



BY THE NUMBERS:

KCTCS Celebrated Transfer Week in October



13,661

THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS, INCLUDING DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS, WHO TRANSFERRED FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO A FOUR-YEAR UNIVERSITY LAST YEAR.

OF THE 3,777

ASSOCIATE DEGREE EARNERS WHO TRANSFERRED TO A UNIVERSITY IN 2019-20 TO EARN A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE, 57% HAD COMPLETED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE WITHIN FOUR YEARS.

74.4%

OF STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM COMMUNITY COLLEGE WITHOUT LOANS.

Turning inmates into students: KCTCS awards 4,460 GEDs over 5 years

4,460. That's the number of incarcerated individuals who earned a GED through the Kentucky Community and Technical College System from 2020-2024. And during the same period, enrollments in the GED prep classes, taught by the colleges' adult education instructors, grew to 14,441.

"When we say KCTCS is education for all, that's exactly what we mean. Supporting those who lack a high school diploma is a key priority for our state and workforce," said KCTCS

President Ryan Quarles, who was recently appointed to the Governor's Council of Second Chance Employers. "Everyone benefits if these individuals reenter our communities and the workforce with a credential that will help them build better lives for themselves and their families."

Fourteen KCTCS colleges are service providers for Kentucky Adult Education, the state agency that administers the GED program. Classes are held at county jails and prisons.

KCTCS forensic audit calls for improving internal policies, procedures, staff training

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System received the results of a forensic audit, marking a significant milestone for KCTCS. President Ryan Quarles and his quest to improve and advance the system to serve more Kentuckians and employers.

Conducted externally by KPMG, the audit found no fraud or criminal behavior. However, the report called for the improvement of internal policies, procedures and staff training to ensure proper implementation.

"I was hired to fix KCTCS and that's exactly what I'm doing," said Quarles, who took the helm in January after the call for the forensic audit.

"This deep dive into our finances, policies and procedures resulted in numerous recommendations that will help us achieve greater efficiency

and responsiveness across-the-board. I appreciate the recommendations and look forward to their thorough implementation."

Ahead of the audit, Quarles launched a high priority review of all the system's policies and procedures, including those pertaining to finances as part of SJR 179, a joint resolution directing KCTCS to report findings and actions to improve the system.

The forensic audit was the final step called for in a special examination report issued by the state auditor's office nearly a year ago. All other findings from that examination have been cured. Next steps are to finalize the review of the recommendations for internal policies and procedures, properly implement the procedures, and provide adequate training to all staff.



KCTCS welcomes new, returning members to Board of Regents

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System welcomed four new members and two returning members to its Board of Regents at a meeting today in Versailles.

Tiffany Kelley-Jenkins was appointed to the board by Gov. Andy Beshear in September. She is president of Kelley Manufacturing, Inc. in Louisville. She will serve through Sept. 2, 2030.

In staff elections, Raeanne Powers, human resources development partner at Bluegrass Community and Technical College, was selected as the occupational, technical staff regent. They also elected Ryan Hall, director of adult education at Owensboro Community and Technical College, as the general education regent. Terms are for three years.

Students elected Robert Higdon of Hazard to fill an open seat with a one-year term. He is a student at Hazard Community and Technical College.

Faculty re-elected Brianna Sanders Whitten of Mt. Olivet as the general education faculty regent. She teaches English at Maysville Community and Technical College.

Faculty also returned Marty Sutherland of Elizabethtown to serve as the occupational, technical education faculty regent. Sutherland is a professor of engineering and electronics technology at Elizabethtown Community and Technical College. Faculty regents also serve three-year terms.

KCTCS celebrates Manufacturing Month with more grads, TRAINS funding to directly support industry sector

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System celebrated Manufacturing Month during October in recognition of students, alumni, faculty, and the many business partners contributing to the state's manufacturing growth.

As one of Kentucky's five targeted industry sectors, advanced manufacturing is growing in popularity at KCTCS whose graduates are helping provide the skilled talent vital to the workforce that powers the rapidly growing sector.

Across the system last year, the colleges graduated more than twice as many advanced manufacturing graduates than they did in 2016-2017. Since that time, nearly 16,000 students have earned advanced manufacturing credentials and degrees.

Last year, the top three programs in the sector were welding technology

with 1,942 graduates, followed by industrial maintenance technology with 937 graduates, and engineering and electronics technology with 350 graduates.

In addition to educating the future manufacturing workforce, KCTCS' Workforce Solutions prioritizes state needs by investing in manufacturing companies through the state-funded TRAINS program. Last year, the system invested \$3.7 million in 156 manufacturing companies and provided customized solutions to 247 companies.

TRAINS has been shown to offset the cost of training for companies by up to 75%.

KCTCS, Indiana Wesleyan University partner for seamless transfer to bachelor's degrees

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System and Indiana Wesleyan University have signed a new transfer agreement that will help more KCTCS graduates earn a bachelor's degree. By combining the strengths and resources of both institutions, KCTCS and IWU aim to make a bachelor's degree more accessible and attainable for students desiring to earn their degree at a reputable institution online.

Through this partnership, students will begin their academic journey at a KCTCS college of their choice, where they will complete their associate degree. Credits earned during the associate degree program will transfer seamlessly to IWU online where KCTCS graduates will receive a 15% tuition discount for most four-year degree programs. Graduates requiring RN-BSN courses will receive a \$250 preferred credit hour rate.

IWU intends to create a seamless transfer experience by providing community, support and flexibility so students can comfortably complete their degrees at an accelerated pace.

