



KRS 164.0406 – Institution Healthcare Program Evaluation Report

Reporting Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

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I. Program Data Report

Executive Summary

Kentucky State University strengthening pathways into high-demand careers, reducing financial barriers to degree completion, and expand the pipeline of skilled professionals prepared to serve communities across the Commonwealth.

During fiscal year 2026, KSU advanced workforce-focused programs in nursing, psychology, and social work through strategic investments in academic capacity, student financial support, transfer pathways, and partnerships with healthcare providers and employers. These efforts are complemented by strong workforce outcomes, including a 100% employment rate since 2021 among nursing graduates who are not continuing their education and a 100% employment rate within 12 months for Bachelor of Social Work graduates from academic year 2022–2023 through 2025–2026.

KSU is also working to make these career pathways more accessible to Kentucky residents through institutional aid, workforce scholarships, private philanthropy, and seamless transfer opportunities with the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. At the same time, newer graduate pathways in social work and psychology are positioned to expand the University's contribution to Kentucky's future behavioral health and human services workforce.

As Kentucky's public historically Black university and 1890 land-grant institution, Kentucky State is committed to ensuring that workforce investment translates into opportunity for students and measurable benefits for the Commonwealth. The University's continued focus is clear: prepare more students for successful careers, connect graduates with areas of workforce need, and strengthen the communities and industries that depend on them.

1. Introduction

Kentucky State University is committed to expanding access to high-quality education that prepares students to meet the workforce needs of the Commonwealth. As Kentucky's public historically Black university and 1890 land-grant institution, KSU plays a distinct role in

creating pathways to economic opportunity while developing skilled professionals for communities across Kentucky.

During fiscal year 2026, the University continued to strengthen workforce-aligned programs in nursing, psychology, and social work while reducing financial barriers that can prevent students from completing their degrees and entering the workforce. Through scholarships, transfer pathways, employer and healthcare partnerships, and investments in high-demand academic programs, Kentucky State is working to create a stronger pipeline from education to employment.

The following report highlights student demand, enrollment capacity, affordability, credentialing outcomes, graduate employment, and the University's continued efforts to prepare students for careers in critical workforce areas.

2. Healthcare Training Scholarships

Kentucky State University has established seamless transfer pathways with the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), coupled with financial incentives that help Kentucky residents complete four-year degrees. The University has also developed partnerships with CHI Saint Joseph Health (Common Spirit Health), Norton Healthcare, Baptist Health, UK HealthCare, Johnson & Johnson, and private philanthropy to provide scholarship opportunities that reduce financial barriers and prepare qualified graduates to enter Kentucky's workforce.

3. Current Tuition

2025-2026 Tuition Fees (Per Semester)

Degree	In-State	Out-Of-State
Nursing	\$4,340.50	\$6,510.75
Psychology	\$4,340.50	\$6,510.75
Social Work	\$4,340.50	\$6,510.75

4. Student Capacity

Fall 2025 Capacity

Degree	Major	Capacity
AAS	Nursing	66

BS	Nursing	250
BA	Psychology	152
BA	Social Work	84

5. Application Statistics

Fall 2025 Applications by In-State and Out-of-State

Degree Code	Major	In-State Applications	Out-Of-State Applications	Total Applications
AAS	Nursing	48	120	168
BS	Psychology	35	106	141
BA	Social Work	17	39	56
BS	Nursing	65	331	396

6. Admission Statistics

Fall 2025 Admitted by In-State and Out-of-State

Degree Code	Major	In-State Admitted	Out-Of-State Admitted	Total Admitted
AAS	Nursing	47	117	164
BS	Psychology	33	104	137
BA	Social Work	17	39	56
BS	Nursing	59	323	382

7. Enrollment Duration

Average time to complete the degree (in years)

Degree	Major	Fall 2019 Cohort
Bachelor	Nursing	4.92
Bachelor	Psychology	4.67
Bachelor	Social Work	4.33

8. Student Loans

Degree Conferred FY 2026(Summer 2025, Fall 2025, Spring 2026)

Degree	Major	Average loan In-State	Average loan Out-Of State
AAS	Nursing	\$ 13,728.00	\$ 30,260.00
BA	Social Work	\$ 16,160.00	\$ 44,220.00
BS	Nursing	\$ 18,310.00	\$ 38,213.00
BS	Psychology	\$ 7,248.00	\$ 61,040.00

9. Passage Rates on Healthcare Credential Examination

NCLEX -RN Pass Rate
2025-88%

NCLEX-RN Pass Rate for AAS
2025-77%

Kentucky State University's Master of Social Work program was established in Fall 2025 to prepare students for professional social work practice and licensure. Because the program is new and students have not yet reached the applicable licensure stage, graduate employment and licensure examination outcomes are not yet available.

The 60-credit-hour Forensic Counseling concentration within the Master of Arts in Psychology is also designed to prepare students for professional licensure. The program began in Fall 2025 and requires at least two years to complete; therefore, licensure examination and graduate employment data are not yet available.

10. Employment Rate of Graduates

Kentucky State University's Nursing Program has maintained a 100% employment rate since 2021 among graduates who are not continuing their education.

The Bachelor of Social Work program has maintained a 100% employment rate within 12 months of graduation from academic year 2022–2023 through 2025–2026.

The Master of Arts in Psychology licensure pathway began in Fall 2025 and has not yet produced graduates; therefore, graduate employment data are not yet available.

11. Financial Barrier Reduction Actions

In fiscal year 2026, Kentucky State University continued efforts to reduce financial barriers through institutional aid, workforce-focused scholarships, and a new privately funded regional scholarship initiative. These resources are designed to increase affordability for qualified students, particularly Kentucky residents, reduce reliance on student loans, and support degree completion in high-demand workforce areas.

12. Conclusion

Kentucky State University remains committed to preparing graduates for high-demand careers that strengthen Kentucky's workforce and communities. Through workforce-aligned academic programs, strategic healthcare and employer partnerships, scholarships, and expanded pathways for Kentucky students, the University is working to reduce financial barriers while increasing access to meaningful careers.

The results reflected in this report demonstrate both progress and opportunity. As demand for skilled professionals continues to grow, Kentucky State will continue strengthening its programs, expanding partnerships, and aligning resources with the workforce needs of the Commonwealth. These investments benefit not only KSU students, but also the employers, communities, and citizens they will serve throughout Kentucky.

13. Appendix

KSU KCTCS Transfer Pathway: <https://www.kysu.edu/documents/transfer/Nursing-AAS-to-BSN.pdf>

KSU Scholarship Application: <https://www.kysu.edu/academics/college-ahnr/school-of-nursing-hs/nursing-scholarships.php>

KSU Nursing Scholarship Announcement: <https://www.kysu.edu/news/2025/06/400k-gift-creates-new-ksu-scholarship-pipeline-for-franklin-county-healthcare.php>