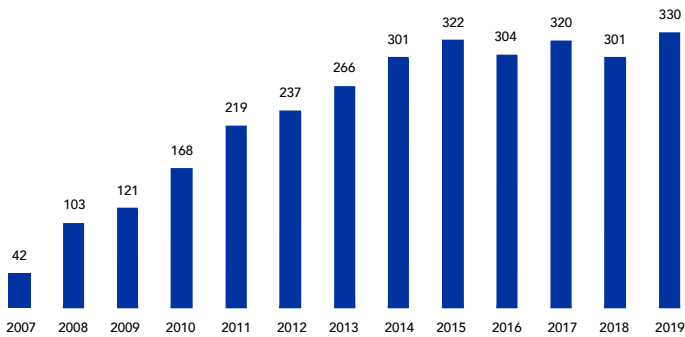


# AG EQUINE PROGRAMS

## Equipping tomorrow's workforce

Top-notch, interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate education, world-class equine research and unmatched service to the equine industry - *all in one place.*

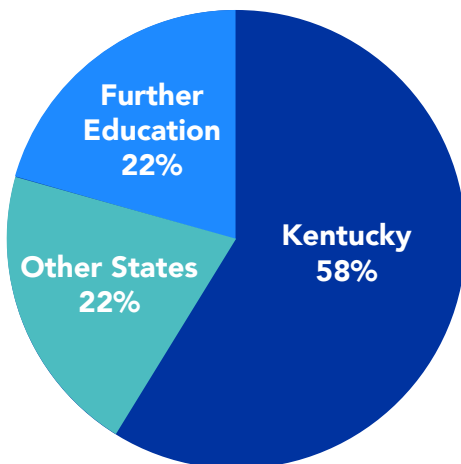
### UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT



- 21% first generation, 2019
- Multiple university and industry partnerships
- 418 total graduates as of April 2019
- Tip of the iceberg for industry needs

Students from Kentucky and across the country enroll at UK to become part of Kentucky's equine industry. Our program is the reverse of a brain drain. Not only are we keeping our 'best and brightest' young citizens within the state, but we are drawing the 'best and brightest' from around the country to Kentucky, and they stay here. There are 418 current alums.

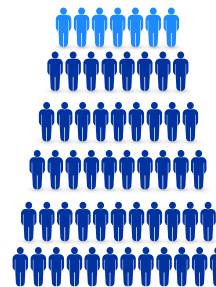
### GRADUATE DESTINATIONS



*In October 2019, UK Ag Equine Programs hosted a career fair for 45 employers and hundreds of students from 10 different universities and five high schools.*

### OUR ALUMNI BECOME:

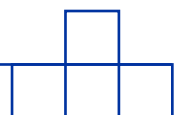
- Educators
- Entrepreneurs
- Sales Managers
- Veterinarians
- Farm Managers
- Marketing Professionals
- Farm Owners
- Tourism Managers



# 88%

*of UK Equine students complete their required internship with a Kentucky employer*

An average of 50 students complete their required internship each year (most do more than one). 88% of these internships are within Kentucky, 11% are out-of-state and less than 1% are international. Primary internship employment areas include riding/training/showing, farm management, equine medical and non-profit associations. 56% of students were employed at equine related jobs while enrolled and worked average of 15 hours per week.



# ANSWERING IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

The University of Kentucky has a long history of exceptional equine service and outreach, elements fundamental to the well-being of Kentucky's signature industry. The importance of research can't be overstated. Research leads to new knowledge. New knowledge helps answer critical questions and advance the discussion. UK has a culture of known **research excellence** with an established track record of innovation and service. Industry-inspired science is its trademark as a land-grant university. The work being done impacts all breeds and disciplines, provides answers for operations big and small and is known world-wide.

UK is a **horse and rider safety knowledge center**, a pillar of excellence established in the last decade. The research being done impacts the safety and well-being of both the equine and human athlete and includes the surfaces they compete on, knowledge about the musculoskeletal science of the horse, equine pharmacology, rider safety and more.

Many issues are being addressed by multidisciplinary teams that include **nutritionists, animal and plant scientists, engineers, microbiologists and veterinarians**. Interdisciplinary teams are studying aspects of equine health, including **infectious diseases, immunology, genomics, reproduction, pharmacology and parasitology**. They are working to understand the role of nutrition and feeding management on the health, growth and longevity of horses and developing nutrition and pasture management practices that improve knowledge of optimal feeding programs and optimal production schemes. Environmental stewardship and optimizing facilities are also an area of interest.

## EQUINE'S ECONOMIC IMPACT\*

Kentucky's equine industry had a total economic impact of almost **\$3 billion** in 2012, generating 40,665 jobs. Tax contribution of the equine industry to Kentucky was approximately \$134 million. The state is home to 242,400 horses and the total value of Kentucky's equine and equine-related assets is estimated at **\$23.4 billion**. The survey identified **35,000 equine operations** and **1.1 million acres** devoted to equine use.



Photos from UK Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

## UK RESEARCH IMPACTS KENTUCKY

UK's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is one of the busiest state diagnostic laboratories in North America with more than *50,000 case submissions* each year. The laboratory also partners with Breathit Laboratory and Kentucky's State Veterinarian.

Kentucky 4-H Horse Program is **one of the largest 4-H horse programs** in the nation with more than 4,500 youth.

Several programs are in place to conduct adult education in all counties, teaching producers and horse owners. Some of the results include helping farms make improvements through **federal cost share programs**. Case in point: faculty and staff within UK's Horse Pasture Evaluation Program are helping state equine producers connect with National Resource Conservation Service through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

UK operates statewide veterinary outreach efforts through **extension programs and free clinics** in underserved counties.

## EQUINE ACREAGE ACROSS KENTUCKY\*



Rounding out the top ten are: Oldham (21,000), Grayson (18,900), Warren (18,700), Boone (16,500) and Carter (16,400)

