



ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Secretary of State
Frankfort
Kentucky

2025-351
June 4, 2025

In Kentucky, we strive to ensure this Commonwealth is a place where all children can reach their full potential.

However, more than half of Kentucky children – approximately 53.8% – arrive on their first day of school not kindergarten ready.

Almost two-thirds – 79 – of Kentucky’s 120 counties are considered “childcare deserts,” especially in areas of rural Kentucky.

Studies show that labor force participation rates around the country are lower in counties with less access to childcare options, and higher in those with more access.

Access to Pre-K could return more than 70,000 adults in Kentucky to work who are not able to fully participate because their child is not enrolled in school or childcare.

Studies show access to childcare can boost parent earnings by almost \$9,000 per year, over six years, and allows parents to work nearly 12 hours more per week.

Studies also show that for every \$1 invested in Pre-K, Kentucky will generate an additional \$10 in revenue that will cycle through our state’s economy.

Other long-term studies show that access to Pre-K reduces crime and promotes healthy living habits that improve long-term health.

Last year, 85% of Kentucky voters surveyed agreed: Working families having access to affordable, high-quality childcare is important for Kentucky’s future.

In the shared interest of establishing access to Pre-K and increasing childcare options for all Kentucky families, I am committed to working with leaders in education, business, and workforce, to lay the groundwork for such meaningful educational opportunities for all Kentuckians.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Kentucky Constitution and KRS 12.029, do hereby Declare, Order and Direct the following:

- I. The Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee is hereby created and attached to the Office of the Governor for administrative purposes.
- II. The Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Governor and composed of the following twenty-eight (28) members who have a broad range of experience in business, workforce development, and education:
 1. Jamie Link, Secretary of the Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet (ELC), or his designee, who shall serve as Chair of the Committee;



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2. Robbie Fletcher, Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education, or his designee;
3. Dr. Felicia Cumings Smith, Chair of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence;
4. Scott Davis, Chair of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce;
5. Colby Hall, Executive Director, Shaping our Appalachian Region (SOAR);
6. Alvin Garrison, Chair of the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents (KASS) and Superintendent of Covington Independent Schools;
7. Pamela Morehead-Johnson, President, Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) and Chair of the Eminence Independent School Board;
8. Dr. Aaron Thompson, President of the Council on Postsecondary Education;
9. Jeff Noel, Secretary of the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development (CED), or his designee;
10. Mary Elizabeth Bailey, Secretary of the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet, or her designee;
11. Dr. Steven J. Stack, Secretary of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), or his designee;
12. Sarah Davasher-Wisdom, President and CEO of Greater Louisville Inc. (GLI);
13. Jason Slone, President and CEO of Morehead-Rowan County Chamber of Commerce;
14. Ron Bunch, President and CEO of Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce;
15. Brent Cooper, President and CEO of Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce;
16. Sharon Price, Executive Director of Community Action Council;



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17. Alice Forgy Kerr, Former State Senator (R), 12th Senate District (1999-2022);
 18. Ruth Ann Palumbo, Former Chair of House Economic Development Committee, State Representative (D), 76th House District (1991-2025);
 19. Derrick Graham, Former House Minority Leader, State Representative (D), 57th House District (2003-2025);
 20. R. Travis Brenda, Former State Representative (R), 71st House District (2019-2020);
 21. Greg Terry, County Judge Executive, Carlisle County;
 22. Laura White-Brown, Mayor of the City of Morehead, Kentucky;
 23. Carrie Ballinger, Superintendent of Rockcastle County Schools;
 24. Maddie Shepard, President of Jefferson County Teachers Association (JCTA);
 25. Joel Wolford, Vice President of the Kentucky Education Association (KEA);
 26. Jeni Ward Bolander, KY United 120 American Federation of Teachers (AFT);
 27. Rudy Spencer, Parent; and
 28. Jamie Rodgers, Parent.
- III. The members of the Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee shall serve for a term of two (2) years. In the event of a vacancy occurring other than by the expiration of a term, the Governor shall appoint a member for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- IV. The members of the Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- V. The Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee shall hold public meetings with members of the public throughout the Commonwealth. The Committee shall consider the feedback received at its town hall events and public meetings and provide a written report to the Governor on or before October 15, 2025, detailing its findings and recommendations.



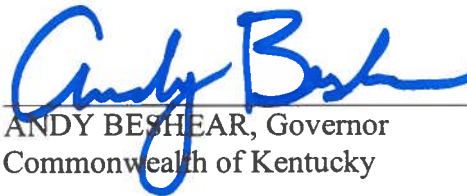
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- VI. To support the work of the Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee, Sam Flynn shall serve as Executive Director and Special Advisor to the Office of the Governor and coordinate the staff of Education and Labor Cabinet, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and other agencies to staff and provide resources as needed.

This Order shall be effective June 4, 2025.


ANDY BESHEAR, Governor
Commonwealth of Kentucky

MICHAEL G. ADAMS
Secretary of State