

University of Kentucky
Mandated Programs

Given the importance of these mandated programs to Kentucky's citizens, we respectfully request that the funding provided in HB 500, as introduced, be restored to the 2025-26 levels. The designation of these non-instructional programs as mandated is also critical as it excludes the General Funds from the state's performance funding model. A brief description of each mandated program follows.

Mandated Programs	2025-26	HB 500	
		2026-27	2027-28
College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service	\$35,420,800	\$34,004,000	\$32,941,300
Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station	31,434,100	30,176,700	29,233,700
Center for Applied Energy Research	10,176,200	9,769,200	9,463,900
Kentucky Geological Survey	4,076,300	3,913,200	3,791,000
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory	4,034,200	3,872,800	3,751,800
Sanders-Brown Center on Aging	2,040,500	1,958,900	1,897,700
College of Agriculture Division of Regulatory Services	1,800,000	1,728,000	1,674,000
College of Agriculture Kentucky Small Business Development Center	600,000	576,000	558,000
University Press of Kentucky	586,300	562,800	545,300
Human Development Institute Supported Higher Education Project	500,000	480,000	465,000
Center of Excellence in Rural Health	450,200	432,200	418,700
Kentucky Cancer Registry	950,200	912,200	883,700
Sports Medicine Research Institute	100,000	96,000	93,000
State Fire and Tornado Fund Insurance Premium	9,944,600	0	0
Total	\$102,113,400	\$88,482,000	\$85,717,100

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College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service

The UK Cooperative Extension Service serves as a link between the counties of the Commonwealth and the University of Kentucky to help people improve their quality of life and build better communities. As part of a Land Grant University, we are guided by the values of learning, discovery, and engagement. The program is operated through the college in partnership with Federal, state, and local governments to bring science directly to the regional and county level. University faculty members, who are disciplinary experts, translate science-based research results into written, verbal, and electronic resources appropriate for targeted audiences. We have agents and support staff working in all 120 counties who serve as local resources. By living and working in communities, county educators are able to rely on local relationships to respond to local needs, build trust, and engage effectively with citizens.

Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station

As the research arm of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station has been providing research results to farmers and rural residents for more than 130 years, applying new knowledge and technology. Experiment station research spans both basic and applied sciences. College researchers have successfully addressed problems of agribusiness, consumers, international trade, food processing, nutrition, community development, soil and water resources, bioenergy, and the environment.

Center for Applied Energy Research

The University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) is committed in excelling as a research and development center with an international reputation, focusing on the optimal use of Kentucky's and the nation's energy resources for the benefit of its people. The Center, through its technology innovation and service to the community, contributes to improving the lives of Kentuckians by creating jobs and economic opportunities; by sustaining vital industries and public services; and by improving energy efficiency and protecting the environment.

Kentucky Geological Survey

The Kentucky Geological Survey is a state supported research center and public resource within the University of Kentucky. Our mission is to support sustainable prosperity of the Commonwealth, the vitality of its flagship university and the welfare of its people. We do this by conducting research and providing unbiased information about geologic resources, environmental issues and natural hazards affecting Kentucky.

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Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

The mission of the UKVDL is to develop and apply state-of-the-art diagnostic methodology to improve animal health and marketability and to protect the public health. Veterinary diagnostic laboratories are the only comprehensive resource in the state for diagnosing diseases in animals and the only means of identifying dozens of zoonotic diseases in animals which can spill over into the human population. This laboratory protects animal health and has the highest caseload in the world for horses and large caseloads for cattle and the state's poultry industry. This laboratory received national acclaim for developing the first syndromic surveillance system for animal health and thus provides an early warning system for infectious disease in food animals and horses. The UKVDL is fully accredited by the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians. An executive order issued by Governor Julian Carroll in 1978 transferred responsibility to the University of Kentucky and Murray State University from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. The UKVDL maintains daily contact and a strong working relationship with the Office of the State Veterinarian in the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Over recent years, the lab has provided veterinary services to 110 of 120 Kentucky counties, 47 US states, and more than 25 countries. UKVDL is a national leader in equine diagnostics. The laboratory receives more horse samples in a month than many labs do in a year. Our veterinary pathologists are recognized leaders of equine pathology and hold various leadership roles in equine organizations. UKVDL has partnered with Lincoln Memorial University College of Veterinary Medicine (LMU-CVM) to train future veterinarians. UKVDL faculty annually instruct all 4th-year LMU veterinary students in veterinary diagnostic pathology. Select faculty also teach clinical pathology courses and mentor summer research scholars. UKVDL has played pivotal roles in the identification, characterization, and diagnosis of nocardiform placentitis, mare reproductive loss syndrome, and, most recently, Type B rotavirus infections in foals, all of which had marked impacts on the local equine industry and economy.

Sanders-Brown Center on Aging

At the University of Kentucky Sanders-Brown Center on Aging (SBCoA) basic and clinical scientists work together to improve the health of older adults in Kentucky and beyond through research dedicated to understanding the aging process and age-related brain diseases. SBCoA provides education, outreach, and clinical programs that promote healthy brain aging. Over the past four decades, SBCoA has flourished and has emerged as one of the nation's leading centers on aging. Major foci of the Center are basic and applied research in Alzheimer's disease and related neurodegenerative disorders.

College of Agriculture Division of Regulatory Services

The Division of Regulatory Services administers four state laws pertaining to regulation and quality of animal feed, fertilizer, seed, and raw milk; samples of these products are collected by certified inspectors and undergo rigorous label review and scientific analysis to guarantee product compliance with Kentucky laws. Additionally, the Division offers two service programs to the public. The Soil Laboratory analyzes soil, manure, and irrigation water to provide guidance to consumers for improving plant vitality and crop yield. The Seed Laboratory offers a variety of germination and purity tests to assist growers in obtaining maximum plant productivity. The Division has a long history of consumer protection service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The original mandate to establish our programs came about in 1886 when Governor Proctor signed "an act to regulate the sale of fertilizers in the Commonwealth, and to protect the agriculturist in the purchase and use of the same," to be administered by the Director of the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station.

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College of Agriculture Kentucky Small Business Development Center

The Kentucky SBDC provides business coaching and training services to help existing business owners and potential entrepreneurs start, grow, and succeed. Services provided include one-on-one business coaching, training workshops, access to market research, loan packaging help, assistance with financial projections, and information needed to make informed business decisions.

University Press of Kentucky

University Press of Kentucky is the statewide nonprofit scholarly publisher for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, serving all Kentucky state-sponsored institutions of higher learning as well as nine private colleges and Kentucky's two major historical societies. University Press of Kentucky publishes approximately 50 books a year. Half of UPK's publications are focused on its scholarly mission and highly focused academic works. The other half are focused on a general interest audience and geared toward larger sales and bookstore events. While UPK is renowned for its publications on Kentucky and Appalachia, it is also highly regarded in film studies and military history.

Human Development Institute Supported Higher Education Project

The mission of the Human Development Institute (HDI) is to build inclusive communities, address inequities and improve the lives of people who experience disabilities. HDI's Supported Higher Education Project provides customized technical assistance and direct support to institutions of higher education to establish or enhance postsecondary programs that advance the academic success and social inclusion of students with intellectual disabilities.

Center of Excellence in Rural Health

The University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health was established by state legislation in 1990 to address health disparities in rural Kentucky and the unique challenges faced by our communities. The mission was and still is today to improve the health and wellbeing of rural Kentuckians. For more than three decades, the Center has partnered with communities, providers, students, and individuals to provide health professions education, health policy research, health care service, and community engagement toward reaching this mission.

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Kentucky Cancer Registry

In 1990, the State General Assembly passed legislation that formally established the Kentucky Cancer Registry (KCR) as the official population-based central cancer registry for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. In 2000, KCR was selected as one of four expansion registries to become part of the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) program. The SEER registries are considered to be among the most accurate and complete population-based cancer registries in the world. KCR is currently a part of both the SEER program and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR). KCR is an active participant in the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR). The data are presented as maps and focus on cancers for which there are scientifically proven cancer control interventions. This process has allowed sub-geographic areas of the state to identify cancer control issues that could not have been seen without a population-based cancer registry and to target their limited resources. The process has resulted in the implementation of many cancer control interventions intended to reduce identified cancer control problems and KCR data continue to be used to monitor the impact of these interventions.

Sports Medicine Research Institute

The Equestrian Athlete Initiative (EqA) advances health in Kentucky through research, community engagement, and education in the horse industry. Support has permitted two faculty positions to describe relationships between physical activity and chronic pain, safety, and injury in horse riders, as well as innovate a decision support tool following injury and concussion. We validated that jockeys effectively maintain stability in their racing position across a race workday, in the face of minimal fluid and calorie intake.

State Fire and Tornado Fund Insurance Premium

The University of Kentucky purchases property insurance from the State Fire & Tornado Fund. Due to the significant number and severity of storms and flooding impacting the Commonwealth in recent years, the premiums for state agencies materially increased. This mandated program provides funding to offset the increased cost for educational and general activities.