

MEETING MINUTES

Approved on July 31, 2026

Who: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
Type: Postsecondary Education Working Group on Performance Funding
Date: June 25, 2026
Time: 10:00 a.m. ET
Location: Hybrid meeting: CPE Offices, 100 Airport Road, Frankfort, KY – Conf Rm AB and Microsoft Teams

CALL TO ORDER

The Postsecondary Education Working Group on Performance Funding met Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. ET. The meeting occurred in a hybrid format with in person attendees at the Council offices in Frankfort and virtual attendees by Microsoft Teams meeting. The meeting was livestreamed to the CPE YouTube page. Chair Aaron Thompson presided.

ATTENDANCE

There was a quorum of 19 members in attendance.

- Dr. Aaron Thompson, Chairman – in person
- Dr. Koffi Akakpo – in person
- Representative Chad Aull – in person
- Senator Mays Bledsoe – virtual
- Dr. Gail DePuy, designee for Dr. Gerry Bradley – virtual
- Representative Josh Bray – in person
- Dr. Tim Caboni – virtual
- Dr. Eli Capilouto – in person
- Tanlee Wasson, designee for Dr. David McFaddin – in person
- Senator David Givens – in person
- John Hicks – did not attend
- Representative Bobby McCool – in person
- Senator Chris McDaniel – did not attend
- Dr. Jay Morgan – in person
- Senator Gerald Neal – in person (arrived at 10:40)
- Paul Twigg, designee for Dr. Ron Patterson – virtual
- Representative Steve Rudy – in person
- Todd Kilburn, designee for Dr. Ryan Quarles – virtual
- Representative James Tipton – virtual
- Jenny Sand, designee for Dr. Cady Short-Thompson – in person
- Senator Steve West – virtual

The following CPE staff members facilitated and presented the meeting:

- Adam Blevins, Executive Director of Finance Policy & Programs
- Dr. Bill Payne, Vice President of Finance Policy & Programs
- Greg Rush, Assistant Vice President of Finance Policy & Programs

Brent Floyd, Senior Associate of Finance Policy & Programs, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SESSION

Chair Thompson welcomed new members and discussed postsecondary education in the Commonwealth, both generally and as it pertains to the performance funding model. He reminded the members that the model is a product of both the Postsecondary Education Working Group and the General Assembly, and that the Council is responsible for implementing the model.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide an orientation session for new members. Council staff members Dr. Payne, Mr. Rush, and Mr. Blevins covered the following topics:

- Historical look at the impetus for the model: To accelerate progress toward state goals, address shortcomings of the prior funding method, rectify funding disparities that had developed over time, and respond to a legislative mandate that a work group be convened to develop a performance funding model.
- Development process for the original model: Including who the members were, objectives, state goals, the principles that guided the model's development, and the major decision points.
- Major decision points and timeline for the original model: Which took five months to develop and resulted in SB 153 in 2017. SB 153 became KRS §164.092, which remains the governing legislation related to performance funding.
- Original funding components and metrics: The allocations of funds assigned to each metric. It was noted that some student success metrics were cumulative, which provided a major incentive for institutions to target at-risk populations. Additional discussion was held on how adult learner metrics were added in later models and why: to drive institutional behavior toward degree production and retention.
- The mechanics of the current model: How the university and KCTCS models work and operate, as well as the steps outlined in statute and administrative regulations. This was followed by a discussion on the small-school adjustment component of the model.
- Description of fund distribution: How the total performance fund distribution is split

between the universities and KCTCS, alongside a review of the major differences between the university and KCTCS models.

Chair Thompson opened the floor to questions and comments. Representative Tipton discussed several topics that had been debated over the last few years and asked that members of the working group keep an open mind as they move forward with the decision-making process. Dr. Thompson added that, according to the data and desired outcomes, the model has worked.

Dr. Capilouto commented that in the current model, institutions are competing against themselves, as proportional increases—not raw numbers—are what drive performance. Dr. Thompson concurred but noted that this was due to earned funds not rolling over into institutions' base budgets.

Dr. Caboni echoed Representative Tipton's comments by stating that the outcomes the group needs to focus on are those that help the Commonwealth.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. ET.