Putting Young Kentuckians to Work

Myra Wilson

Cumberlands Workforce

Development Board

Michael Gritton KentuckianaWorks

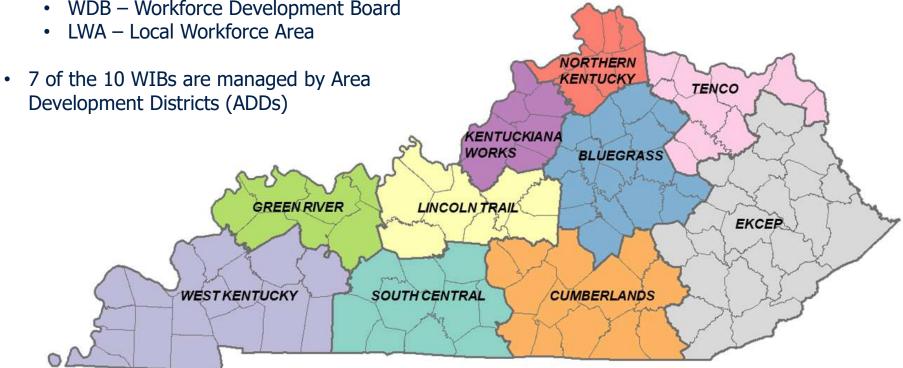
First Point of Business...Thank You!

When we presented to you in the spring, we highlighted a critical gap—no single entity was responsible for helping high school seniors and young adults who were not pursuing postsecondary education find meaningful employment.

Thanks to HB1 funding, the 10 Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) have stepped up to fill this gap. We are proud to report that we are now in a position to help **Put Young Kentuckians to Work**, and we're excited about the impact we can make as we endeavor to meet our goal of more than **3,000 Job Placements** by 2026!

Kentucky has 10 Workforce Boards

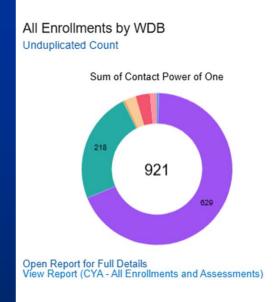
Common acronyms for workforce boards:
WIB – Workforce Investment Board
WDB – Workforce Development Board
LWA – Local Workforce Area

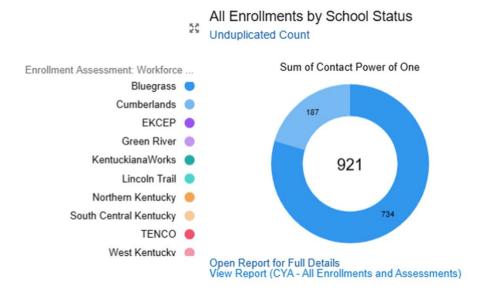


Milestone Timeline

- April Notice of Funding
- July Contract (with the state) Executed
- August MOAs signed with all WDBs and data system launch
- September Placements began…we are slowly gaining momentum!
- November 921 Enrollments to Date!

Enrollment Data





Enrollment Assessment: Attending S...

In School

Out of School

Services at a Glance

- Career exploration
- Employer Outreach
- Job placement assistance
- On-the-Job training
- Short-term occupational skills training
- Supportive services

Meet Jamaure

Jamaure Ennels

- Graduated from High School in 2023.
- His older brother earned his CDL from Hopkinsville Community College and began driving semitrucks, inspiring Jamaure to follow the same path.
- He quickly learned that the West Kentucky
 Workforce Board had funding to help him build a
 better future. Because Jamaure was not in school
 and unemployed, he qualified for the Putting Young
 Kentuckians to Work program.
- Upon earning his CDL, Jamaure secured employment with Walmart Distribution Center in Hopkinsville earning \$26 an hour! He is determined to prove himself to be an excellent employee and excited for his future.



Success Story—Prosper Appalachia

In just three months, **EKCEP** has placed career development specialists in 20 high schools, with **629 seniors currently enrolled** in a variety of activities. The program has also recently completed its first job placement.

Greg Napier, *Principal* **Shelby Valley High School**, states:

"Prosper Appalachia aligns with our mission in terms of being able to provide career counseling to our students. The most important aspect is helping them understand that, while they may not need to choose a specific career right now, they do need to explore career options to better prepare for their future."



Brittany Combs, *Career Development Specialist* assists seniors at **Shelby Valley High School** in Pike County.

On the Horizon...

- Expansion of Opportunities
- Increased Access to Training & Support
- Partnership with Employers
- Focus on Long-Term Impact
- Continued Collaboration with the State

Thank You!

Myra Wilson
Executive Director,
Cumberlands Workforce
Development Board
270.866.7425
myra@lcadd.org

Michael Gritton

Executive Director,
KentuckianaWorks
502.208.2349
michael.gritton@
kentuckianaworks.org