

1 AN ACT relating to Kentucky educational excellence scholarships.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 164.7871 TO 164.7885 IS
4 CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *(1) As used in this section:*

6 *(a) "Approved dual credit course" has the same meaning as in KRS 164.786;*

7 *(b) "KEES dual credit usage amount" means the total KEES amount used by*
8 *an eligible high school student under this section divided by four (4); and*

9 *(c) "Participating institution" has the same meaning as in KRS 164.786.*

10 *(2) (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, beginning with the 2025-*
11 *2026 academic year, an eligible high school student may use the KEES*
12 *award the student has earned to pay for tuition and fees for approved dual*
13 *credit courses at participating institutions, except as described in paragraph*
14 *(b) of this subsection.*

15 *(b) An eligible high school student shall not be eligible under this section if the*
16 *student is eligible for a scholarship as described in KRS 164.786 or KRS*
17 *164.787 that would pay for the approved dual credit course.*

18 *(3) The amount used to pay for approved dual credit courses under this section shall*
19 *not exceed the total KEES award amount earned at the time of enrollment in the*
20 *approved dual credit course or courses.*

21 *(4) The KEES award maximum for an eligible postsecondary student shall be*
22 *reduced by the KEES dual credit usage amount.*

23 *(5) Use of a KEES award by an eligible high school student under this section shall*
24 *not affect the length of time and the number of academic terms during which an*
25 *eligible postsecondary student may receive a KEES award in accordance with*
26 *KRS 164.7881.*

27 *(6) Each participating institution shall submit to the authority information required*

1 for the administration of this section as determined by the authority each
2 academic term.

3 (7) The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with
4 KRS Chapter 13A as needed for the administration of this section.

5 ➔Section 2. KRS 164.7885 is amended to read as follows:

6 (1) Not later than August 1, 1999, and each June 30 thereafter, each Kentucky high
7 school shall submit to the authority, a compiled list of all high school students
8 during the academic year. A high school shall report the grade point average of an
9 eligible high school student pursuant to KRS 164.7874 by January 15 following the
10 end of the fall academic term in which the student completed the high school
11 graduation requirements. The list shall identify the high school and shall contain
12 each high school student's name, Social Security number, address, grade point
13 average for the academic year, expected or actual graduation date, highest ACT
14 score, family eligibility status for free or reduced-price lunch, and each AP,
15 Cambridge Advanced International, or IB examination score. The Gatton Academy
16 of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky, the Craft Academy for Excellence in
17 Science and Mathematics, and the high school of a model and practice school under
18 KRS 164.380 shall report the data on its students to the authority. The list need not
19 contain the ACT, AP, Cambridge Advanced International, or IB if the authority
20 receives the scores directly from the testing services. The authority shall notify each
21 eligible high school student of his or her Kentucky educational excellence
22 scholarship award earned each academic year. The authority shall determine the
23 final Kentucky educational excellence scholarship and supplemental award based
24 upon the actual final grade point average, highest ACT score, and qualifying AP,
25 Cambridge Advanced International, or IB scores, and any reduction under
26 subsection (4) of Section 1 of this Act, and shall notify each eligible twelfth-grade
27 high school student of the final determination. The authority shall make available a

- 1 list of eligible high school and postsecondary students to participating institutions.
- 2 (2) The authority shall provide data access only to the Kentucky Longitudinal Data
3 System and to those participating institutions that have either received an admission
4 application from an eligible high school or postsecondary student or have been
5 listed by the eligible high school or postsecondary student on the Free Application
6 For Federal Student Aid.
- 7 (3) For each eligible postsecondary student enrolling in a participating institution after
8 July 1, 1999, the participating institution shall verify to the authority:
- 9 (a) The student's initial eligibility for a Kentucky educational excellence
10 scholarship, Kentucky educational excellence scholarship and supplemental
11 award, or supplemental award only pursuant to KRS 164.7879(3)(d) through
12 the comprehensive list compiled by the authority or an alternative source
13 satisfactory to the authority;
- 14 (b) The student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from high
15 school, provided that the participating institution need not report the ACT
16 score if the authority receives the ACT score directly from the testing
17 services;
- 18 (c) The eligible postsecondary student's full-time or part-time enrollment status at
19 the beginning of each academic term; and
- 20 (d) The eligible postsecondary student's cumulative grade point average after the
21 completion of each award period.
- 22 (4) Each participating institution shall submit to the authority a report, in a form
23 satisfactory to the authority, of all eligible postsecondary students enrolled for that
24 academic term. Kentucky educational excellence scholarships and supplemental
25 awards shall be disbursed by the authority to each eligible postsecondary student
26 attending a participating institution during the academic term within thirty (30) days
27 after receiving a satisfactory report.

- 1 (5) The Kentucky educational excellence scholarship and the supplemental award shall
2 not be reduced, except as provided in subsection (4) of Section 1 of this Act and
3 KRS 164.7881(4).
- 4 (6) Kentucky educational excellence scholarships and supplemental awards shall not be
5 awarded or disbursed to any eligible postsecondary students who are:
- 6 (a) In default on any loan under Title IV of the federal act; or
7 (b) Liable for any amounts that exceed annual or aggregate limits on any loan
8 under Title IV of the federal act; or
9 (c) Liable for overpayment of any grant or loan under Title IV of the federal act;
10 or
11 (d) In default on any obligation to the authority under any programs administered
12 by the authority until financial obligations to the authority are satisfied, except
13 that ineligibility may be waived by the authority for cause.
- 14 (7) Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 164.753, the authority may promulgate
15 administrative regulations for the administration of Kentucky educational
16 excellence scholarships and supplemental awards under the provisions of KRS
17 164.7871 to 164.7885 and KRS 164.7889.