

Nonacademic Barriers Facing Kentucky Community And Technical College Students

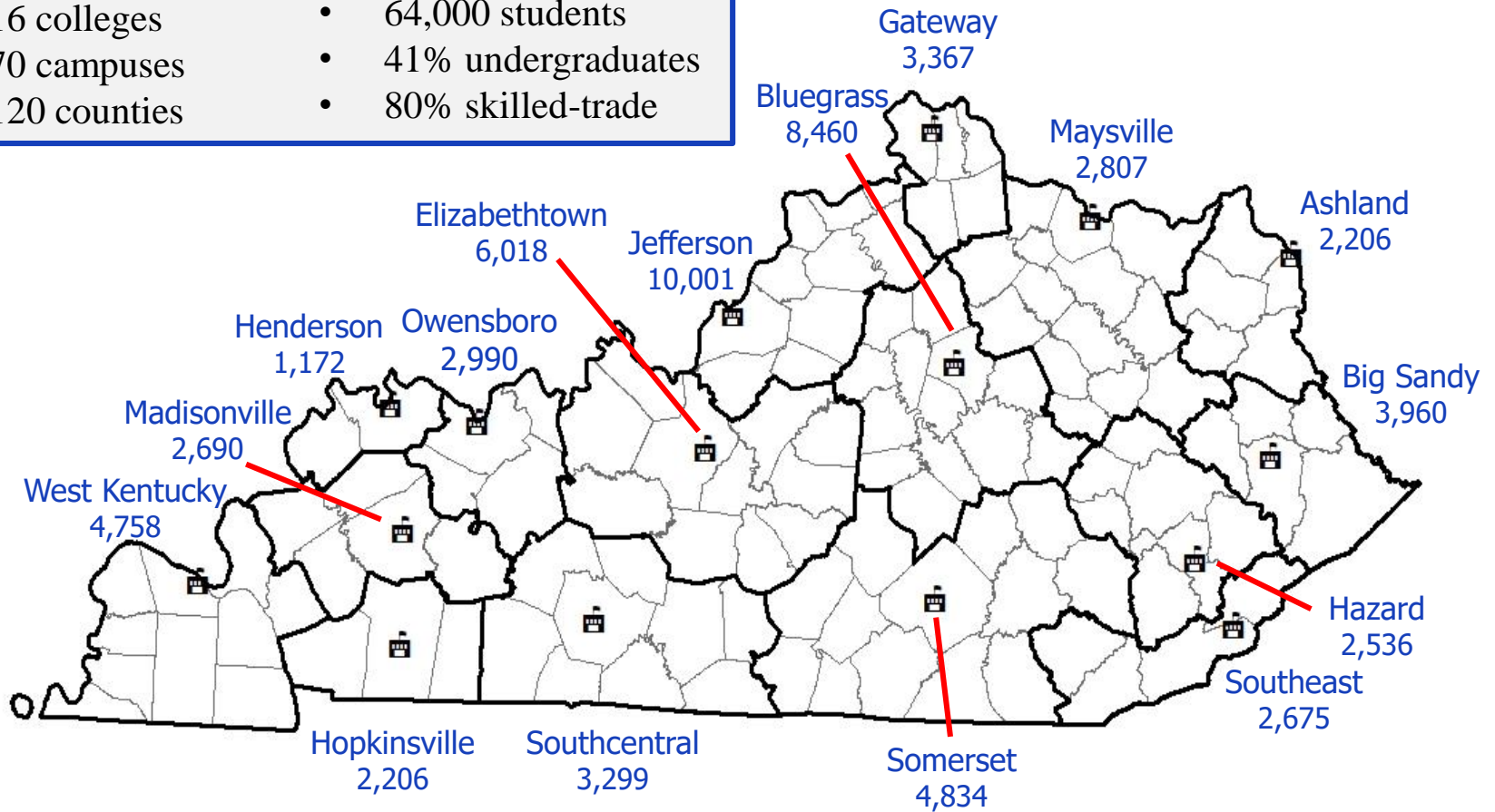
**Program Review and
Investigations Committee**

October 4, 2019

KCTCS

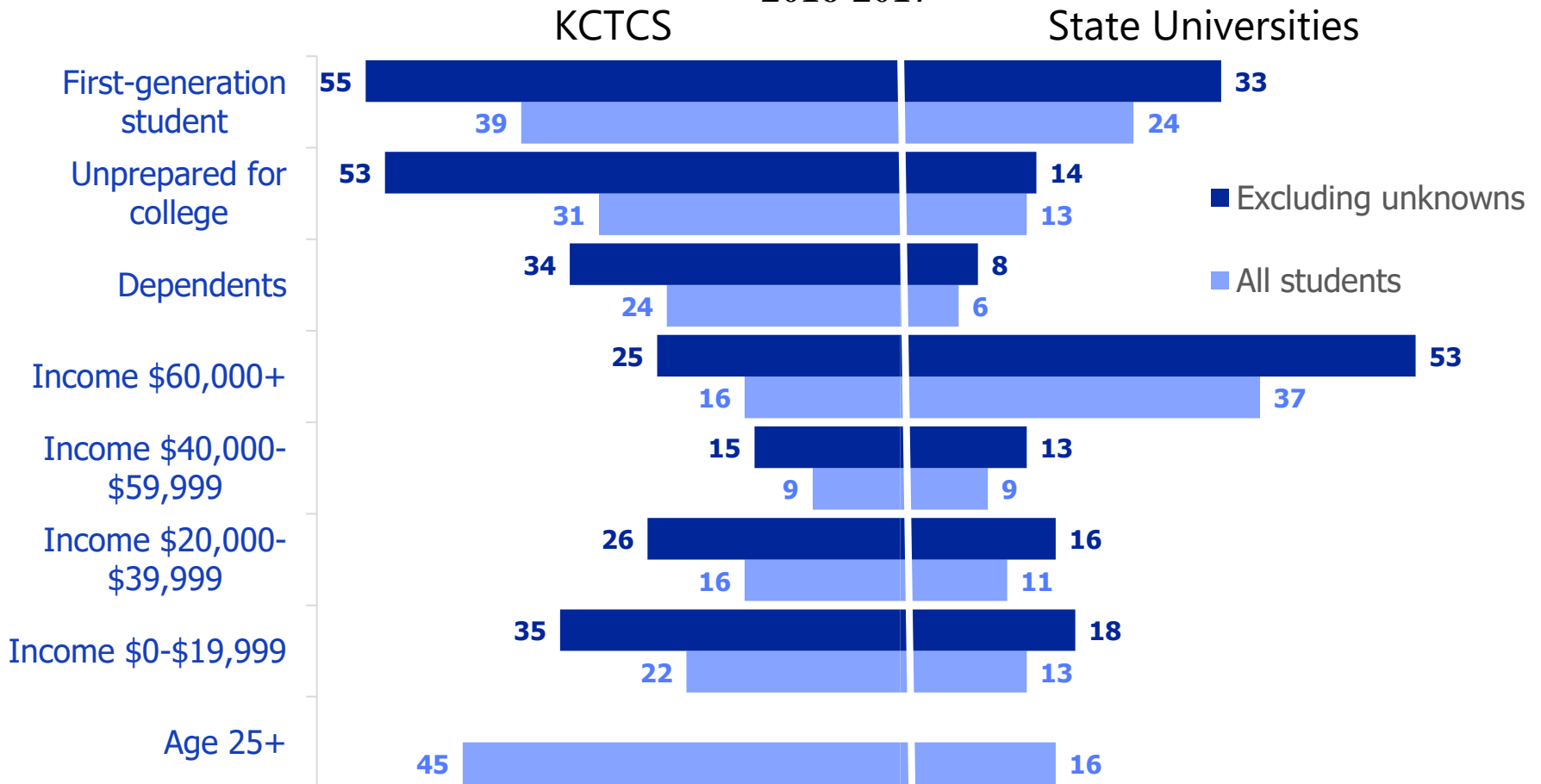
Largest provider of higher education in KY

- 16 colleges
- 70 campuses
- 120 counties
- 64,000 students
- 41% undergraduates
- 80% skilled-trade



KCTCS Students VS State University Students

Percentage Of KCTCS And Kentucky University Students With Selected Characteristics
2016-2017



Barriers To College Success

- Academic Barrier: Occurs when students are not academically prepared for college.
- Nonacademic Barrier: Occurs when students face obstacles to academic success that are not directly related to academic proficiency.
- This report focuses on nonacademic barriers at KCTCS colleges.

Nonacademic Barriers

1. Inability to navigate college
2. Financial instability
3. Competing time constraints
4. Personal health issues
5. Disengagement

Nonacademic Barriers

1. Inability to navigate college

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2017 CPE: Between 39% and 55% of KCTCS students were first-generation.

- ❖ Registering for classes
- ❖ Managing financial aid
- ❖ Faculty and advisors
- ❖ Academic and career plans

Nonacademic Barriers

1. Inability to navigate college
- 2. Financial instability**
3. Competing time constraints
4. Personal health issues
5. Disengagement

2017 CPE: Between 22% and 35% of KCTCS student households had incomes below \$20,000.

- ❖ Housing insecurity
- ❖ Food insecurity
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Child care

Nonacademic Barriers

1. Inability to navigate college
2. Financial instability
- 3. Competing time constraints**
4. Personal health issues
5. Disengagement

2017 CPE: 45% of KCTCS students were 25 years old or older and between 24% and 34% had dependents.

- ❖ Family responsibilities
- ❖ Work responsibilities
- ❖ Child care

Nonacademic Barriers

1. Inability to navigate college
2. Financial instability
3. Competing time constraints
- 4. Personal health issues**
5. Disengagement

- ❖ Mental health
- ❖ Preexisting conditions
- ❖ Major medical events

Nonacademic Barriers

1. Inability to navigate college
2. Financial instability
3. Competing time constraints
4. Personal health issues
- 5. Disengagement**

- ❖ No point of contact
- ❖ Lack of social engagement
- ❖ No sense of community
- ❖ Uninvolved in the classroom

Prevalence Of Nonacademic Barriers

- No reliable data on the prevalence of barriers at individual colleges.
- Currently, no way to track the prevalence of barriers over time.

Recommendation 1

The KCTCS System Office and colleges should develop methods to determine the prevalence of specific nonacademic barriers at each college and track the prevalence of such barriers over time.

Proxy Measures For Nonacademic Barriers

- Financial instability
 - Housing insecurity
 - Food insecurity
 - Child care
- Personal health issues
- Navigate college
- Lack of transportation
- Disengagement

Indicators Of Financial Instability

College	Average Household Income (Region)	Average Household Income* (Student)
Ashland	\$57,715	\$37,920
Big Sandy	46,507	28,403
Bluegrass	70,461	42,676
Elizabethtown	60,834	41,668
Gateway	79,199	42,648
Hazard	42,572	25,728
Henderson	57,030	40,708
Hopkinsville	55,330	34,419
Jefferson	76,246	41,722
Madisonville	55,281	44,648
Maysville	54,224	32,386
Owensboro	62,821	45,355
Somerset	46,762	32,107
Southcentral	59,270	43,836
Southeast	37,954	25,437
West Kentucky	60,367	43,338
State/KCTCS	\$64,436	\$38,698

* For students who completed financial aid form

Indicators Of Housing And Food Insecurity

College	Income < \$50,000	
	Housing > 30% Of Income (Region)	% Food Insecure (Region)
Ashland	42.90%	16%
Big Sandy	42.7	18.4
Bluegrass	54.8	14.4
Elizabethtown	45.5	13.9
Gateway	56.0	11.8
Hazard	37.1	19.4
Henderson	46.0	15.9
Hopkinsville	52.1	17.9
Jefferson	55.2	14.0
Madisonville	37.3	14.5
Maysville	43.4	16.0
Owensboro	44.0	13.7
Somerset	42.2	16.8
Southcentral	47.3	14.8
Southeast	40.1	20.8
West Kentucky	41.6	14.7
State	48.6%	14.7%

Indicators Of Child Care Needs And Access To Health Care

KCTCS College Service Region	% Of Children Aged 5 And Younger Without Access To Licensed Child Care	Residents Per Mental Health Provider	Residents Per Primary Care Physician
Ashland	63.9%	315	1,611
Big Sandy	74.5	257	1,376
Bluegrass	18.3	491	1,223
Elizabethtown	46.9	509	2,225
Gateway	30.1	788	1,476
Hazard	69.5	313	1,546
Henderson	49.1	1,083	2,246
Hopkinsville	61.1	384	2,039
Jefferson	22.6	427	1,231
Madisonville	64.8	1,709	1,406
Maysville	52.5	458	2,065
Owensboro	42.6	511	2,092
Somerset	69.7	372	2,045
Southcentral	51.4	644	1,848
Southeast	69.6	2,442	2,558
West Kentucky	47.9	1,172	1,789
State	48.2%	492	1,515

KCTCS Colleges' Programs

- College presidents were asked to provide information on programs addressing nonacademic barriers.
- Difficulty of separating nonacademic programs.
- Colleges reported 142 nonacademic programs.

Reported Programs

- Ashland – 9
- Big Sandy – 3
- Bluegrass – 17
- Elizabethtown – 16
- Gateway – 9
- Hazard – 10
- Henderson – 3
- Hopkinsville – 8
- Jefferson – 11
- Madisonville – 8
- Maysville – 6
- Owensboro – 7
- Somerset – 10
- Southcentral – 8
- Southeast – 4
- West Kentucky – 13

Barriers Targeted

- Programs were placed into seven categories based on the barrier targeted:
 - Financial instability – 23.2%
 - Navigation – 20.4%
 - Disengagement – 13.4%
 - Personal health – 11.3%
 - Time constraints – 6.3%
 - Multiple – 24.6%
 - General – 7.7%

Program Types

- Programs were categorized into eight groups based on the service provided:
 - Advising
 - Targeted service
 - Inclusivity
 - Engagement
 - Financial aid
 - Tutoring
 - Streamlining
 - Orientation

Program Types

- 46.5% advising programs
- 44.4% multiple category programs
 - 9.9% advising and financial assistance
- Less than 10.0% each
 - Orientation, streamlining, and engagement

Program Funding

- Program costs could not be precisely determined.
- Total costs provided for 128 programs, 90.1%.

Program Funding Sources

Source Of Funds	% Programs Funded	Median Funding
College	62.0	\$42,490
Grants	36.6	254,356
Donations	7.0	25,750
Foundation	5.6	12,800
No cost	7.7	0

Source: Staff analysis of data from KCTCS.

Measures Of Success

Barrier (Programs)	Blank	No Measure	Usage	Retention	Attainment	Other
Financial (33)	12.1%	6.1%	51.5%	33.3%	9.1%	15.2%
Navigation (29)	3.4	0.0	44.8	41.4	31.0	10.3
Engagement (19)	0.0	0.0	63.2	42.1	21.1	5.3
Health (16)	0.0	18.8	50.0	37.5	12.5	6.3
Time (9)	0.0	11.1	77.8	22.2	11.1	0.0
Multiple (35)	5.7	0.0	48.6	51.4	62.9	0.0
General (11)	18.2	0.0	27.3	45.5	36.4	0.0
All Barriers (142)	6.3%	3.5%	50.0%	41.5%	30.3%	7.0%

Source: Staff analysis of data from KCTCS.

Students Served

Barrier (Programs)	Median Students Served	Median % Students Served	Programs Serving More Than Half Of Students
Financial (24)	82	1.7%	1
Navigation (21)	140	3.4	1
Engagement (18)	290	3.5	1
Health (14)	112	2.1	1
Time (8)	122	3.0	0
Multiple (32)	137	1.7	0
General (9)	420	5.4	1
All barriers (116)	139	2.4	5

Source: Staff analysis of data from KCTCS.

Program Staffing

- Most programs, 69.0%, had five or fewer full-time-equivalent (FTE) employees.
 - 46 percent had one or fewer FTEs.
 - 8 programs had no FTE assigned.
- Programs with more than 5 FTEs accounted for 8.5% of programs.

Nonacademic Programs In Other States

- Community college nonacademic programs were reviewed in the seven surrounding states.
- Many programs were similar to those at KCTCS colleges.
- Some colleges offered programs that were different but focused on similar issues.

Improving Measures Of Program Success

- Problems With Retention Rates

Recommendation 2

The KCTCS System Office and colleges should develop more accurate measures of nonacademic program success that focus on determining whether a program decreases the prevalence of the problem it was designed to address.

Recommendation 3

The KCTCS System Office should study the relationship between programs that decrease nonacademic barriers, student success, and retention. Results should be shared with the colleges so they can improve existing programs and more effectively implement future programs.