.0	\$0.0
Optometry Contract Spaces	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
Teacher Recruitment Student Loan Forgiveness Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Student Teacher Stipend Program	\$0.0	\$7.3	\$7.3	\$7.3	\$0.0
Kentucky Rural Veterinarian Loan Repayment	\$0.0	\$1.1	\$0.0	\$1.1	-\$1.1
Innovative Scholarship Pilot Project	\$0.0	\$10.0	\$10.0	\$10.0	\$0.0
General Administration and Support	\$0.0	\$6.0	\$6.0	\$6.0	\$0.0
Early Childhood Development Scholarships	\$0.0	\$2.5	\$2.5	\$2.5	\$0.0
Financial Aid Total	\$340.0	\$368.2	\$395.9	\$28.2	\$27.7

College Access Program (CAP) Note

CAP scholarships are Kentucky's largest needs-based financial aid program. The Conference version of HB 6 includes \$163.8 million in CCAP funding in 2025 and \$188.7 million in 2026. In the Big Bold Ask, the Prichard Committee calls for increasing Kentucky's investment in CAP to \$121.8 million per year by 2026, and the Senate version substantially exceeds that goal.

Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) Note

KEES provides Kentucky's largest merit-based support for students enrolling in higher education. Looking at the General Fund alone, the Conference version moves KEES downward from \$116.1 million in FY 2024 to \$88.6 million in FY 2025 and \$90.6 million in FY 2026. However, the Conference version also moves KEES from \$5.9 million in Restricted Funds to \$27.8 million in FY 2025 and \$25.2 million in FY 2026. Looking at both funding sources together, this version moves KEES from \$122.0 million in FY 2024 to \$114.6 million in FY 2025 and \$115.7 million in FY 2026. The Prichard Committee will seek further information to understand the impact of that smaller, but still important, overall KEES reduction.