

TITLE: Update on Kentucky's Adult Learner Initiatives

DESCRIPTION: The Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee received an update on CPE's work toward the adult learner initiatives identified in the action plan released in September of 2022.

PRESENTERS: Karyn Hoover, Chair of the ASI Committee

COMMITTEE'S REVIEW

The Academic and Strategic Initiatives Committee received this information update at their September 11, 2023, meeting. It will not be covered or presented in detail at the September 19 board meeting; however, staff will be available for questions. A copy of the slides presented are included in your materials.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

In September of 2022, CPE released a new report titled, [*Moving Up: An Action Plan to Improve Economic Opportunity for Kentucky Adults Through Lifelong Learning*](#). The report discussed the need to engage adults in postsecondary opportunities to create greater economic opportunity and social mobility for more Kentuckians.

The report was the result of a year-long effort that brought together a team of state and national experts to recommend action steps to advance this important work. The action steps identified fell under three main headings (Accessibility, Institutional Change, and Partnerships) and were categorized as occurring now (in progress or within six months), next (to be undertaken over the next 12-18 months), and later (action steps needing further collaboration and refinement, occurring in the next two to three years).

The report also identified a priority population for future action. This priority population:

- is between the ages of 25-39, when adults typically are most interested in career advancement or retraining.
- is not currently enrolled in postsecondary education.
- has completed high school or some college but no credential. (Adults with no high school diploma have a longer onramp to postsecondary education, and adults pursuing a second credential do not move the needle on statewide educational attainment.)
- is living below 200% of the national poverty level, making less than a living wage.

Since the adoption of the report, staff have begun work on some of the identified initiatives. CPE's Amanda Johannsen will provide an update on this work and discuss next steps for the state.

A copy of the report can be found at: <http://cpe.ky.gov/data/reports/2022adultlearnerplan.pdf>.