





University Highlights

- Balanced budget: From \$24M deficit to a balanced FY26 budget
- Enrollment of 15,186 with ~68% undergrad
- First-year student enrollment grew 17%
- Graduate in an average of 4.2 years
- 37% first-generation college students
- 39% Pell-eligible students



University Highlights

NKU = Best Return on Investment

- Recognized as “**BEST VALUE**” by *Wall Street Journal* for 3rd straight year
 - Focuses on how quickly an NKU degree pays for its tuition costs through post-graduation salary
 - NKU ranks 62 out of nearly 600 in nation
 - Only public university in the region and Commonwealth to make the top 100 ranking
- Recipient of Torch Award by SACSCOC
 - Focuses on affordability, quality, accountability, and measurable improvement
 - Only public university in Kentucky to be recognized
- Reducing student debt at graduation
 - Down 36% or \$8,945 over the past 5 years
 - NKU Leads Commonwealth in debt reduction



University Highlights

Workforce Pipeline

- High-producing degree programs tied to regional workforce needs
 - MBA, Nursing, Social Work, Info Tech
- New programs
 - AI, Military & Veteran Leadership
 - Sales Analytics, Supply Chain Analytics
 - Cybersecurity, Cardiovascular Perfusion
 - Life sciences
- Norse Network Hub to meet talent needs
 - Launched Fall of 2025
 - Front door to university for employers
 - Designed to create meaningful connections between students, alumni, employers, and community partners
 - Aim to align student talents with workforce and increase experiential learning at NKU



Budget Request

General Funding Alignment

- Universities receive base/general funding each year
- Amounts are established on historical basis
 - Do not increase/decrease based on enrollment or performance
 - NKU is the newest university in Kentucky

Institution	25/26 Net general fund
WKU	\$70,693,900
EKU	\$63,708,500
NKU	\$53,013,500
Murray St	\$42,428,500
Morehead St	\$36,665,400
KSU	\$19,434,900



Budget Request

General Funding Alignment

- Shift to performance funding-based model in 2016 session
- NKU received an increase of \$5.1 mil to general fund (half of our request)
- Model went live in FY 2018/19
- While NKU does well in the performance funding model, we are still behind because of the general funding disparity
 - Consistently 3rd
 - Model is weighted toward Research 1 institutions and volume change rather than high performance



**Budget
Request**

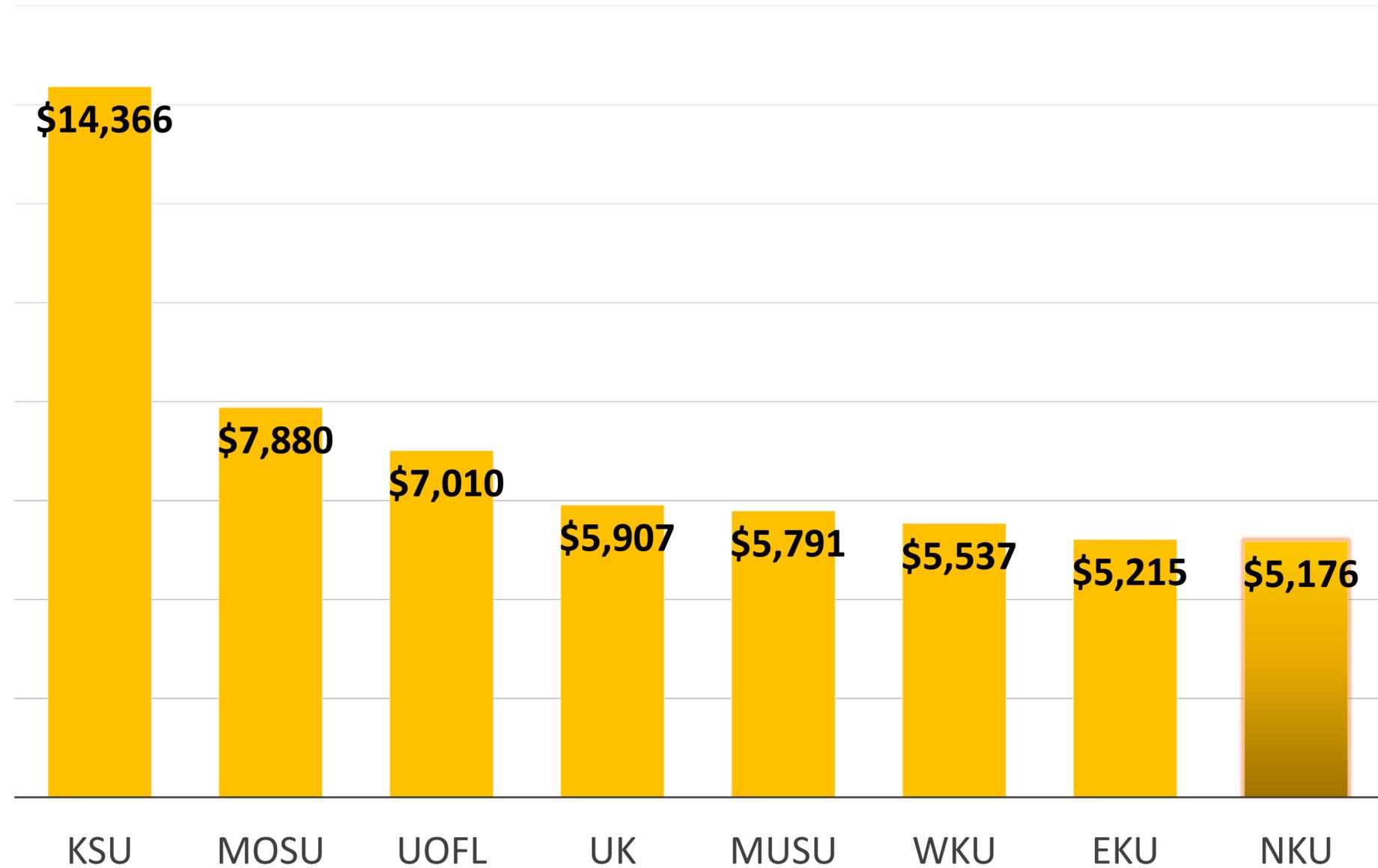
NKU receives the lowest base funding per FTE student

Institution	25/26 Net General fund	Fall 24 FTE Students	Gen fund/FTE
KSU	\$19,343,900	1,347	\$14,366
Morehead St	\$36,665,400	4,653	\$7,880
UofL	\$131,309,900	18,731	\$7,010
UK	\$195,715,200	33,132	\$5,907
Murray St	\$ 42,428,500	7,326	\$5,791
WKU	\$70,693,900	12,766	\$5,537
EKU	\$63,708,500	12,217	\$5,215
NKU	\$53,013,500	10,241	\$5,176



Budget Request

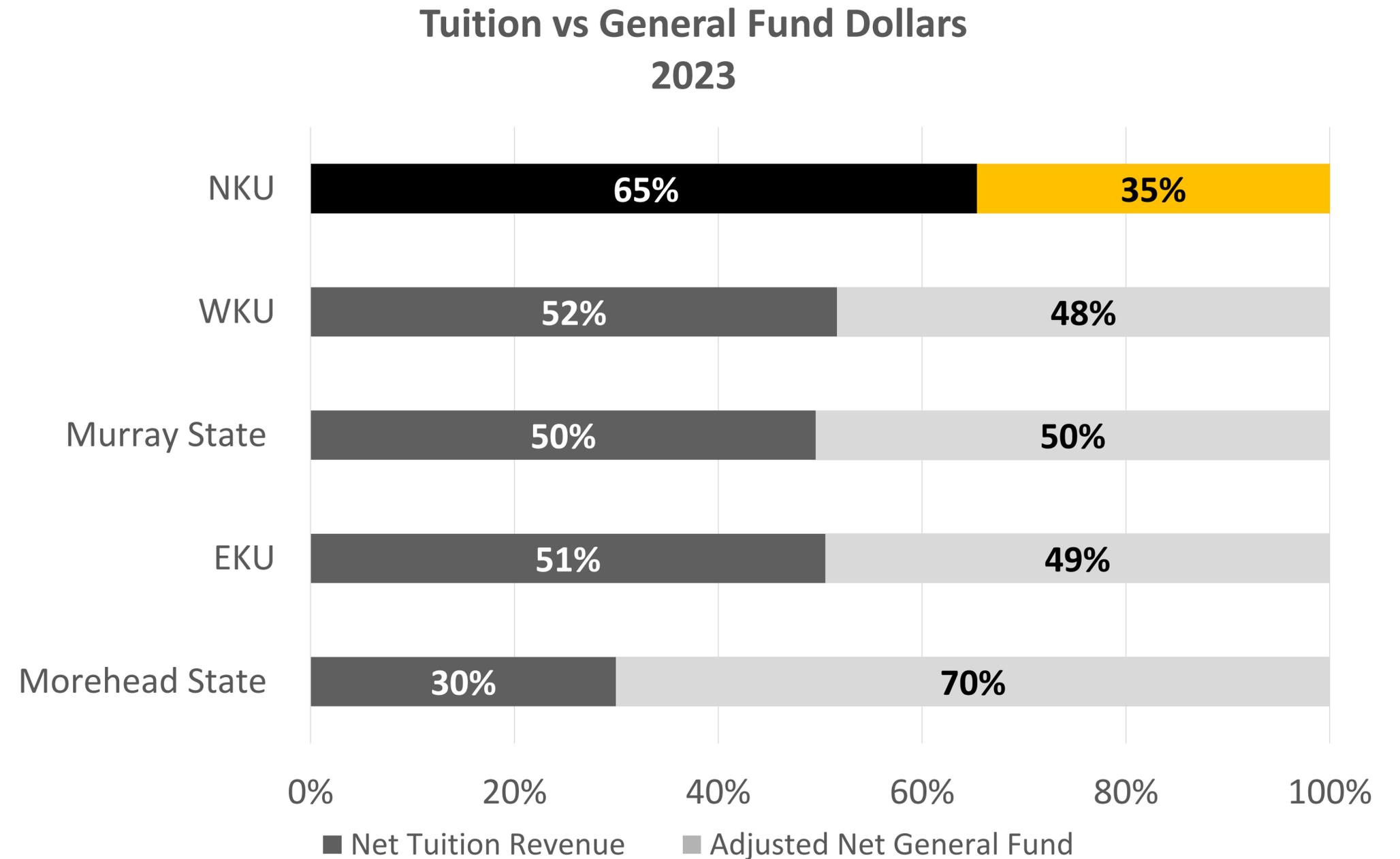
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Budget Request

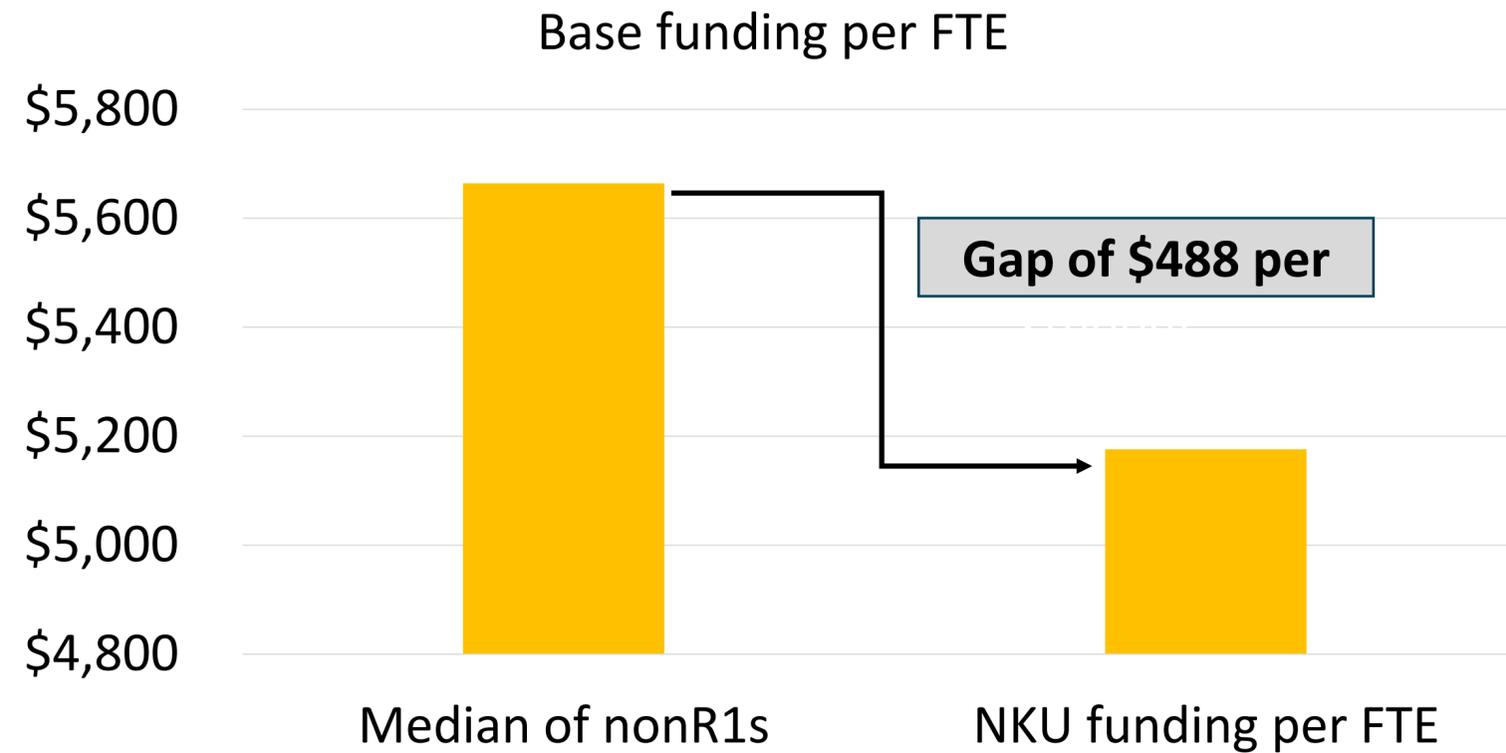
NKU receives the lowest percentage of general funding of all comprehensive universities





Budget Request

Budget request \$5 million in base funding



Statewide FTE median of non R1 institutions	\$5,644
NKU funding per FTE	\$5,174
Gap per student	\$488
NKU – 10,241 FTE multiplied by \$488 gap	\$4,997,608



Budget Priorities

- **State-Mandated Tuition Waivers**
 - Require these waivers to be applied as “last dollar waivers” with state and federal funding applied first.
- **University Debt Collection Services**
 - Require Department of Revenue to reinstate its debt collection services for public universities. Tax liens make the difference in debt collection and improve collection from 12% to 54% (over private collectors).
- **Fire and Tornado Insurance Premium –\$1.9m**
 - Fully fund University’s Fire and Tornado Insurance Premium as the State funds other state agencies and make these appropriations part of university’s recurring base funding.
- **Inflation Adjustments**
 - Maintain state appropriated inflation adjustments for each year of the biennium (CPE requests 4.5% in first year of biennium; 9% in second year of biennium).
- **Performance Funding Model Support**
 - Increase investment in the performance funding pool. CPE has requested an additional \$30m/\$45m be added to pool in FY 26/27 and FY 27/28

- **Asset Preservation Funding**
 - Maintain or increase AP funding
 - Waive matching dollars
 - Provide flexibility on utilization
 - Essential for addressing deferred maintenance



1. Business Academic Center Renovation

- \$150 million in State and \$5 million in private funds over the biennium
- Address infrastructure needs (HVAC, floor issues)
- Full renovation and expand footprint for innovation and entrepreneurship center, and industrial core research facilities for the life sciences in Northern Kentucky.



2. Nunn Hall Renovation

- \$100 million in state and \$5 million in private funds over the biennium
- Space renovation, relocate departments and functions to meet growing programs' needs

3. MEP (Math, Education, Psychology) Renovation

- \$99 million in state funds over the biennium
- Life cycle renewal, space modernization



Thank you!

Questions?

