

KENTUCKY STUDENT SUCCESS SUMMIT

March 23-24, 2026

University of Louisville, Swain Student Activities Center

Day 1 Agenda

11:00 am **Registration Opens**

1:00-2:15 p.m. **Welcoming**

Dr. Gerry Bradley, President, University of Louisville

Future Focused, Student Centered: Advancing Success Together

Dr. Aaron Thompson, President, Council on Postsecondary Education

Opening Keynote

Jacob Fraire, President, ECMC Foundation

Navigating the Summit

*Dr. Lilly Massa-McKinley, Assistant Vice President, Kentucky Student Success Collaborative,
Council on Postsecondary Education*

2:30-3:30 p.m. **Concurrent Breakout Sessions - Innovative Practices**

- Scaling Prison Education as a High-Impact Student Success Strategy
- Ain't No Hold'em: How SKYCTC's QEP Turned Gateway English Around
- Raising Awareness & Reducing Stigma: KCTCS Marketing for Mental Health
- Advancing Transfer Completion Through Policy, Practice, and Partnership

3:45-4:45 p.m. **Concurrent Breakout Sessions - Innovative Practices**

- Is LOAN Really a 4-Letter Word? Reframing Borrowing for a Student-Centered Future
- But Is It Worth It? Measuring Success for First-Generation Students
- From Awareness to Action: Tackling Student Basic Needs on Campus
- Comeback Cards: Re-Engaging Stop-Out Adult Learners Through Debt Forgiveness

5:00-6:00 p.m. **Networking Reception**



The Kentucky
Student Success
Collaborative

Learn more at:
[https://cpe.ky.gov/
studentsuccess/index.html](https://cpe.ky.gov/studentsuccess/index.html)



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Day 2 Agenda

8:00-8:50 a.m. **Networking Breakfast**

9:00-10:30 a.m. **Student Panel: Overcoming Barriers and Needed Supports**
Moderated by : Jenny Sawyer, University of Louisville
Student Panelists representing 2-year and 4-year institutions

10:45-11:45 a.m. **Concurrent Breakout Sessions - Partnership Collaboration**

- Formalizing & Supporting Industry Partnerships Through Academic Agreements
- Bridges, Not Barriers: Proactive Strategies for Financial Aid Literacy and FAFSA Completion
- From Silos to Systems: Implementing an Eco-System Model for Holistic Student Success
- Learning to Work and Working to Learn: Innovative Postsecondary Work-Based Learning Models in Kentucky

12:00-12:45 p.m. **Networking Lunch**

12:45-2:00 p.m. **Closing Keynotes & Awards Ceremony**

Turning Pain into Purpose
Ariana Rodriguez, Miss Kentucky 2025

Kentucky Student Success Awards

- Student Success Catalyst
- Transformation Team
- Strategic Partnership
- New Horizon

Future Focused: Where We Go From Here
Dr. Lilly Massa-McKinley, Assistant Vice President, Kentucky Student Success Collaborative, Council on Postsecondary Education
Dr. Aaron Thompson, President, Council on Postsecondary Education



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