



ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

2021-504
July 20, 2021

Secretary of State
Frankfort
Kentucky

RELATING TO KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

As recent news reports have indicated, members of the Kentucky State University (KSU) Board of Regents and the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) have voiced concerns about the financial stability of the University. The purpose of this Executive Order is to ensure that CPE is able to provide guidance, oversight, and resources to the KSU Board of Regents for a review of KSU's financial condition, so that KSU may continue to provide a high-quality education to its students.

CPE is charged with "evaluating the performance and effectiveness of the state's postsecondary system." KRS 164.020(4). It is further charged with the development and implementation of "policies to be used in making recommendations to the Governor for consideration in developing recommendations to the General Assembly for appropriations to the universities," as well as "policies that provide for allocation of funds among the universities." KRS 164.020(9). To carry out these duties, CPE is empowered to: "[d]evelop a financial reporting procedure to be used by all state postsecondary education institutions," KRS 164.020(26); to "[r]equire reports from the executive officer of each institution it deems necessary for the effectual performance of its duties," KRS 164.020(12); and to "[e]xercise any other powers, duties, and responsibilities necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter," KRS 164.020(38). CPE also develops and implements "a system of accountability for the postsecondary education institutions that measures," among other things, each institution's "use of resources," KRS 164.095(3)(d), and reports on these accountability measures to the Governor and the General Assembly, KRS 164.095(5).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andy Beshear, by virtue of authority vested in me pursuant to the Kentucky Constitution and KRS Chapters 12 and 164, do hereby Order and Direct as follows:



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1. CPE shall provide an assessment of the current financial status of KSU, and shall provide a report to the Governor detailing its assessment prior to providing recommendations concerning appropriations for the next biennial budget.
2. To assist CPE in performing its assessment, KSU shall provide CPE access to any records CPE deems necessary to preparing its assessment.
3. CPE shall assist the KSU Board of Regents in developing a management and improvement plan with goals and measurable metrics, which shall be subject to the approval of CPE. The management and improvement plan shall be designed to assist with organizational and financial stability. The management and improvement plan shall provide for continuing oversight by, and reporting to, CPE concerning the implementation of the plan.
4. CPE shall make recommendations to the KSU Board of Regents concerning the KSU administrative structure and leadership.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Beshear".

ANDY BESHEAR, Governor
Commonwealth of Kentucky

MICHAEL G. ADAMS
Secretary of State