



**The Kentucky**  
Student Success  
**Collaborative**



THE INSTITUTE FOR COLLEGE

**ACCESS & SUCCESS**

**Addressing Student Basic Needs  
to Enhance Enrollment & Success**

Trusteeship Conference, 9.16.2024



# Agenda

- ❖ National Antipoverty Landscape
- ❖ Kentucky Basic Needs Data
- ❖ Kentucky Statewide Strategy & Priority Projects
- ❖ Applications & Implications for KY Trustees

# National Landscape Analysis



# Basic Needs Defined

**“Basic Needs (BN)”** are non-academic costs such as food, housing, transportation and childcare that create material hardship.

**“Basic Needs Insecurity (BNI)”** refers to the effect of material hardship on students’ ability to enroll and complete a postsecondary credential.



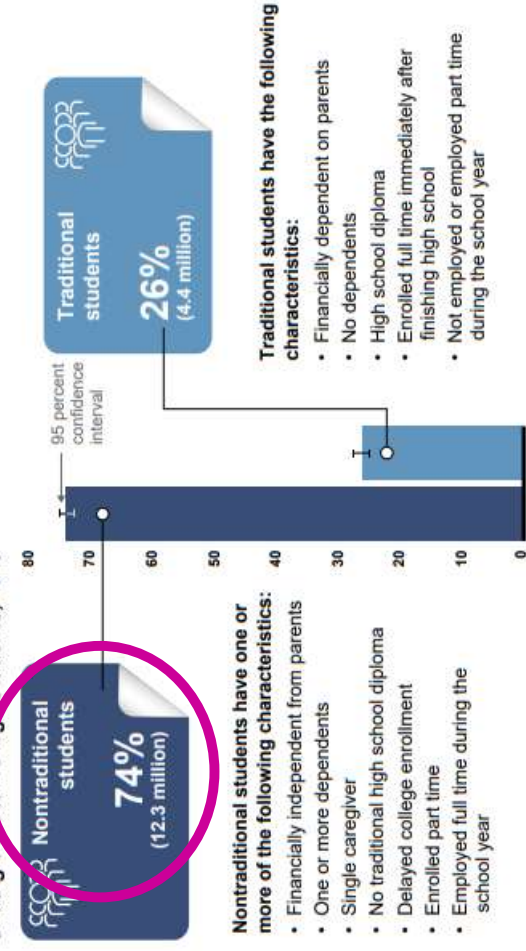
As states strive to increase the number of residents completing a postsecondary credential basic needs insecurity has become a greater focus as it is correlated increased anxiety, depression, poorer health and less successful postsecondary outcomes for students, especially students from systemically marginalized communities.



The combination of insufficient Federal and state programs that provide basic needs support for people with low incomes restrict postsecondary education and route people into low wage work & “employment & training” programs often lead to poverty-sustaining wages, especially when compared to postsecondary credentials.

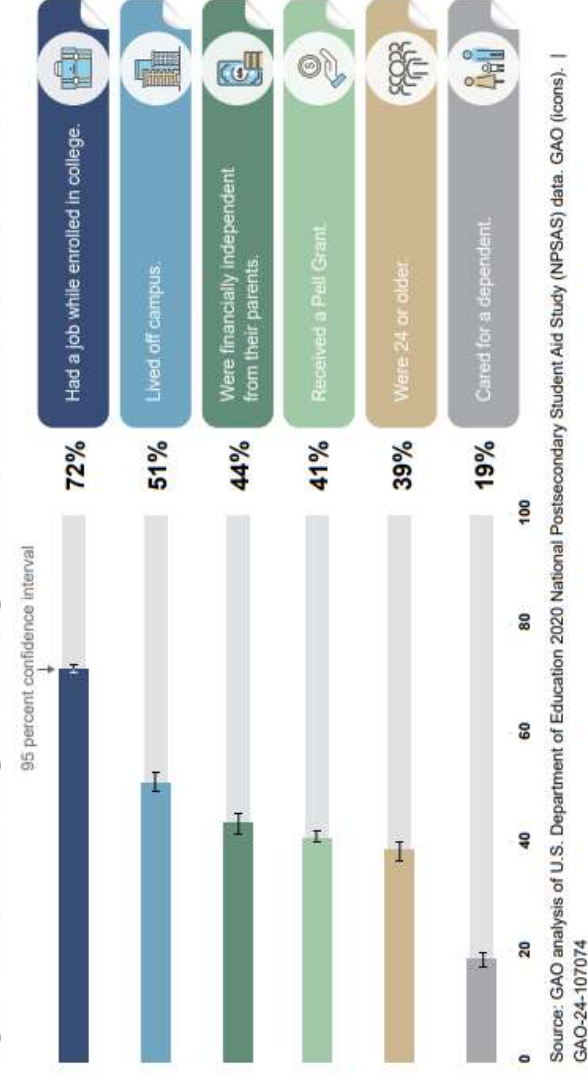
# Who are institutions serving?

Figure 1: Estimated Percentages and Characteristics of Traditional and Nontraditional Undergraduate College Students, 2020



Source: GAO analysis of U.S. Department of Education 2020 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS) data. | GAO-24-107074

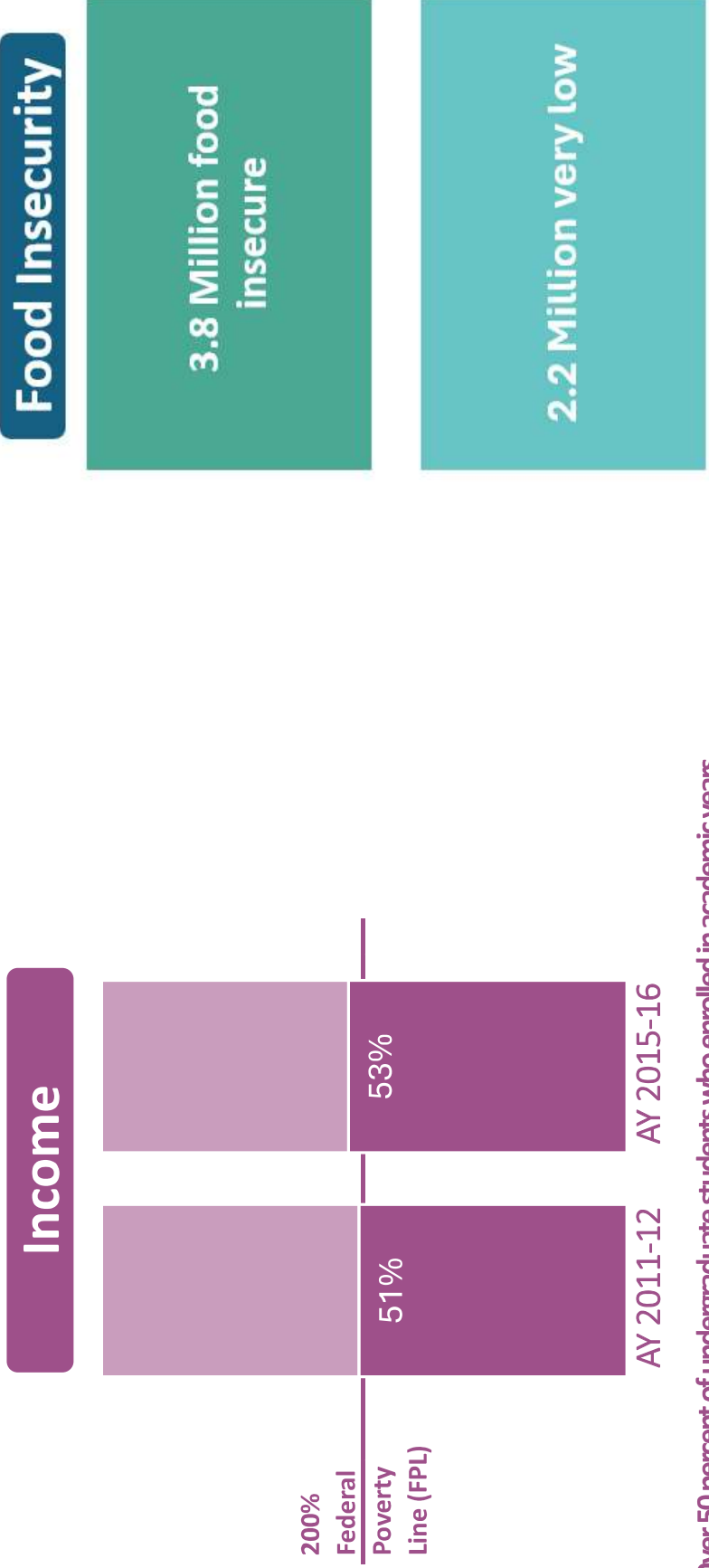
Figure 2: Estimated Percentages of All Undergraduate Students with Selected Characteristics, 2020



Source: U.S. Government Accountability Office: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: Estimated Eligibility and Receipt among Food Insecure College Students, June 2024.  
Report: GAO-24-107074

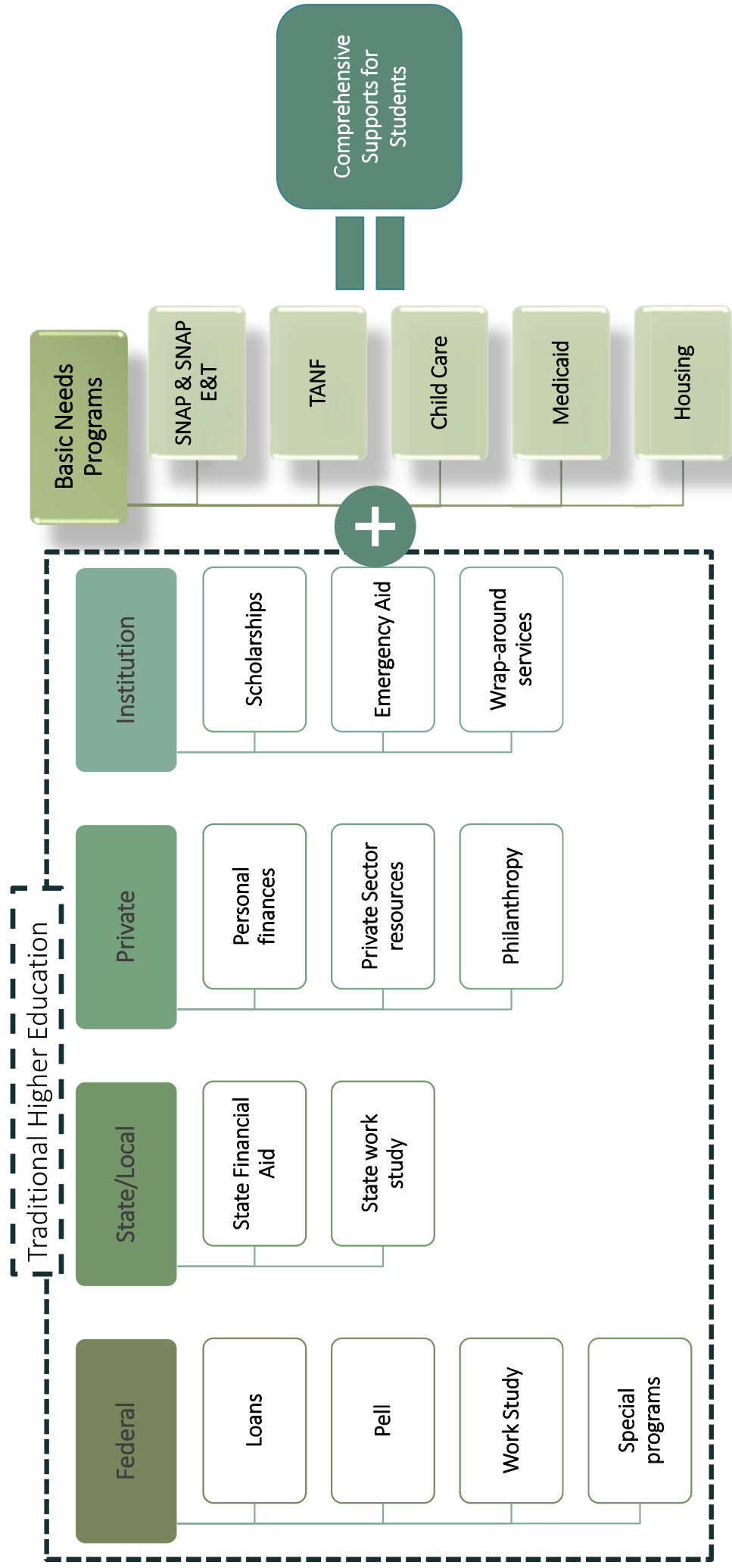


# Evidence of Basic Needs Insecurity



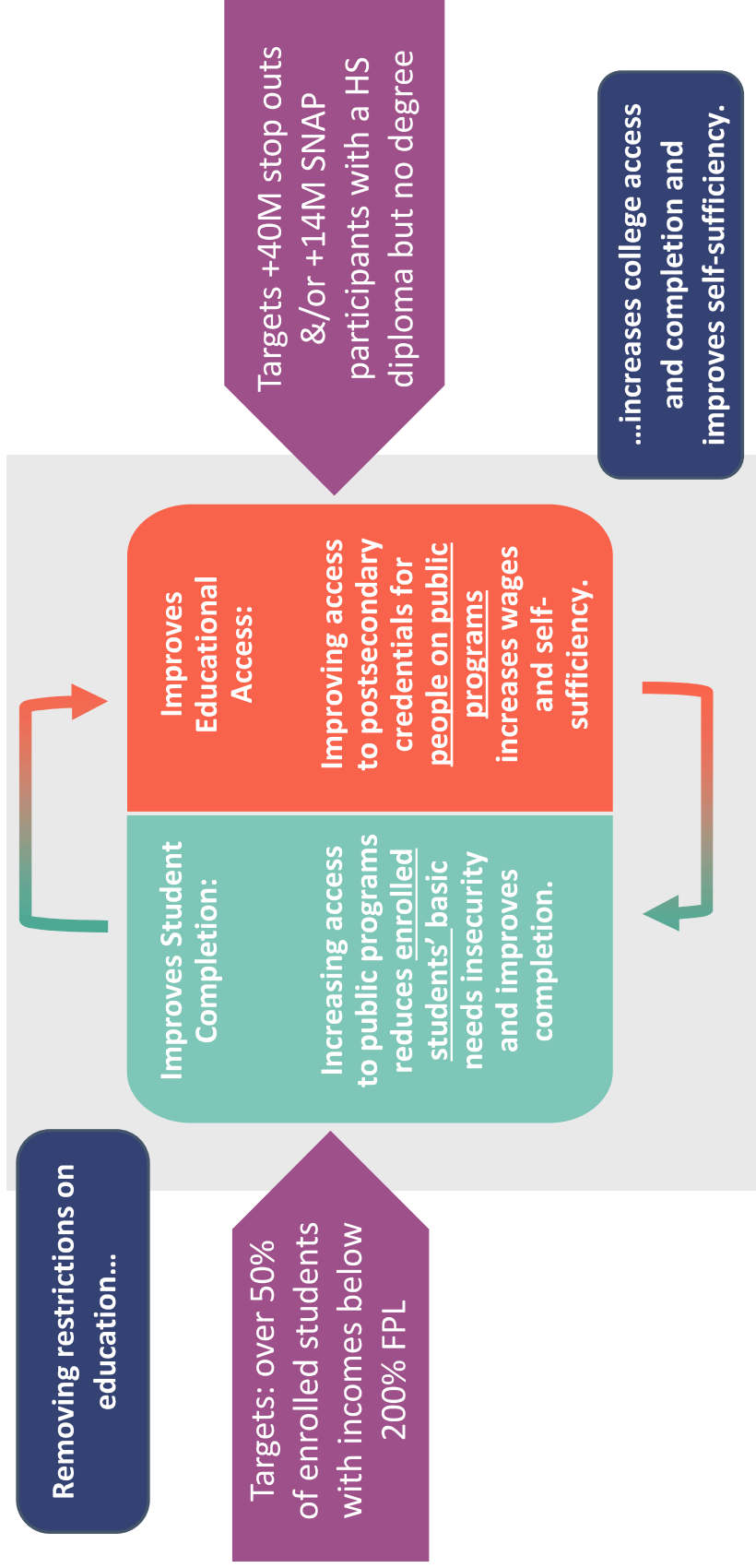
Over 50 percent of undergraduate students who enrolled in academic years 2011-2012 and 2015- 2016 had incomes below 200 percent of the poverty line.

# New Vision for Student Aid\*



\*Not a comprehensive list of all available supports

# What We Do: Improving Access to Basic Needs Supports





## Key Takeaways

1# Many people could enroll & complete postsecondary credentials but face barriers that make it harder to combine work & education

2# Demand for postsecondary credentials are projected to increase, with implications for individual, states, and the economy

3# Federal & state programs can align with research to improve educational access that leads to better wages, lower unemployment, and less use of government programs

# Kentucky Basic Needs Data





# ➤ Supporting Student Basic Needs

**More than half of all college students struggle to have their basic needs met**  
*Forcing them to choose between their educational goals and paying their bills*



Basic needs insecurity jeopardizes student success

**25%**  
consequently  
drop a class

**15x**  
higher likelihood  
to fail a class

**<20%**  
graduate  
in 5 years

**Just  
20%**

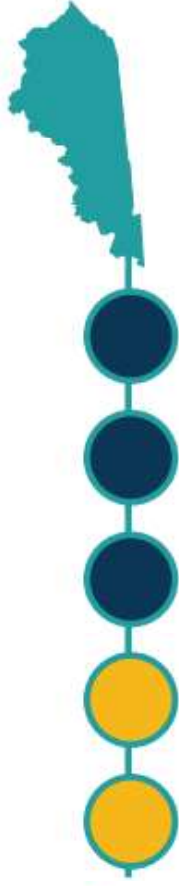


**of students who pause  
their education for  
financial reasons  
will eventually graduate**

**2 in 5 students** attending a college or university in KY

**received a Pell grant,**

*the federal grant program for students with the greatest financial need*



Within the KY Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), the percentage climbs to 59%



Low-income individuals are

**5x more likely to move out of poverty if they attain a college degree**

Yet, students with low income are opting out of college

In Kentucky, enrollment among students with low income **has been declining for nearly a decade**



**Enrollment declined 11% at community colleges during the pandemic** among students with low income

# Supporting Basic Needs Leads to Success

Within 1 year,

**more than 80%**

**of KCTCS graduates  
who received SNAP  
benefits either**

Re-enroll in a  
KCTCS program

Earn 200% above the  
federal poverty line



Just 8% of adults using SNAP  
benefits in Kentucky have an  
**associate's or higher degree**

That's **92%** of recipients who could potentially reach  
**financial self-sufficiency** through postsecondary  
education degrees and credentials

# Kentucky Statewide Strategy & Priority Projects



# 60x30 Goal

**Removing financial barriers and investing in basic needs support**  
are essential elements of Kentucky's strategy to achieve the 60x30 Goal



By 2030,  
**60% of KY population**  
will hold a postsecondary  
degree or credential

To reach this goal, we must:

Increase access to basic needs supports for college students

Increase access to postsecondary education for individual's receiving state supports



# Student Basic Needs Statewide Strategy

**Objective 1: Increase Access to Basic Needs Supports for Students**



RECOMMENDATION 1: Implement basic needs screening and benefits eligibility screening for students.



RECOMMENDATION 2: Review state public benefit plans and programs to increase flexibility for postsecondary students.



RECOMMENDATION 3: Increase staff capacity of colleges and universities to provide basic needs support to students.



RECOMMENDATION 4: Provide training and PD for college and university staff/faculty to provide accurate information and consistent support to students.

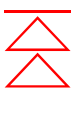
**Objective 2: Increase Access to Postsecondary for Individuals Receiving State Supports.**



RECOMMENDATION 5: Explore and identify solutions to alleviate the lack of childcare availability and affordability.



RECOMMENDATION 6: Identify models and incentives to increase direct referrals for SNAP E&T from intermediaries to postsecondary institutions.



RECOMMENDATION 7: Facilitate training and information sharing among partners focused on outreach to target populations.



RECOMMENDATION 8: Communicate clear pathways to prospective students aligned with in-demand JOB opportunities that lead to financial self-sufficiency.



**The Kentucky Student Success Collaborative**

# Critical Success Factors

 <b>Commitment</b>	Ensure institutional and organizational leadership awareness, engagement, and commitment to support the common objectives to increase prosperity and economic mobility of Kentuckians.
 <b>Infrastructure</b>	Establish the infrastructure for the Student Basic Needs Network and Guiding Team to sustain partnerships, scale strategies, and accelerate progress and success toward achieving the common objectives.
 <b>Asset Map</b>	Conduct a comprehensive and exhaustive asset map of statewide partners, programs, capacity, and resources to maximize the collective assets for the benefit of Kentuckians.
 <b>Communication Plan</b>	Create a communications plan and messaging campaign to advance the common objectives including communications expectations, timelines, protocols, and digital assets for all partners.
 <b>Data System</b>	Leverage the longitudinal data system and partnerships to track inputs, impact, and outcomes of efforts to increase postsecondary completion and economic mobility of Kentuckians.

# Data & Research Project

Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Statewide Data Dashboard	Research Briefs	Student Voice Research	Predictive Model



# Communications Project

Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Ecosystem and Asset Mapping	One-stop Webpage Template	Basic Needs 101 Training	Student Testimonial Campaign



# Child Care Solutions Project

Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Child Care Landscape Analysis	Stakeholder Interviews	Child Care Solutions Network	Child Care Access Strategies





# QUESTIONS & IMPLICATIONS FOR KY TRUSTEES