

1 AN ACT relating to relating to research doctoral programs at Western Kentucky
2 University.

3 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

4 ➔Section 1. KRS 164.295 is amended to read as follows:

- 5 (1) The six (6) state comprehensive universities:
- 6 (a) Shall provide, upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education,
7 associate and baccalaureate programs of instruction;
- 8 (b) Shall provide, upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education,
9 graduate programs of instruction at the master's-degree level in education,
10 business, and the arts and sciences, specialist degrees, and programs beyond
11 the master's-degree level to meet the requirements for teachers, school
12 leaders, and other certified personnel; and
- 13 (c) Shall provide research and service programs directly related to the needs of
14 their primary geographical areas.
- 15 (2) A comprehensive university may provide:
- 16 (a) Programs of a community college nature in their own community comparable
17 to those listed for the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, as
18 provided in KRS 164.580;
- 19 (b) Upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education, an advanced
20 practice doctoral program in nursing in compliance with KRS 314.111 and
21 314.131; and
- 22 (c) Upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education, one (1) or more
23 additional advanced practice doctoral programs.
- 24 (3) The Council on Postsecondary Education, in consultation with the Advisory
25 Conference of Presidents pursuant to KRS 164.021, shall develop criteria and
26 conditions upon which an advanced practice doctoral degree program may be
27 approved. The criteria shall include but not be limited to a determination of the

1 academic and workforce needs for a program, consideration of whether the program
2 can be effectively delivered through a collaborative effort with an existing program
3 at another public university within the Commonwealth, and the capacity of a
4 university to effectively offer the program. A university requesting approval of an
5 advanced practice doctoral program shall be required to provide assurance that
6 funding for the program will not impair funding of any existing program at any
7 other public university.

8 (4) The council shall promulgate administrative regulations setting forth the agreed-on
9 criteria and conditions identified under subsection (3) of this section.

10 (5) The council shall review advanced practice doctorates consistent with its review
11 schedule for all other academic programs.

12 (6) A comprehensive university shall not:

13 (a) Offer the terminal degrees of Doctor of Philosophy or Doctor of Musical Arts;
14 doctor's degrees required for professional practice and licensure in medicine,
15 veterinary medicine, chiropractic, dentistry, pharmacy, law, or optometry; or
16 the primary degree required for professional practice and licensure in
17 architecture. The existing school of law at Northern Kentucky University is
18 exempted from the requirements of this paragraph and Western Kentucky
19 University may offer up to five (5) research doctoral degree programs,
20 including but not limited to Doctor of Philosophy degree programs, in areas
21 that the council determines directly affect the workforce and economy of
22 Kentucky; or

23 (b) Describe itself in official publications or in marketing materials as a research
24 university or research institution. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed
25 as precluding a comprehensive university from conducting basic, applied, or
26 translational research.