



WORK READY KENTUCKY SCHOLARSHIP

2019–2020 Annual Report



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Introduction and Program History

The Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship (WRKS) was established by KRS 164.787 in June 2019 as an extension of a similar program first started by an Executive Order. The purpose of WRKS, as expressed in the first section of the statute is “to ensure that all Kentuckians who have not yet earned a postsecondary degree have affordable access to an industry-recognized certificate, diploma, or associate of applied science degree” [Section (1)]. The goal is to increase workforce participation rates by expanding the number of skilled, competitive workers in sectors of the Kentucky economy deemed to be in the highest need and fastest labor force growth areas. These high-demand workforce sectors for the 2019-2020 year were:

- Advanced Manufacturing,
- Business and Information Technology,
- Construction,
- Healthcare, and
- Transportation and Logistics.

WRKS provides financial aid resources for Kentuckians who have not yet earned an associate or higher degree in order to make the cost to individuals pursuing credentials in high-demand areas more affordable and thereby opening access to industry-recognized credentials to more people.

The WRKS scholarship amount is designed to pay for the difference in cost between an eligible student’s tuition and fees (less federal and state student aid), but not to exceed the in-state tuition and fees rate for full-time enrollment at the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS). The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) administers the program in collaboration with the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet and the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education.

The program had been operating under Executive Order since funding was initially appropriated in 2016. A number of changes have been made since that time to expand the eligible programs of study to include Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degrees, base renewal eligibility for recipients on their satisfactory academic progress as determined by their postsecondary institution, and to make funds available to high school students who are enrolled in dual credit coursework as part of an approved Career and Technical Education pathway.

The portion of the WRKS program dedicated to high school students, referred to as the Work Ready Dual Credit program (WKDC) operates under a different award structure, with award amounts limited to a per credit hour maximum that cannot exceed one-third of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System in-state tuition rate, or \$58 per credit hour for the 2019-2020 year. High school students, grades 9-12, are eligible for up to two paid courses per year under the WKDC program.

Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship – Overview

Table 1 summarizes WRKS and WKDC program funds disbursed, the number of individuals receiving those funds and the number of postsecondary credit hours earned for the 2019-2020 academic year. The table lists the postsecondary Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship and the secondary school Work Ready Dual Credit program separately. WRKS accounted for approximately 77% of the Work Ready funds in 2019-2020, where 3,406 individuals earned an average of 17.8 college credit hours. Typically, an associate degree requires 60 credit hours, but the industry recognized diplomas and certificates have much more variable credit hour requirements, some requiring a few as 6 credit hours. High school students participating in the Work Ready Dual Credit program are eligible for two career and technical education dual credit courses per academic year. The near 11,000 high school students that participated in the WKDC program in 2019-2020 earned slightly more than 4 credit hours per person, on average.

Table 1
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship
Annual Summary
2019-2020

	Total Disbursed	Unduplicated Recipients	Credit Hours Earned
Dual Credit (WKDC)	\$ 2,580,717	10,994	44,532
Postsecondary (WRKS)	\$ 8,600,549	3,406	59,219
TOTAL	\$11,181,266	14,400	103,751

Table 2 compares three years of WRKS program activity as it relates to the postsecondary portion of the program. The number of eligible student recipients increased nearly 88% the second year and slightly more than 52% the third year. The number of credit hours earned increased by 57% in the second year and 47% in the third year. The total disbursed amount nearly doubled (96.6%) in year two and increased by another 52% in year three. Much of this growth can be attributed to students pursuing AAS degree programs following the inclusion of those eligible programs of study with the 2018-2019 year. These rates of increase were expected as the program became more widely known amongst eligible college-going populations.

Table 2
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship
By Year of Administration
Postsecondary Program Only

Academic Year	Total Amount Disbursed	Total Recipients (Unduplicated)	Credit Hours Earned
2017-2018	\$ 2,880,881	1,194	25,702
2018-2019	\$ 5,662,645	2,240	40,352
2019-2020	\$ 8,600,549	3,406	59,219

WRKS postsecondary utilization declined slightly between the fall 2019 and spring 2020 academic terms (Table 3), with the clear, but narrow majority of disbursed amounts, students, and credit hours occurring in the fall semester. This fall to spring semester pattern is commonly observed in many postsecondary student financial aid programs. It is generally a hallmark of a program that is reaching operational maturity and no longer on the rapid, exponential growth of a newly initiated program.

Table 3
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship
Summary by Academic Term
2019-2020

Academic Term	WRKS Disbursed	Percent Disbursed	Total Recipients	Percent Recipients	Credit Hours Earned	Percent Credit Hours
Fall 2019	\$ 4,400,971	51.2%	2,580	75.7%	30,137	50.9%
Spring 2020	\$ 4,199,578	48.8%	2,466	72.4%	29,082	49.1%

WRKS Cross-Sectional Analyses

Approximately \$7.64 million in WRKS disbursements (88.8% of the total) were made on behalf of 3,063 students (89.9% of all recipients) to Kentucky's 16 public two-year community and technical institutions during the 2019-2020 academic year - i.e., Kentucky Community and Technical College System institutions (Table 4). Approximately \$870,000 in program disbursements (10.1%) were made to Kentucky private, not-for-profit colleges and universities on behalf of 9.4% of program recipients. Kentucky's public four-year universities and all private and proprietary (2-year and 4-year) colleges and schools, which comprised only six WRKS institutions in total, each received less than 1% of WRKS disbursements for a combined total of 0.7% of WRKS recipients. Table 7 details these statistics for each specific institution.

Table 4
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship
Postsecondary Summary by Institutional Sector
2019-2020

Institution	Total Applicants	Unduplicated Recipients	Year Total Disbursed	Year Total Credit Hours	Fall 2019 Disbursed	Fall 2019 Credit Hours	Spring 2019 Disbursed	Spring 2019 Credit Hours
TOTAL All Institutions	8,678	3,406	\$ 8,600,549	59,219	\$ 4,400,971	30,137	\$ 4,199,578	29,082
Public 4-year	310	2	\$ 4,996	26	\$ 1,224	6	\$ 3,772	20
Public 2-year	7,518	3,063	\$ 7,645,397	54,627	\$ 3,904,928	27,569	\$ 3,740,469	27,058
Private 4-year	627	321	\$ 871,277	4,057	\$ 471,762	2,399	\$ 399,515	1,646
Proprietary 4-year	194	8	\$ 19,638	122	\$ 8,010	47	\$ 11,628	75
Proprietary 2-year	29	12	\$ 59,241	399	\$ 15,047	116	\$ 44,194	283

Students' dependency status¹, as determined by the U.S. Department of Education on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), is strongly associated with the number of students receiving disbursements, the aggregate amount of disbursed funds, and the number of work ready credits earned. The WRKS scholarship is open to both dependent and independent students. Physical and temporal proximity to postsecondary education institutions likely provided dependent students relatively greater access to information about the WRKS program at least initially, resulting in a 50% greater dependent student utilization rate during the fall term (Table 5; 1,547 dependent students versus 1,033 independent students). In other words, there were 1.5 dependent students receiving WRKS benefits for each independent student. Not only were dependent students enrolling in greater absolute numbers, but their enrollment intensity - as measured by the average number of credit hours earned - was almost twice (98.9%) that of independent students. The ratio was 1.99 credit hours earned for dependent students for each credit hour earned by independent students. There were similar relationships between the number of dependent and independent students and the number of credit hours each group earned during the spring semester, however the magnitude these differences between groups was much smaller. The change is predominantly evident in the reduction for dependent students in both number of students and credit hours earned; whereas the number of independent students was relatively constant between the fall and spring semesters and the total number of earned credit hours increased slightly.

¹ "Dependent" students are those less than 25 years of age and commonly perceived as "traditional" college students pursuing postsecondary education immediately or within a short time, after high school graduation. "Independent" students are 25 years of age or older and are often characterized as "returning adult students."

Table 5
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship
Summary by Academic Term and Dependency Status
Academic Year 2019-2020

	Disbursed	Recipients	Credit Hours Earned
Fall Term	\$ 4,440,971	2,580	30,137
Dependent	\$ 2,735,313	1,547	20,053
Percent	62.2%	60.0%	66.5%
Independent	\$ 1,665,658	1,033	10,084
Percent	37.8%	40.0%	33.5%
Spring Term	\$ 4,199,578	2,466	29,082
Dependent	\$ 2,513,493	1,455	18,754
Percent	59.9%	59.0%	64.5%
Independent	\$ 1,686,085	1,011	10,328
Percent	40.1%	41.0%	35.5%
Academic Year Total	\$ 8,600,549	3,406	59,219
Dependent	\$ 5,248,806	1,873	38,807
Percent	61.1%	55.0%	65.5%
Independent	\$ 3,351,743	1,533	20,412
Percent	38.9%	45.0%	34.5%

Dependent students, owing largely to better and more current information about WRKS in high school, will likely always skew the utilization statistics toward this group. Similarly, independent students who are likely already in the workforce and taking advantage of the WRKS program to increase the value of their human capital can be expected to post more consistent numbers from one semester to the next.

The primary goal of the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship program is to increase the number of individuals with industry-recognized credentials who are trained and ready to enter the workforce in five high-demand work sectors identified by the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board (see page 1).

Analysis of 2019-2020 WRKS utilization by workforce sector (Table 6) shows the greatest number of students were in the Healthcare sector ($n= 1,410$, 41.3%), followed by Business & IT ($n= 776$, 22.8%) and Advanced Manufacturing ($n=742$, 21.8%). WRKS application data shows that approximately two out of five applicants enrolled in a qualifying program and received a disbursement.

Table 6
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship
Credentials Sought by Workforce Sector
2019-2020

Workforce Sector	Credential Sought	Total Applications	WRKS Recipients (Unduplicated)	Fall 2019 Disbursed	Fall 2019 Credit Hours	Spring 2020 Disbursed	Spring 2020 Credit Hours
ALL TOTAL		8,678	3,406	\$ 4,400,971	30,137	\$ 4,199,578	29,082
Advanced Manufacturing		1,435	742	\$ 1,116,636	8,208	\$ 1,086,289	7,907
	AAS Degree	626	374	\$ 588,169	4,244	\$ 610,005	4,402
	Certificate	456	177	\$ 232,525	1,841	\$ 210,737	1,613
	Diploma	363	191	\$ 295,942	2,123	\$ 265,547	1,892
Business and IT		2,021	776	\$ 1,015,172	6,847	\$ 886,804	6,272
	AAS Degree	1,019	438	\$ 639,160	4,392	\$ 536,852	3,877
	Certificate	905	321	\$ 352,875	2,304	\$ 333,572	2,281
	Diploma	97	17	\$ 23,137	151	\$ 16,380	114
Construction		610	284	\$ 410,347	3,046	\$ 448,298	3,281
	AAS Degree	223	125	\$ 185,660	1,392	\$ 199,029	1,453
	Certificate	159	67	\$ 77,471	571	\$ 91,370	708
	Diploma	228	92	\$ 147,216	1,083	\$ 157,899	1,120
Healthcare		4,197	1,410	\$ 1,578,728	10,001	\$ 1,535,176	9,799
	AAS Degree	2,145	698	\$ 814,025	5,803	\$ 834,628	6,126
	Certificate	1,635	631	\$ 663,188	3,447	\$ 560,904	2,698
	Diploma	417	81	\$ 101,515	751	\$ 139,644	975
Transportation and Logistics		415	194	\$ 280,088	2,035	\$ 243,011	1,812
	AAS Degree	177	94	\$ 140,536	1,001	\$ 125,866	936
	Certificate	146	53	\$ 62,975	422	\$ 57,650	406
	Diploma	92	47	\$ 76,577	612	\$ 59,495	470

The WRKS program assists students pursuing an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree, a diploma, or a certificate in one of the five high demand workforce sectors. One half or more of the students pursuing Business & IT and Healthcare programs of study declared their intention to seek an AAS degree; while very nearly 50% of Advanced Manufacturing and Transportation & Logistics students declared a similar intention. 44% of students pursuing credentials in Construction were pursuing an AAS degree. Business & IT and Healthcare students' second most frequent declared credential were certificates by margins of 8:1 over diplomas. Non-AAS Advanced Manufacturing, Construction and Transportation & Logistics students were relatively evenly divided between certificates and diplomas. In general, the trend for students to increasingly prefer to pursue AAS degrees over other credentials is a very recent shift from previous years, where the proportion of students pursuing AAS degrees in all sectors was below 50%.

Differences in utilization rates, as measured by earned credit hours, between the fall and spring semesters generally tended to be negative for most credentials across workforce sectors, with three notable exceptions;

1. Advanced Manufacturing AAS degree seekers: 4,244 to 4,402, or + 3.6% from fall to spring;
2. Healthcare AAS degree seekers: 5,803 to 6,126, or + 5.6% from fall to spring.
3. Construction, all categories of credential seekers combined: 3,046 to 3,281 or + 7.2% from fall to spring.

Spring enrollments and disbursements overall, in aggregate decreased from the fall term to the spring -4.8% in total disbursements and -3.6% in earned credit hours. It was only the aggregate Construction sector which showed a positive change between the fall and spring disbursement.

WRKS Activity by Institution

The final level of analysis for the 2019-2020 Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship program is by postsecondary institution. Recall that tuition and fee payments allowed by the WRKS program were statutorily established relative to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) rate and WRKS-eligible postsecondary credentials eligible to be sought are at or below the Associate of Applied Sciences degree, therefore it reasonably may be anticipated that the vast preponderance of enrolled students (86.7% of applications [$n=7,518$] and 89.2% of enrollments [$n=2,857$]), course credit hours earned ($n=54,627$, 92.2%), and WRKS disbursed funds (88.8%, \$7,645,397) were at KCTCS institutions (Table 7).

Campbellsville University and the University of the Cumberlands, the only two private not-for-profit four-year institutions, accounted for 7.2% of applications [$n=627$] and 10.0% of enrollments [$n=321$]), 13.5% of course credit hours earned ($n=4,045$), and 19.8% of WRKS funds disbursed (\$871,562).

One public four-year institution (Eastern Kentucky University) plus three proprietary WRKS institution (Galen College, Sullivan University and MedQuest) accounted for the remaining 0.69% of enrolled students ($n=20$), earned credit hours ($n=521$), and remaining \$78,879 in WRKS funding.

Table 7
Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship
Summary by Institution and Academic Term
2019-2020

Institution	Total Applicants	Unduplicated Recipients	Fall 2019 Disbursed	Fall 2019 Credit Hours	Spring 2019 Disbursed	Spring 2019 Credit Hours
Public 4-year						
Eastern Kentucky University	68	2	\$ 1,224	6	\$ 3,772	20
Northern Kentucky University	29	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0
University of Kentucky	86	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0
Western Kentucky University	127	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0
Public 2-year						
KCTCS - Ashland	395	208	\$ 282,361	2,059	\$ 269,819	2,005
KCTCS - Big Sandy	246	118	\$ 153,416	1,146	\$ 157,997	1,239
KCTCS - Bluegrass	809	256	\$ 347,408	2,347	\$ 376,694	2,535
KCTCS - Elizabethtown	917	490	\$ 607,222	4,365	\$ 614,703	4,421
KCTCS - Gateway	793	411	\$ 530,977	3,342	\$ 500,054	3,285
KCTCS - Hazard	282	121	\$ 147,520	1,004	\$ 132,838	1,009
KCTCS - Henderson	63	19	\$ 22,424	145	\$ 17,504	131
KCTCS - Hopkinsville	127	27	\$ 42,380	285	\$ 26,191	188
KCTCS - Jefferson	911	278	\$ 355,159	2,320	\$ 333,813	2,309
KCTCS - Madisonville	385	171	\$ 191,824	1,315	\$ 197,565	1,465
KCTCS - Maysville	359	126	\$ 159,880	1,192	\$ 151,165	1,140
KCTCS - Owensboro	605	306	\$ 437,687	3,165	\$ 359,025	2,700
KCTCS - Somerset	522	207	\$ 232,924	1,848	\$ 203,969	1,671
KCTCS - Southcentral	481	151	\$ 193,531	1,447	\$ 188,161	1,379
KCTCS - Southeast	263	53	\$ 38,224	409	\$ 45,577	373
KCTCS - West KY	360	123	\$ 161,991	1,180	\$ 165,394	1,208
Private 4-year						
Campbellsville University	585	314	\$ 465,829	2,320	\$ 393,806	1,577
Spalding University	4	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0
University of the Cumberlands	38	7	\$ 5,933	79	\$ 5,709	69
Proprietary 4-year						
Galen College of Nursing	71	3	\$ 1,759	10	\$ 2,836	14
Sullivan University	123	5	\$ 6,251	37	\$ 8,792	61
Proprietary 2-year						
MedQuest College	29	12	\$ 15,047	116	\$ 44,194	283

Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship - Overview

The Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship (WKDC) marked its second year of administration with the 2019-2020 year. WKDC functioned separately from the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship (WRKS) but was also a conceptual extension of the original WRKS targeted program. WKDC provides financial assistance for up to two dual credit courses per academic year taken by high school students as part of Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathway approved by the Kentucky Department of Education. Table 8 compares WKDC activity for the first two years of program administration.

Table 8
Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship
By Year of Administration

Academic Year	Total Recipients (Unduplicated)	Credit Hours Earned	Total Amount Disbursed
2018-2019	4,821	18,313	\$ 1,023,732
2019-2020	10,994	44,532	\$ 2,580,717

Table 9 displays summary information on the number of students, courses, earned credit hours, and total funds disbursed through the WKDC program in academic year 2019-2020.

Table 9
Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship
Summary by Academic Term
2019-2020

Academic Term	Recipients	Courses & Labs Paid	Credit Hours Earned	Total Amount Disbursed
Fall	7,174	8,811	25,650	\$ 1,486,327
Spring	5,577	6,410	18,882	\$ 1,094,390
TOTAL	12,751	15,221	44,532	\$ 2,580,717

On the surface, fall to spring WKDC utilization exhibits approximately one quarter decline across all four measures. The number of students declined 22.1%; the number of courses and labs declined by 27.3%; the number of credit hours earned declined by 26.4%; and, total program funds disbursed declined by 26.4% from the fall semester to the spring semester. However, these utilization figures accurately reflect how courses are being offered to students, with the majority in the fall term, including yearlong courses that are attached to the fall term due to postsecondary billing processes. Compared to the previous year, all of these figures represent a decline in the fall to spring changes, where the percentage fall-off from the fall semester to the spring semester was closer to one third.

Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship – Cross-Sectional Analyses

Students receiving awards under the Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship program attended Kentucky's public 4-year and 2-year institutions and private, not-for-profit 4-year colleges and universities. Kentucky Community and Technical College System institutions accounted for 81.6% of all WKDC student enrollments and 83.2% of WKDC earned credit hours. This was primarily due to the career and technical dual credit course offerings that were in existence through KCTCS when the WKDC program began. Public 4-year universities accounted for 15.7% of student recipients and 14.5% of earned credit hours. Private 4-year institutions, accounted for 339 WKDC students (2.5% of the total) and 2.3% (1,055) of earned credit hours. These ratios between postsecondary sectors are consistent for number of courses and WKDC disbursed funds and relatively consistent for breakdowns by academic term. On average each WKDC student enrolled in 1.2 courses and earned 4.0 credit hours in 2019-2020.

Table 10
Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship
Summary by Postsecondary Sector
2019-2020

	Recipients	Number Courses & Labs	Year Total Disbursed	Year Total Credit Hours	Fall 2019 Disbursed	Fall 2019 Credit Hours	Spring 2020 Disbursed	Spring 2020 Credit Hours
TOTAL All Institutions	12,751	15,221	\$ 2,580,717	44,532	\$1,486,327	25,650	\$1,094,390	18,882
Public 4-year	2,007	2,123	\$ 363,555	6,290	\$ 174,017	3,012	\$ 189,538	3,278
Public 2-year	10,405	12,759	\$ 2,158,992	37,227	\$ 1,275,188	21,989	\$ 883,804	15,238
Private 4-year	339	339	\$ 58,170	1,015	\$ 37,122	649	\$ 21,048	366

Examining the distribution of WKDC students, courses and disbursed funds within each sector (Table 11) shows a significant amount of variation among the individual colleges and universities. Murray State University enrolled almost one-half (49.3%) of all WKDC students at public 4-year institutions during 2019-2020 with the University of Louisville being second at 17.9%. Kentucky State University, Western Kentucky University, and Northern Kentucky University each enrolled between 8 - 10.6% of public 4-year WKDC students. Eastern Kentucky University and Morehead State University each had slightly less than 3.5%. The percentages for number of courses, credit hours earned, and disbursed dollars all closely mirrored the distribution of students.

KCTCS institutions enrolled five times the number of students (81.6% of the statewide WKDC enrollment) that were enrolled in WKDC at the public 4-year institutions. Here, the distribution of enrollments among KCTCS campuses closely followed the size of each campus. Spalding University and Campbellsville University led the 2019-2020 WKDC enrollment for the private 4-year universities, even though this group only had 339 WKDC students (2.7% of the statewide total) during the academic year.

Table 11
Work Ready Dual Credit
By Sector and Postsecondary Institution
2019-2020

Institution	Academic Year 2019-2020 Total				Fall 2019			Spring 2020		
	Student Count	Courses & Labs	Credit Hours	Disbursed	Courses & Labs	Credit Hours	Disbursed	Courses & Labs	Credit Hours	Disbursed
Eastern Kentucky	66	67	202	\$ 10,706	36	108	\$ 5,724	31	94	\$ 4,982
Kentucky State	161	173	542	\$ 31,436	45	158	\$ 9,164	128	384	\$ 22,272
Morehead State	48	48	144	\$ 8,352	43	129	\$ 7,482	5	15	\$ 870
Murray State	989	1,066	3,182	\$ 184,417	542	1,613	\$ 93,415	524	1,569	\$ 91,002
Northern Kentucky	171	187	500	\$ 29,000	100	242	\$ 14,036	87	258	\$ 14,964
University of Louisville	360	364	1,092	\$ 63,336	170	510	\$ 29,580	194	582	\$ 33,756
Western Kentucky	212	218	628	\$ 36,308	89	252	\$ 14,616	129	376	\$ 21,692
Public 4-Year	2,007	2,123	6,290	\$ 363,555	1,025	3,012	\$ 174,017	1,098	3,278	\$ 189,538
KCTCS - Ashland	52	60	184	\$ 10,672	47	146	\$ 8,468	13	38	\$ 2,204
KCTCS - Big Sandy	48	53	161	\$ 9,338	45	137	\$ 7,946	8	24	\$ 1,392
KCTCS - Bluegrass	517	575	1,749	\$ 101,442	346	997	\$ 57,826	229	752	\$ 43,616
KCTCS - Elizabethtown	1,242	1,403	4,308	\$ 249,864	631	1,947	\$ 112,926	772	2,361	\$ 136,938
KCTCS - Gateway	315	427	1,225	\$ 71,050	211	621	\$ 36,018	216	604	\$ 35,032
KCTCS - Hazard	669	827	2,522	\$ 146,276	579	1,732	\$ 100,456	248	790	\$ 45,820
KCTCS - Henderson	484	559	1,390	\$ 80,620	425	1,116	\$ 64,728	134	274	\$ 15,892
KCTCS - Hopkinsville	65	79	266	\$ 15,428	30	101	\$ 5,858	49	165	\$ 9,570
KCTCS - Jefferson	2,200	2,460	7,352	\$ 426,329	1,191	3,601	\$ 208,771	1,269	3,751	\$ 217,558
KCTCS - Madisonville	756	983	3,029	\$ 175,682	703	2,186	\$ 126,788	280	843	\$ 48,894
KCTCS - Maysville	996	1,365	3,793	\$ 219,994	1,149	3,231	\$ 187,398	216	562	\$ 32,596
KCTCS - Owensboro	443	544	1,784	\$ 103,472	181	587	\$ 34,046	363	1,197	\$ 69,426
KCTCS - Somerset	941	1,310	3,483	\$ 201,927	796	2,130	\$ 123,453	514	1,353	\$ 78,474
KCTCS - Southcentral	907	1,082	3,131	\$ 181,598	673	1,937	\$ 112,346	409	1,194	\$ 69,252
KCTCS - Southeast	473	632	1,734	\$ 100,572	536	1,442	\$ 83,636	96	292	\$ 16,936
KCTCS - West KY	297	400	1,116	\$ 64,728	26	78	\$ 4,524	374	1,038	\$ 60,204
Public 2-Year	10,405	12,759	37,227	\$ 2,158,992	7,569	21,989	\$ 1,275,188	5,190	15,238	\$ 883,804
Campbellsville	115	115	347	\$ 19,426	85	257	\$ 14,386	30	90	\$ 5,040
Midway University	44	44	132	\$ 7,656	32	96	\$ 5,568	12	36	\$ 2,088
Spalding University	161	161	483	\$ 28,014	82	246	\$ 14,268	79	237	\$ 13,746
Thomas More College	17	17	51	\$ 2,958	16	48	\$ 2,784	1	3	\$ 174
Union College	2	2	2	\$ 116	2	2	\$ 116	-	-	\$ -
Private 4-Year	339	339	1,015	\$ 58,170	217	649	\$ 37,122	122	366	\$ 21,048
Grand Total	12,751	15,221	44,532	\$ 2,580,717	8,811	25,650	\$ 1,486,327	6,410	18,882	\$ 1,094,390

The distribution of WKDC students, courses, earned credit hours, and disbursed dollars for the KCTCS institutions allows them to be roughly grouped into four categories based on the proportion of KCTCS WKDC enrollment. The upper category, composed of the Jefferson and Elizabethtown campuses, had 21.1% and 11.9% of all WKDC students attending public 2-year colleges. The middle category, includes the Maysville, Somerset, and Southcentral campuses, each of which accounts for between 9.6% and 8.7% of the KCTCS to be KDC enrolled students. The third group composed of the Madisonville, Hazard, Bluegrass, Henderson, Southeast, and Owensboro campuses reported between 7.3% and 4.3% of public 2-year students at each of these campuses. The lowest enrollment category, defined as less than 3% of public 2-year WKDC students includes the Gateway, West Kentucky, Hopkinsville, Big Sandy, and Ashland campuses. These relative rankings are highly variable from year-to-year and are largely dependent upon the high schools' ability to offer career and technical education coursework to students due to facility, equipment and instructor availability in their local

areas. Again, the percentage of courses taken, credit hours earned and WKDC funds disbursed closely approximates the percentage of students enrolled.

Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship – Course Enrollment Analyses

The WKDC program does not have a component similar to the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship program requiring students to enroll in a program of study related to a specific workforce sector. Instead, the scholarship program simply pays for up to two dual credit courses that are part of a career and technical education (CTE) pathway that has been approved by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE). There are numerous CTE pathways in existence, some of which are unique to a school district or location, affording students an opportunity to explore multiple career options while in high school. For ease of reference, KHEAA independently developed a broad course categorization system based upon 2019-2020 WKDC course enrollments. Table 12 lists these course categories and shows the number of courses taken by WKDC students with the number of credit hours earned and WKDC funds disbursed. The list is organized by the highest course counts to the lowest.

Table 12
Work Ready Dual Credit
Course Enrollment by Category
2019-2020

Work Ready Dual Credit Category	Academic Year 2019-2020		
	Courses & Labs	Credit Hours	Disbursed
Healthcare	5,115	14,907	\$ 864,445
Information Technology	2,476	7,607	\$ 441,103
Advanced Manufacturing	2,242	6,157	\$ 357,019
Business	1,362	4,056	\$ 235,242
Agriculture	984	2,932	\$ 169,897
Construction	906	2,404	\$ 139,432
Education	660	1,927	\$ 111,088
Transportation	608	1,573	\$ 90,589
Engineering	380	1,518	\$ 88,029
Criminal Justice	206	618	\$ 35,559
Media Arts	74	222	\$ 12,876
Culinary	71	158	\$ 9,164
Early Childhood Education	55	165	\$ 9,570
Firefighting	42	150	\$ 8,700
Unmanned Systems Technology	24	72	\$ 4,176
Cosmetology	12	54	\$ 3,132
Management & Entrepreneurship	4	12	\$ 696
Grand Total	15,221	44,532	\$ 2,580,717

The course categories listed in Table 12 may be subdivided into three general groups based upon popularity with students as defined by the frequency with which students enrolled. It should be recognized at this point that WKDC students are primarily following Career and Technical Education pathways toward high school graduation. The WKDC program provides this group of students an opportunity to simultaneously earn high school and college credit through dual credit enrollment.

The largest group, comprising 54.7% of 2019-2020 enrolled WKDC students, is composed of just two categories; Healthcare (36.8% of all WKDC students), and Information Technology (17.8% of students). These categories broadly represent two of Kentucky's high need occupational areas as defined for the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship program. Approximately 7,500 WKDC students were enrolled in, completed coursework in, and earned college credit hours in these course categories in 2019-2020.

The second group of WKDC course categories consists of five academic areas. The proportion of all WKDC students enrolled in these areas is included parenthetically: Advanced Manufacturing (10.9%), Business (9.8%), Agriculture (7.1%), Education (4.8%) and Construction (3.9%). Together, these five sectors accounted for roughly one third of all WKDC enrolled students (36.5%).

The final group of educational course sectors is comprised of the remaining ten academic areas, each with less than 3% of the total WKDC enrollment individually, but collectively accounting for 8.9% of WKDC enrollment. These courses were in Engineering (2.7%), Transportation (2.6%), Criminal Justice (1.5%), Media Arts and Culinary (0.5% each), Early Childhood Education (0.4%), Firefighting (0.3%), Unmanned Systems Technology (0.2%), Cosmetology (0.01%) and Management & Entrepreneurship (0.01%).

The WKDC program, by encouraging students to make the most of their high school educational opportunities and complete dual credit courses, is an important step laying the foundational groundwork for subsequently earning postsecondary education credentials, i.e., additional diplomas, certifications, Associate of Applied Sciences degrees, and more.

A more granular perspective to identify which specific courses WKDC students were taking may be obtained by listing the courses most WKDC students took within the first two course categories described above. Table 13 presents this list. The most frequently taken Healthcare course, by a factor of 3 to 1 was Medical Terminology. The second and third most popular Healthcare courses were Nursing Assistant Skills I and Introduction to Health Occupations.

The second most popular course category was Information Technology. Three of the most popular courses were fundamental introductory courses while the remaining three were second level introductory courses.

Table 13
Work Ready Dual Credit
Top Courses Taken by Course Category
2019-2020

Category	Course Name	Student Count	Number Courses / Labs	Credit Hours	Disbursed
Healthcare	Medical Terminology	2,129	2,129	6,333	\$ 367,198
Healthcare	Nursing Assistant Skills I	881	882	2,646	\$ 153,468
Healthcare	Intro to Health Occupations	603	603	1,809	\$ 104,922
Healthcare	Healthcare Delivery and Management	247	247	741	\$ 42,978
Healthcare	First Aid and Emergency Care	226	226	452	\$ 26,216
Information Technology	Intro to Computers	1,512	1,512	4,536	\$ 263,088
Information Technology	Digital Literacy	160	160	480	\$ 27,840
Information Technology	Computational Thinking	151	151	453	\$ 26,274
Information Technology	Computer Hardware and Software	126	126	504	\$ 29,232
Information Technology	Intro to Information Systems	82	82	246	\$ 14,268

Advanced Manufacturing	Shielded Metal Arc Welding	174	343	855	\$ 49,590
Advanced Manufacturing	Gas Metal Arc Welding	108	213	531	\$ 30,798
Advanced Manufacturing	Intro to Computer Aided Design	92	92	276	\$ 16,008
Advanced Manufacturing	Industrial Maintenance Electric	82	163	408	\$ 23,664
Advanced Manufacturing	Drafting Fundamentals	77	77	308	\$ 17,864
Business	Intro to Business	458	458	1,374	\$ 79,692
Business	Personal Finance	313	313	939	\$ 54,462
Business	Principles of Management	116	116	348	\$ 20,184
Business	Principles of Marketing	99	99	297	\$ 17,226
Business	Foundations in Personal Finance	73	73	219	\$ 12,702
Agriculture	Animal Science	381	381	1,143	\$ 66,294
Agriculture	Intro to Veterinary Science	215	215	645	\$ 37,410
Agriculture	Plant Science	113	113	339	\$ 19,523
Agriculture	Contemporary Issues in Agriculture	78	78	234	\$ 13,572
Agriculture	Horticultural Science	57	57	171	\$ 9,918
Education	The Teaching Profession	222	222	666	\$ 38,628
Education	Foundations of Instruction	116	116	348	\$ 20,184
Education	Intro to Teaching	74	74	222	\$ 12,426
Education	Intro to Education	55	55	138	\$ 8,004
Education	Exploring the Teaching Profession	27	27	81	\$ 4,698
Construction	Circuits I	82	82	410	\$ 23,780
Construction	Intro to Construction	65	130	260	\$ 15,080
Construction	Electrical Construction I	58	115	230	\$ 13,340
Construction	Light Frame Construction I	47	94	235	\$ 13,630
Construction	Electrical Motor Controls I	39	77	154	\$ 8,932
Engineering	Intro to Engineering Design	194	194	776	\$ 45,008
Engineering	Principles of Engineering	93	93	372	\$ 21,576
Engineering	Aerospace Engineering	36	36	144	\$ 8,352
Engineering	Digital Electronics	22	22	88	\$ 5,104
Engineering	Civil Engineering and Architecture	17	17	68	\$ 3,944
Transportation	Engine Repair	101	199	499	\$ 28,942
Transportation	Basic Automotive Electricity	69	138	345	\$ 20,010
Transportation	Brake Systems	32	62	156	\$ 9,048
Transportation	Intro to Aviation	25	25	75	\$ 3,975
Transportation	Intro to Unmanned Aircraft Systems	18	18	54	\$ 2,862
Criminal Justice	Intro to Criminal Justice	109	109	327	\$ 18,816
Criminal Justice	Criminal Investigations	27	27	81	\$ 4,698
Criminal Justice	Intro to Law Enforcement	19	19	57	\$ 3,306
Criminal Justice	The Criminal Court Systems	19	19	57	\$ 3,306
Criminal Justice	Criminal Law	9	9	27	\$ 1,536

The second group of course categories, Advanced Manufacturing, Business, Agriculture, Education, and Construction accounted for 36.5% of all WKDC student enrollments. The top two courses in Advanced Manufacturing were welding related courses and the remainder focused on manufacturing design issues. The top two courses in Business were

introductory and personal finance followed by several principles courses. The top Agriculture courses were heavily weighted to animal and veterinary sciences and secondarily toward plant and horticultural sciences. Education related courses comprising the top five most popular were all introduction type courses. In the Construction category, three of the top five courses are related to electrical construction circuits and motors.

The most popular of the third and widest, most varied category of courses which attracted 6.8% of all WKDC students was the group including Engineering, Transportation, Criminal justice. The remaining seven categories of educational offerings each had 0.5% or less of the total student WKDC population in 2019-2020.

As this is but the second year of the current Work Ready Dual Credit Scholarship program, this report is preponderantly descriptive in nature. As more data becomes available over time, it will be possible to create a more extensive profile of the high school students accessing this program.