

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top left shows a line of yellow school buses, with the word 'SCHOOL BUS' visible on the front of one. The bottom left shows a classroom with blue walls, desks, chairs, and colorful balloons. A large white diagonal shape cuts across the top right of the image.

# Career and Technical Education (CTE) State Advisory Committee

Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)  
Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE)

May 7, 2026



# Welcome

*Harmony Little, Chair*

# Approval of Minutes from Nov. 13, 2025, Meeting

*Harmony Little, Chair*

## OCTE Staffing Updates

*Beth Engle, Division Director*

*NEW Staff*

*Jermaine Poynter – SkillsUSA State Advisor*

# Accountability

*Beth Hargis, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner*

# 2024-2025 CTE Data for Secondary Students

**145,369**

*Number of students grades 9-12  
participating in CTE*



**14,253**

*Number of graduates earning more than  
one postsecondary credential*

## **UNIQUE CONCENTRATORS:**

**83.80%**

*of students completed at least 2 credits in a  
4-course pathway*

**99.37%**

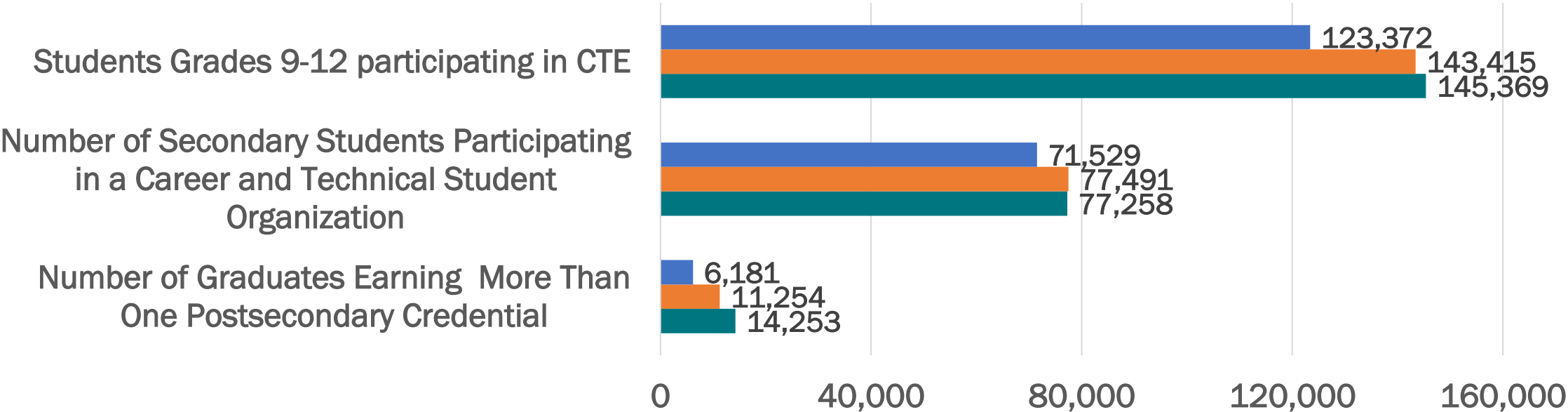
*of CTE concentrators graduated*

**76,134**

*Number of  
students grades 9-12  
participating in a CTSO*



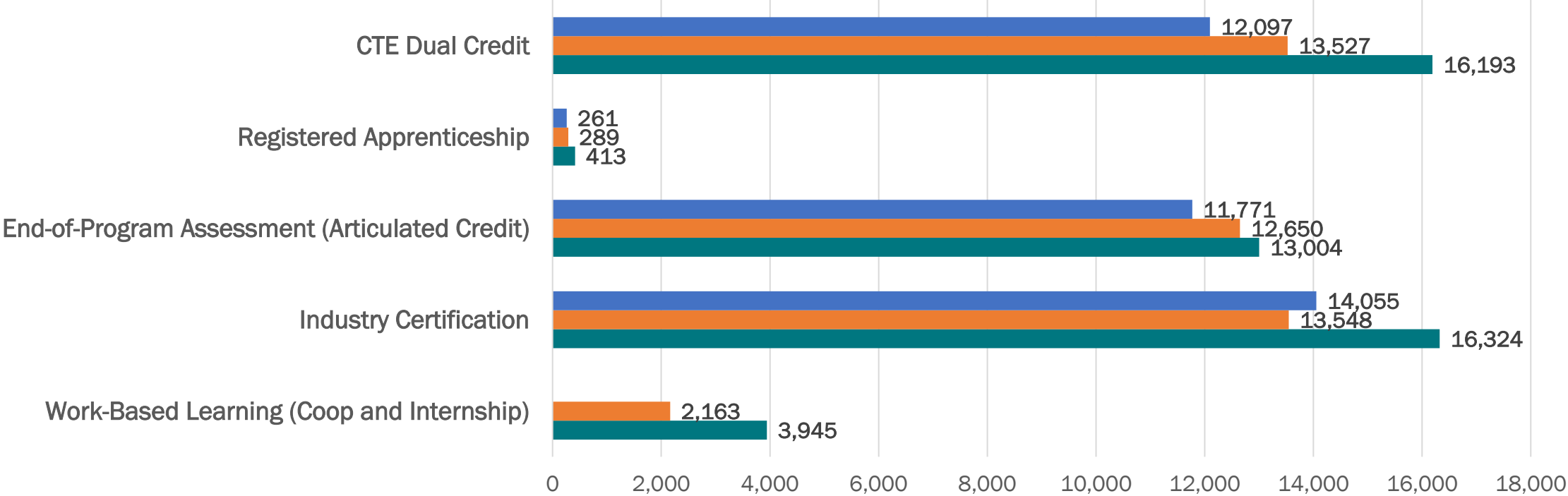
# Secondary CTE Data Trends



	Number of Graduates Earning More Than One Postsecondary Credential	Number of Secondary Students Participating in a Career and Technical Student Organization	Students Grades 9-12 participating in CTE
■ 2022-2023	6,181	71,529	123,372
■ 2023-2024	11,254	77,491	143,415
■ 2024-2025	14,253	77,258	145,369

# Career Readiness by Numbers

(12<sup>th</sup>-grade graduating cohort)



	Work-Based Learning (Coop and Internship)	Industry Certification	End-of-Program Assessment (Articulated Credit)	Registered Apprenticeship	CTE Dual Credit
■ 2022-2023		14,055	11,771	261	12,097
■ 2023-2024	2,163	13,548	12,650	289	13,527
■ 2024-2025	3,945	16,324	13,004	413	16,193

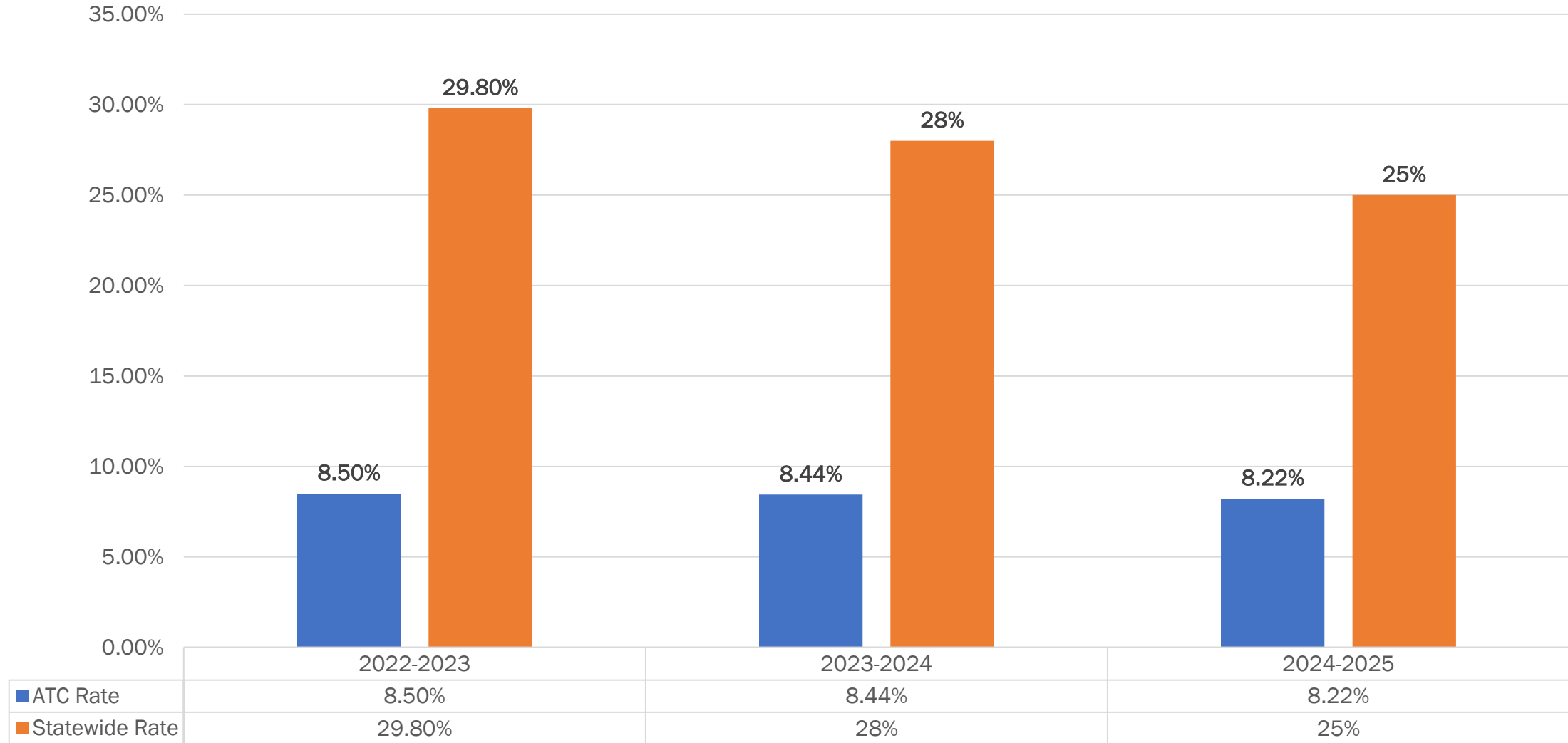


■ 2022-2023 ■ 2023-2024 ■ 2024-2025



Data source: State Report Card (SRC) as of 12/18/2025  
 WBL data was not collected until 2023-2024 for inclusion for accountability

# ATC Chronic Absenteeism



■ ATC Rate ■ Statewide Rate

# OCTE Strategic Plan

*Beth Hargis, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner*

## **OCTE Vision**



Each and every career and technical education student empowered and equipped to pursue a successful future.

## **OCTE Mission**

To maximize student success through partnerships with districts, schools, families, students, business and industry and communities to provide leadership and support to ensure successful career transition for each and every Career and Technical Education student.

# OCTE Strategic Plan

**Goal 1**--Increase the percentage of CTE 12th grade cohort students graduating post-secondary career ready from 64% in 2024 to **70% by June 2028** as measured by CTE Accountability Data for 2028 school year.

**Goal 2**--Decrease ATC chronic absenteeism rate from 8.22% in 2024 to 7% by 2028.

**Goal 3**-- Collaborate to develop, train staff, pilot a quality middle school exploration plan based on the Education Strategy Middle School 3-year plan and incorporating the ILP and Futuriti by June 2028 as measured by the 3-year plan

**Goal 4**-- Increase the completion rate of eligible high school students in a Teaching and Learning Pathway from 6% in 2024 to 9% by 2028.

# Continuing Priorities

- Increase stakeholder communication regarding the current and future state of CTE.
- Incorporate emerging technologies and techniques within the revalidation or creation of standards

## Legislative Update

*Lauren Graves, Ph.D., Policy Advisor*

# 16 KAR 2:020 (effective April 7, 2026)

- Revisions to the occupation-based career and technical education teacher certification regulation are now in effect.
- Most amendments bring clarity to the requirements and process to align with practice.
- Section 5: Electricity, Plumbing, and HVAC.
  - Individuals holding a Kentucky issued master license earned through proper assessment will no longer be required to earn an associate's degree.
    - Assessment requirements in 16 KAR 6:020
    - New Teacher Institute (NTI) (professional learning: classroom management, lesson planning and curriculum, assessment, academic integration of numeracy and literacy, and instruction for students with special learning needs)
    - Rank III

# 2026 Legislative Updates

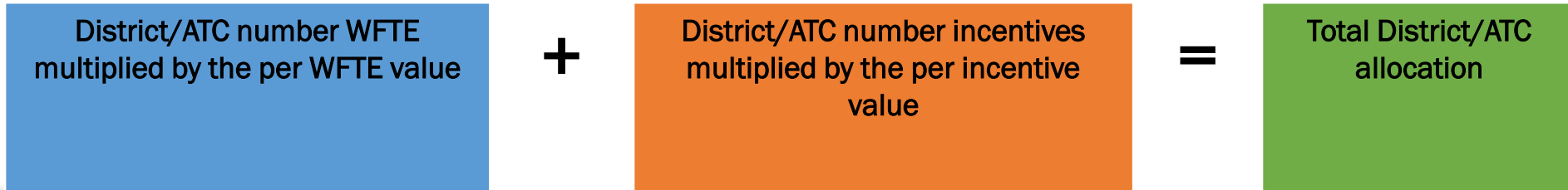
- House Bill (HB) 500
  - Appropriates General Funds in the amount of \$127,115,900 in each fiscal year for career and technical education. Of this amount, \$70,063,400 in each fiscal year shall be distributed as supplemental funding to support qualifying locally operated career and technical education centers, state operated area technology centers, and programs based on enrollment and incentive criteria, pursuant to KRS 157.069.
  - The General Assembly recognizes that supplemental funding for locally operated career and technical education centers and state-operated area technology centers is recurring, and it is the intent of the 2026 General Assembly to evaluate those funding needs before Jan. 1, 2028.
  - State-operated area technology centers (ATCs) will now be included in CTE supplemental funding. Per KRS 157.069, 60% of funding is based on weighted full-time equivalent enrollment and 40% of funding is based on incentives. Students may earn up to four incentives at a local district and up to four incentives at an ATC. Note that HB 900 provides an additional 14 million in each fiscal year to be distributed as supplemental funding.
- HB 900
  - Appropriates General Funds in the amount of \$14,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2026-2028 fiscal biennium to be distributed as supplemental funding as outlined in KRS 157.069. Providing the additional 14 million each fiscal year in addition to the \$70,063,400 from HB 500 will provide more equitable funding for CTE across the state of Kentucky regardless of where students receive their CTE.
  - Additionally, there is an appropriation in the amount of \$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2027-2028 for the Kentucky FFA Leadership Training Center to support the Activity Center and classrooms project.

# 2026-2028 Supplemental CTE Funding per HB 500 and HB 900

	HB 500	HB 900 (one-time funding)	Total per year to be distributed to both local districts and ATCs per KRS 157.069
2026-2027	\$70,063,400	\$14,000,000	\$84,063,400
2027-2028	\$70,063,400	\$14,000,000	\$84,063,400

60% Weighted Full-Time Equivalent (WFTE) Funding	
1.0 WFTE for general cost CTE pathways	1.5 WFTE for high-cost pathways

40% Performance Incentives	
Concentrators	Technical Skills
CTE Dual Credit	CTE Work-Based Learning



# 2026 Legislative Updates (continued)

- HB 67
  - Amends KRS 160.145 providing clarification to SB 181 from 2025; updates definition of family member; allows for communication for work-based learning and field trips; allows for communication during emergencies with proper disclosure; and provides exclusions like Academic feedback mechanisms and Electronic communication between two (2) or more school district employees or qualified school volunteers and one (1) or more students that is in direct relation to an academic, athletic, or extracurricular purpose.
- HB 555
  - Amends KRS 158.854 to define student-based enterprise. A local board of education may identify a student-based enterprise to sell competitive foods throughout the school day. Competitive foods sold by a student-based enterprise shall comply with the minimum nutritional standards established in 7 C.F.R. 210.11.
- HB 727
  - Section 14(3)(b) amends KRS 156.802 to include that the Department of Education has the responsibility for all administrative functions of the state in relation to the management, control, and operation of the Carol Martin Gatton Kentucky FFA Leadership Training Center located in Hardinsburg, Kentucky. While the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has managed the center, the 2025 audit of the KDE indicated a need for KDE's authority to be explicit in statute.
  - Section 19(3)(g) amends KRS 156.808 to allow the Kentucky Board of Education to promulgate regulations for full-time and part-time certified and equivalent staff governing leave, which would now include maternity leave for employees at the state-operated area technology centers (ATCs) and Office of Career and Technical Education central office that fall under KRS 156.
  - Section 22 amends KRS 158.1413 to remove superintendents' reporting requirement on school districts' essential workplace ethics programs. While the essential workplace ethics program requirements are still in place, superintendents are no longer required to submit a report every other year to the Commissioner.
- Senate Bill (SB) 4
  - Creates a new chapter in KRS 156 to provide for a new principal leadership practicum.
- SB 98
  - Effective Jan. 1, 2027, all projects involving structural steel welding where the design professional responsible for the project includes the D1.1 or D1.5 in the job specifications for projects occurring pursuant to state government contracts and when requested by the contracting state government entity, welders performing structural welding on a project shall have been tested and certified by an accredited testing facility or by an individual who has been certified by the AWS to inspect structural steel welding projects.

# Occupation-Based Teacher Certification

*Lauren Graves, Ph.D., Policy Advisor*

# Occupation Based Certification Considerations

- Current Requirements per 16 KAR 2:020 Occupation-based career and technical education teacher certification
  - Minimum of four years of successful and appropriate occupational experience in the occupation area for which the individual is seeking certification, two years must be within the last five years
  - Assessments per 16 KAR 6:020
  - Enrollment in NTI (two years)
  - Applicants without an occupation-based degree or occupation-based educator preparation degree must complete an associates degree in the certification content area within six years

## Considerations:

1. How can the overall occupation-based certification process be simplified to better serve students and help overcome the CTE teaching shortage?
2. How does a degree benefit CTE teacher instruction and student achievement?

## Grants and Awards

*Beth Hargis, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner*

# Grants and Awards

- Middle School Exploration Grant
  - Providing \$5,000 mini-grants to five middle schools (districts) to pilot and assist with plan finalization
- Innovation and Support Funds
  - Providing five \$100,000 grants to districts for CTE innovation

# Questions and Feedback



# Reflection and Adjournalment

*Harmony Little, Chair*