Kentucky Department of EDUCATION Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

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HB307 – K12 Portions of New Proactive Postsecondary Admissions Program

HB307 Summary:

House Bill 307 (2026) established the Kentucky Proactive Postsecondary Admissions Program to increase college-going rates by helping students connect with postsecondary opportunities earlier and more easily. Under the program, Kentucky public universities will establish minimum academic qualifications for prospective admission, while the Council on Postsecondary Education will maintain a common online application. Beginning in 2028, universities will be able to directly notify eligible students of admission opportunities and provide information about applications and financial aid, reducing barriers that often prevent students from pursuing higher education.

To support the program, school districts will annually invite high school students to participate and report participation information to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE). KDE will then provide participating institutions with approved student information, including directory information for students who have not opted out and additional academic information for students whose parents or eligible students have opted into the program. The initiative aims to streamline the college admissions process while ensuring compliance with federal student privacy requirements.

District data collections are expected to begin during the 2026-2027 school year, with the first data sharing occurring in 2027 and proactive admission notifications beginning in 2028. This documentation details the legislative requirements and implementation notes. Plans for new Infinite Campus collections begin on page 5.

Summary of Sections Specifically Applicable to Districts, High Schools, and KDE

HB307, Section 1, (4)

Each public school district shall:

(a) Annually invite each student enrolled in a public high school to participate in the proactive postsecondary admissions program and select a preferred communication method for program correspondence;

District Implementation Notes

- Districts can choose how they want to promote the Proactive Postsecondary Admissions Program to high school students and families.
- KDE published an Infinite Campus form that must be used to invite families through the Parent Portal or Campus Messenger.
- "Students" can be invited to participate but under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), only parents or eligible students (18 or older) can opt-in or opt-out of sharing data.
- The Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) will have resources/tools available to help with promotion of the program later this year.
- Annual FERPA Directory Notifications may need to be updated. Opt-outs for this program will be for all data covered under the district's directory policy, field level opt-outs cannot be supported for state-level directory sharing.
- Districts should revisit Limited Directory Policies if applicable, to ensure Proactive Postsecondary Admissions program directory data sharing is included.

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(b) No later than July 1 each year, notify the department (KDE) of each high school student that has agreed to participate in the proactive postsecondary admissions program and his or her preferred communication method.

District Implementation Notes

- Districts must ensure data is available in Campus by July 1 (end of year); this includes:
    1. Directory Information data elements as defined in the district's FERPA Directory Notification.
    2. Directory opt-outs - identify students that have been opted out, so KDE does not include them in the file to universities.
    3. Proactive Postsecondary Admissions Program Opt-ins.
    4. Preferred communication method for students that opt-in.
    5. Seals added to student records for students who have completed a governor's graduate program.

- First collection is due by 7/1/2027; districts must begin collecting and reporting this information for high school students in the 2026-2027 school year.

HB307, Section 1, (5)

(a) On or before September 1, the department shall annually provide the following information to each public postsecondary education institution for each student who is enrolled at a Kentucky public high school or a certified nonpublic high school and who has not been opted out of sharing directory information in accordance with 34 C. F. R. sec. 99.37:

1. Name;
2. Address;
3. Enrolled school district;
4. Grade level;
5. Phone number; and
6. Email address.

(b) On or before September 1, the department shall annually provide the directory information required by paragraph (a) of this subsection to each public postsecondary education institution for each student that is enrolled at a Kentucky public high school or certified nonpublic high school who has agreed to participate in the proactive postsecondary admissions program, and shall also include the student's:

1. Cumulative unweighted grade point average;
2. Highest score on a nationally recognized college readiness examination approved by the council;
3. If applicable, status as a graduate of the Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program, Governor's School for the Arts, or Governor's School for Entrepreneurs; and
4. Preferred communication method.

Implementation notes

- KDE will create a file for postsecondary schools to include:
    - HB 307 referenced directory information consistent with what the districts define as directory information unless there is an indicator on the student record that the student is an opt-out for directory information
    - Additional proactive postsecondary admission program fields if student record indicates an opt-in for the postsecondary admission program.
- Universities have requested one additional directory data element (Date of Birth) and one additional non-directory data element (Graduation Date). Date of birth will be added to the reporting if included in district's directory definition; Graduation Date will be included for students that opt-in to the program.

HB307, Section 1, (9)

The department shall collaborate with local school districts to:

(a) Maximize student participation in the proactive postsecondary admissions program; and

(b) Submit an annual report to the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the appropriate Interim Joint Committee on Education on the proactive postsecondary admissions program that includes:

1. The percentage of students at each school and school district who agreed to participate in the proactive postsecondary admissions program.
2. The methods utilized by a school or school district to invite students to participate in the proactive postsecondary admissions program and the effectiveness of each method; and
3. Perceived barriers to student participation in the proactive postsecondary admissions program.

Implementation Notes

- Data will be available in Infinite Campus to calculate #1.
- KDE will use an annual survey to collect data on the invitation methods and perceived participation barriers described in Items #2 and #3 above.

New Data Collections in Infinite Campus

New statewide collection tools were created to assist with HB307 legislation and are available in Infinite Campus. See the Proactive Postsecondary Admissions Program Data Standard for more information.