

2023 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR A BIG BOLD FUTURE



The Prichard Committee

Building a Groundswell for a Big Bold Future

The Prichard Committee has adopted the following legislative priorities to help reverse recent declines in Kentucky education outcomes. When combined with a groundswell of community mobilization, these policy and investment steps can put us on the path to a Big Bold Future where every Kentuckian can thrive, contribute to, and benefit from our shared progress as a state.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

We support legislation and funding to raise participation and quality in early childhood programs, including:

- Promoting partnerships between public preschool and private childcare to expand early learning
- Raising CCAP and public preschool eligibility to at least 200% of the federal poverty level, while increasing per child funding/reimbursement (Big Bold Ask)
- Expanding HANDS, Kentucky's home visiting program to support families with children under age 3



Big Bold Ask funding increases over FY 2024

- \$251 million for FY 2025
- \$347 million for FY 2026 and later years

K-12 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

We support legislation and funding to strengthen student learning in public schools, including:

- Supporting effective literacy instruction, including full implementation of 2022's Read to Succeed initiative
- Providing similar support for effective math instruction
- Creating a Fund for Teaching Excellence
- Fully funding school transportation
- Fully funding full-day kindergarten



Big Bold Ask funding increases over FY 2024

- \$82 million for FY 2025
- \$149 for FY 2026 and later years

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

We support legislation and funding to improve participation and attainment in higher education, including:

- Providing high-quality dual credit options for high school students
- Continuing and enhancing Performance-Based Funding for Kentucky's public universities and community and technical colleges.
- Fully funding College Access Program needs-based financial aid and restoring affordability for all students



Big Bold Ask funding increases over FY 2024

- \$15 million for FY 2025
- \$94 million for FY 2026 and later years

THE BIG BOLD ASK: \$1 BILLION IN ADDED ANNUAL INVESTMENT BY FY 2026


Since the 2020 launch of the Big Bold Ask, Kentucky has made important steps up in annual learning investments. Completing the Big Bold Ask will require added investments in the FY 2025 and FY 2026 budgets, with early childhood needing special attention.

Early Childhood Big Bold Ask

\$251 million to provide child care assistance to 23,000 more young children with family incomes below 200% of poverty each year
Temporary federal dollars used raise rates will run out early in FY 2024

\$80 million to provide preschool to 10,000 additional 4-year-olds with family incomes below 200% of poverty each year

Excellence	Equity
Funding that allow high-quality programs meeting or exceeding Level 3 requirements under Kentucky's All STARS rating system	Reduced income barriers to participation in high-quality programs that richly support the learning development of young children




K-12 Big Bold Ask

\$140 million to fund all-day kindergarten each year
FY 2024 adds \$140 million

\$162 million to fund school transportation fully each year
FY 2024 adds \$60 million

\$58 million to create a Fund for Teaching Excellence each year
FY 2024 adds \$12 million

Excellence	Equity
Deeper support for educators and Local funds freed up to reach Kentucky's high standards, including steps like expanded access to counselors, expert reading teachers, art teachers, and collaboration time	Reduced funding gaps between districts with more and less property wealth and Implementation of practices that raise results for all learners and especially for historically underserved student groups




Postsecondary Big Bold Ask

\$311 million to implement full Performance-Based Funding for public universities and community and technical colleges each year
FY 2024 adds \$170 million

\$30 million to expand needs-based aid, offering 18,000 more College Access Program (CAP) grants to low-income students each year
FY 2024 adds \$43 million

Excellence	Equity
Sustained progress toward Kentucky's 60% attainment goal by 2030	Strong institutions across the state and Progress toward attainment goals for historically underserved groups and Enhanced access to higher education for students with financial need



New Investments for Coming Years

Requested Increases over FY 2024 Budget
 (In Millions of Dollars)

	FY 2025 Proposed	FY 2026 Proposed
Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)	\$195	\$267
Preschool	\$56	\$80
Kindergarten		<i>Sustain full funding</i>
SEEK Transportation	\$54	\$102
Fund for Teaching Excellence	\$29	\$46
Public 4-year and 2-year Institutions	\$15	\$94
College Access Program (CAP)		<i>Sustain full funding</i>
Total	\$317	\$590

