

***EKU***<sup>®</sup>



EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

# EKU IS KENTUCKY'S WORKFORCE UNIVERSITY

## EKU at a Glance

- **Enrollment: 15,673** - **Largest regional university in Kentucky** in degree-seeking students (Fall 2024)
- **43%** of this year's graduating class were **Pell recipients or Pell-eligible**
- **40%** of EKU's class of Spring 2025 are the **first in their family** to attain a higher education degree
- **No. 2 nationally since 2024** for **Military Friendly® Spouse Schools** and **top-ranked in Kentucky** for Military Friendly® Schools
- **No. 1 University in Kentucky** for **retaining graduates for the Kentucky workforce**
- Signature programs:
  - **Nursing**
  - **Occupational Therapy**
  - **Aviation**
  - **Manufacturing Engineering**
  - **Education**
  - **Criminal Justice**



**CENTER FOR HEALTH INNOVATION - \$330M**

**D.O. ACCREDITATION ESCROW - \$50M**



## New instructional space for Osteopathic Medical Program & other health programs

- Urgent healthcare workforce shortage across Kentucky, with **94% of counties lacking adequate primary care**
- **EKU Student Success for Kentucky's Workforce**
  - **100% pass rates** in BSN, ASN, and OTD programs (2024)
  - **72% of EKU Healthcare Graduates stay in Kentucky**
- Fragmented, outdated **facilities limit instructional collaboration:**
  - Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, Nursing, Mental Health Counseling, Occupational Therapy, Public Health, Medical Laboratory Science, Communication Disorders, Pre-Med, Paramedicine, Biomedical Sciences, and Emergency Medical Care
- **Proposed Center for Health Innovation** to house **3,000+ students** with spaces for **immersive learning and collaboration**





# EKU AVIATION: NEW AIRCRAFT & AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL



## EKU AVIATION - \$10M for aircraft replacements

- Kentucky's only 4-year university-based flight program; enrollment of **500+ students from 25 states (85% KY)**
- **Enrollment up +150% since 2018**
- 30 planes; average age of aircraft is 31 years old
- Includes **4 leased aircraft** (all manufactured before 1986 with avg. of 18,000+ flight hours)
  - Require high level of maintenance = increased cost and time out of commission
- Includes **EKU-owned aircraft** (manufactured in the 1980s and 1990s with avg. of almost 12,500 flight hours)
- Replacements will **standardize instrument training** and **ensure students train with modern avionics**

## FAA AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TRAINING PROGRAM - \$5M Startup for Facility/Equipment & \$1.5M Annually

- **FAA aims to hire 9,000 new controllers by 2028**
- **SB 87** directed CPE with the Transportation Cabinet to assess public universities' capabilities of offering an FAA -recognized air traffic control safety program.
- EKU was identified by the study as the only qualified university to offer the program.
- **EKU would like to offer an Air Traffic Control program to meet critical workforce needs.**



**ASSET PRESERVATION**

# \$75M Requested to Assist with Urgent Maintenance

- Critical campus infrastructure services
- Heating, steam, water delivery systems
- Electrical support systems
- Elevator replacement
- Building HVAC upgrades
- Restoration of aged facility exteriors, roofs, and worn facility interiors



# Additional Budget Requests

## **OPERATING FUND INFLATIONARY ADJUSTMENT**

- Maintain state appropriation Inflationary Adjustments for each year of the biennium.
- Request 2024-2026 appropriations part of the recurring base going forward.

## **KERS**

- ECU requests continued support of HB8 funding plan for the KERS supplement.

## **STATE MANDATED TUITION WAIVERS**

- Stipulate these are “last dollar waivers” with state & federal funding applied first.

## **FIRE AND TORNADO INSURANCE PREMIUM - \$5.5-6M**

- Fully fund Fire and Tornado Insurance Premium, as the State does for other state agencies and make 2024-2026 Fire and Tornado Insurance appropriations part of the recurring base.

## **PERFORMANCE FUNDING**

- ECU requests an increase in the Performance Funding pool. Overall reform needed.

## **MODEL LAB SCHOOL – ECU Requests \$10,000+ Per Pupil Funding**

- \$4.571M annually in state support for Model Lab. As enrollment grows, per pupil support decreases. In 2023-24, Model received \$6,203 per pupil from the state. Model’s per pupil expenditure was \$13,471, KY’s average per pupil expense: \$19,020.

**THANK YOU!**

**QUESTIONS?**

***EKU***